

TODDINGTON

Draft Minutes: of the Annual Meeting for the Parish of Toddington held on Monday 8th of April 2019 at 7.30pm in Toddington Village Hall

Present: Parish Councillors: Dan Blake, Nigel Parker and Bertie Alvis

County Councillor: Roger Wilson

4 parishioners

Apologies: Cllrs Joe Humber and Margaret Merritt. County Cllr Roger Wilson

In Cllr Humber's absence, Cllr Blake chaired this meeting.

- 1. To approve the Minutes of the Parish Annual Meeting held on the 23rd April 2018:** These were approved and signed as a true record.
- 2. Brief report from the Chairman of Toddington Parish Council.**

This last year has been dominated by the new house building by Newlands at Newtown with a number of issues having to be resolved. The siting and structure of the Bus Stop exercised some time and argument and it was hoped that a bus stop building to blend in with the new houses would have been an improvement but this was not to be.

The roofing tiles on the front facing properties were changed to tiles more in keeping with the character of the area and we were relieved to see the paving on the access roads.

We are alive to the fact that the lighting on the site is not what we had expected considering that no street lighting was planned. The installed bollards with lantern tops which are allowed to be on all night are hopefully to be changed to PIR control and down-lighting shades.

Our thanks must go to Nigel Parker who has single handedly arranged the locations and charging of the Vehicle Activated Speed Sign we purchased with the help of grants from our County Councillor, Glos. Highways and Didbrook and Stanway Council.

The sign is moved around to 6 posts at different locations and signals the speed of traffic. The camera also records the speeds and gives an analysis of the speed ranges. The early hours of the morning show a total disregard for speed limit but the daytime speeds show that most, but not all, are driving sensibly. We will review the locations over time to see where the most benefit can arise.

The biggest speed problem looming over the next year is the stretch between the roundabout and the end of the new housing development. It is not automatic that the extra access roads on this stretch will qualify for a 30mph speed limit and work is going on by Highways to provide a visual restriction in this area to alert drivers to drive slower. We await the outcome of this study with some trepidation and we hope to get support from GCC.

Joe Humber and Dan Blake are not standing for re-election, both having been in office for some considerable time.

Dan Blake, Vice Chairman

Cllr Blake then presented the proposed plans for the Village Hall extension.

- 3. Brief report from County Councillor Roger Wilson** (read by Cllr Blake): 2018-19 has been another busy year as your county councillor. I have finally got my feet under the table as the cabinet member for adult social care commissioning which, together with continuing to represent you all as my constituents, has made for pretty much a full time job. But, of course, no one minds hard work when it is enjoyable, and my work over the last couple of years has certainly been that, if not on occasions slightly fraught!
- My work with social care and the NHS has been particularly rewarding. Our programme to keep as many elderly residents and those with learning disabilities in their own homes for as long as possible continues apace. Not only is home the right place for people, so keeping them there for as long as possible is best for their own welfare, and it also saves the council millions of pounds every year which can be spent on other vital services. Indeed, this work has helped to enable Gloucestershire to remain in good financial health, unlike some of our shire county peers which we have all heard about in recent months that are going through parlous financial times.
- I have been working closely as well with our local NHS to integrate our health and social care services across the county. As a result of our excellent relations, we were awarded by government last year Integrated Care status, which allows us to progress faster towards a unified system. I have also been working as Chair of the county-wide Health and Wellbeing Board to improve the wellbeing of all, but particularly to remove health inequalities in the county. The administration in Gloucester is also working to help shape the long term future of the county, by planning a vision for our children and grandchildren as a wealthy, healthy place to live and work. This thinking has been brought together in 'Vision 2050', which was published in the autumn and is well worth a read.
- Locally, I continue to work to ensure our area receives its share of the county cake. We had to endure major road works on Cleeve Hill in the autumn as the road was prevented from slipping down the hill. The road was resurfaced there, and the plan is to resurface the whole of the road over Cleeve Hill this

year as part of the county's £150 million plan for our roads. Lately, we have had to deal with the failure of the railway bridge at Stanton, which will lead to traffic light control there for many months to come.

I continue to have money available in the fund I referred to last year, the Community Wellbeing Fund, which provides councillors £30,000 over three years to enable community led organisations and charities across the area fund projects that will help their local communities. This fund will be in addition to the usual discretionary fund towards local highways improvements. If you know of organisations who may benefit from such funding, do please get in touch.

Of course, as ever, if there are any other issues you wish to raise or problems that arise, please email me on roger.wilson@gloucestershire.gov.uk or by phone on 07947 067051.

4. Open forum for with residents. The following matters were raised:

- Bin near the war memorial was not being emptied and is now being used mainly a dog waste bin.
Action: Clerk to report this issue to Tewkesbury BC.
- Some additional "Clear up after your dog" signs were requested.
Action: Clerk to request these once the new dog waste bins have been installed.
- The drain by the roundabout needed clearing: Cllr Parker offered to report this online.

A resident then thanked the retiring Councillors for their many years of hard work for the Parish.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm and an informal event followed with refreshments.