

**MINUTES of the WHITWICK ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on THURSDAY 16 MAY 2013 at the St John the Baptist C of E School, Parsonwood Hill, Whitwick**

Present: Councillor Ray Woodward (Parish Council Chairman) (In the Chair)

Parish Cllrs A Barker, S Colledge, E Easom, D Everitt, T Gillard, D Howe, L Spence, J Straw and L Weaver

Mr P Ellis, Parish Clerk

Mrs L Ellis, Assistant Parish Clerk

Rhonda Dean, Whitwick Community Enterprises

3 members of the public

## **1. PRESENTATION**

The Parish Council had launched a community consultation and had offered a £50 prize to one lucky respondent who submitted the questionnaire by the end of April. The winner had been chosen using a random number selector programme and the Chairman presented the cheque to Mrs M James of Church Lane.

## **2. INTRODUCTION**

Phil Ellis, Clerk to the Parish Council, explained that having obtained parish status, Whitwick was now required to hold an annual parish meeting. All electors of the Parish were entitled to attend and raise any matters concerning Whitwick. The meeting was also open to the press and public. The Chairman of the Parish Council was responsible for calling the meeting and chaired it if present. This had traditionally been the way in which members of the public could have a voice in parish affairs, though since it came into being the Parish Council had made a public question and answer session available at every meeting.

## **3. PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT**

Councillor Ray Woodward, Chairman of Whitwick Parish Council, had published his Annual Report on the second year of the Parish Council's existence. This had been posted on the Parish Council's website and hard copies were available at the meeting.

The Report reflected on what had been achieved to date and also looked forward to the coming year. While some matters were taking longer than has been anticipated, in a year's time the Council should be a major landowner, have statistically robust consultation results from residents on their priorities, and have its own notice board on the frontage of the new Co-op food store.

## **4. COMMUNITY POLICING**

Apologies had been received from officers from Leicestershire Police who were unable to attend the meeting but welcomed notification of any issues raised.

The latest 31 day crime report for Whitwick was as follows:

-----Chairman's initials/signature

1 x drugs offence (possession of a class B substance “cannabis”) youth offender cautioned; 17 x non recordable offences - vulnerable person reports/verbal only domestic arguments; 5 x assault related issues, one between children; 4 x domestic related issues (i.e. within relationships); 1 x burglary other than dwelling “attempt only”; 1 x damage to personal property; 2 x damage to motor vehicles; 5 x theft offences including two theft of fuel from local garages; 1 x theft from store(chocolate bar); 1 x theft from motor vehicle (windscreen wipers removed)

Upcoming Events were:

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – NW Leicestershire webchat from 1830hrs. Hosted by PC 2925 James Broomfield. Accessed via Leicestershire Police website @ [www.leics.police.uk](http://www.leics.police.uk)

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 110hrs Beat surgery/community consultation event at Whitwick café

Consultation could be completed on their website.

## **5. WHITWICK COMMUNITY ENTERPRISES**

Rhonda Dean gave an update on their activities.

- Their training activities had benefitted 107 people and they had additional apprenticeships and in-work training.
- Close Knit community magazine was now established and a new editor had been appointed.
- Party in the Park would be held again this year on 7 September. Unfortunately a change of date by the Coalville Miners’ Gala had resulted in a clash of dates but it had proved impractical to reschedule.
- Funding for the proposed Community Centre was still being pursued and the possibility of obtaining a loan to kick-start the project was being investigated
- A new office had been opened adjoining the Coffee Shop

In reply to a question, she stated that 90% of the trainees moved on to either further training or into employment. At the end of the year, 30% had successfully obtained jobs.

The Chairman thanked Ms Dean for attending and wished Whitwick Community Enterprises every success in its endeavours.

## **5. ISSUES FROM THE FLOOR**

None were raised

The meeting terminated at 7.11pm

-----Chairman’s initials/signature