

Churchill Parish Council



Minutes of the 2019 Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Churchill Parish held in the Memorial Hall, Churchill on Monday 15th April 2019 at 7.30 p.m.

PRESENT

Chair of the Parish Council –
Councillor Mrs J. Bush
Clerk of the Parish Council : Martin Dolton
Assistant Clerk : Ann Boote
Village Orderly ; Michele Miles

17 Parishioners

1. Welcome – The meeting was chaired by Councillor Jackie Bush, Chair of the Parish Council who extended a warm welcome to all present.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors James Hoddell, Simon Glanfield, Dev Clutterbuck, Bill Carruthers, Brenden Hill, Tim Jessiman and Ruth Bruton.

3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 23rd April 2018 were proposed and duly seconded as being an accurate record of that meeting. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

4. Chair's Address – The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. She highlighted that it had been another good year that was mainly due to the dedication of volunteers working within the Parish. Her annual report to the residents along with reports from all the Chairs of the council's committees were included in the latest edition of The Tower newsletter which had been circulated to all households in the village. The tremendous effort and time given by the numerous organisations in the village had again led to a very active and productive year. Councillor Mrs Bush further expressed her view that whilst there had been considerable opposition to the major housing developments within the village, all the new residents were now parishioners and should be warmly welcomed to our community.

5. To receive the Parish Council's provisional accounts for the year ending 31st March 2019 The provisional accounts for the year ending March 2019 were circulated at the meeting, all balances had been reconciled and the accounts were currently with the internal auditor. The annual return was to be signed at the May 2019 meeting of the Parish Council for submission to the external auditor thereafter. There were no

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questions.

6. Keynote Speakers

Handyperson Service Anne Stevens (AMS partnership with NSC)

Anne Stevens of AMS Electrical explained the purpose and scope of the new handyperson service now offered in partnership with North Somerset Council. This is a highly subsidised service covering several aspects of home maintenance aimed at those in need. Residents can apply to the service and have a maximum of 6 hours work (3 hours maximum at one time) for the cost of £15.60p per hour. Contact and application details were provided.

Churchill & Langford Minibus Society - Laura Batt

Laura explained to all present that the Society was founded in 1974, initially by the local churches. The society had grown considerably in its use and coverage and now operated 2 minibus vehicles. Trips include taking residents to shops locally for a £2-3 donation, and further afield to Bath or Cribbs Causeway for £5 - £6. Laura also highlighted that organisations could hire out a minibus for their own trips. The main purpose of Laura's presentation was to highlight that all the drivers are volunteers and more are urgently required to keep the service going. Residents who would feel able to assist were asked to make contact with the Society as soon as possible.

Tru-Speed Broadband Update - Andy Moore

Andy Moore of Tru-speed addressed the meeting introducing himself as the community engagement manager. He explained how the company were now implementing fast fibre-optic facilities with Churchill and Langford and the advantages to the community. The full costs and speed details were provided, and he urged more residents from the Langford area to sign up to the service to ensure that Tru-speed found it financially viable to continue the provision.

Growing Community building and sports facilities for a growing Population

A power-point presentation was shown to the meeting which summarised outline ideas for future development of the areas of land and facilities owned and operated by the Parish Council for future development to take account of the considerable current and future growth in the community. It was emphasised that these are no more than ideas at present and a great deal of work would be required in coming months and years to consult with residents and bring any plans to fruition.

Community Groups / Speakers

Neighbourhood Watch :- Mr Terry Wilson gave a summary of the size and purpose of the organisation on a national scale and urged residents to become involved and join as members.

Churchill & Langford Residents Action Group (CALRAG) :- Jan Murray updated the residents present on the work undertaken by members of CALRAG. The Group had the aim of acting on behalf of residents to protect the village from over development and are of the view that the JSP proposals for a settlement of some 2800 houses in Churchill would have a devastating effect, and was 'development in the wrong place'. Jan talked of varying aspects of the JSP and the faults and issues with the concept of the proposed Mendip Hills Garden Village. The services of a barrister to represent the community had now been engaged, and Jan explained that considerable further funding is required to ensure that the village has adequate and

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appropriate representation at the public hearing which is currently scheduled to commence on the 2nd of July 2019, and all residents were asked to consider assisting with that funding.

Langford Chapel :- George Meacham invited all residents to join them at the regular coffee mornings held at the Langford Chapel.

20mph Limit in Lower Langford :- A resident commented that he felt the recently introduced speed limit of 20mph in Lower Langford, whilst welcome, had been poorly implemented and the signs and extremities of the limit were in the wrong place.

Reports had been received from 13 community organisations within the village and made available in hard copy to all attendees.

Chair Jackie Bush closed the meeting at 9.08 pm, inviting all present to remain at the hall and meet other residents and Councillors in an informal atmosphere with light refreshments provided.