

## **SOUTHROP PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING Monday 13<sup>th</sup> MAY 2019**

**Present:** Cllr Guest Cllr Jones  
Cllr Cathy Brickley Cllr Peter Brickley

**In attendance:** Vanessa Lawrence (Clerk), Mr. J. Hibbert, Mr. R. Gowland, 36+ residents.

**Mr. Hibbert as the former Chairman welcomed residents to the meeting. He briefed all those present regarding the new Council, which has changed since the election, with former Cllr Gowland stepping down and Cllr Hibbert not being re-elected. New Councillors are Mr. Peter Brickley and Mr. Russell Giles. As this meeting is an informal meeting Mr. Hibbert was present to brief the audience regarding the activities of the Council in the last year.**

**1. Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr Giles

**2. Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting 2018.**

It was **RESOLVED** to agree the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in April 2018 as a true and accurate record of the proceedings. All in favour.

**3. Report from the Chair – Southrop Parish Council**

As the former Chairman Mr. Hibbert reported as follows: -

- 8 meetings have been held in this Council year
  - Planning applications have been dealt with in the usual manner. All planning applications are available to view on the Cotswold District Council website.
  - Dog bins were ordered.
  - Attempts to obtain a snow warden were successful, with Mr. G. Ponsonby agreeing to take this on. A snow plough (from GCC) would be provided, which can be attached to the front of a tractor. Thanks, must go to Mr. Ponsonby
  - The Lechlade Road stile was repaired
  - Hare Coursing – The problem with Hare coursing was resolved by placing posts at the entrance to the field, thereby preventing access by vehicles.
  - Discussion took place regarding the possibility of obtaining a loan (PWLB) to assist with work to the Village Hall
  - In July Cathy Brickley was co-opted to the Council following the resignation of Anthony Stanbury.
  - Repair of the memorial pump. A plaque has now been placed on the pump.
  - In November, Councillors agreed to carry out a survey as the first stage of creating a Parish Plan
  - WILD Project was considered, and meetings have taken place with GRCC and FWAG. This is part of a nationwide project to look at the management of water in towns and villages. Further meetings are planned.
  - The Precept was considered and agreed following publication of the proposals.
  - The annual litter pick was once again very successful
- Issues to be considered include: -
- Increasing amount of traffic
  - Lechlade bypass?
  - Parking in the village
  - Potholes
  - Dog walking away from footpaths

Mr Hibbert thanked Bob Gowland for his work as Councillor. Bob has dealt with work in the playground, noticeboards, the memorial pump and as an active member of the speed watch group.

Cllr Jones thanked both Jerry Hibbert and Bob Gowland for services to the village as Councillors and a presentation was made to both.

**4. Financial Report**

Cllr Guest reported that this has been a quiet year. The Precept had been raised by the RPI figure of 3.6%, bringing the average Band D property to £76 per year. Payments this year cover the dog bins, repair of the memorial pump and the cost of a plaque. A grant was received from CDC of £500 towards the costs of the memorial pump work. The closing balance at the end of March was £14616. The Council are continuing to look at ways of helping the Village Hall refurbishment project, which is at the top of the list of the coming year. Other items that are being considered is help for the Village Fete and the Church. Cllr Guest reported that whilst it is not anticipated that there will be another increase in the Precept for 2020, this may change subject to the public wish for support to the Village Hall project and the possibility of obtaining a loan.

**5. Report from County/District Councillor**

No report available in the absence of District/County Councillor Theodoulou

**6. Report from the Chair – Southrop Village Hall Committee**

A report was presented on behalf of Hugh Elford, Chairman of the Village Hall Committee as follows:

Since last year, the Committee has continued to focus on two main priorities: fund- raising for the SVH 2025 Village Hall Refurbishment project and arranging the repair of the roof, electrical system etc.

**Fundraising** - The Village Hall Committee is running a project called SVH2025, which aims to carry out some important repairs and upgrades over the next few years to bring the hall up to date. The speed of the work is dictated by the funds becoming available. In the last year we have held several fund-raising events and raised a total of over £4,000 in 2018. We are most grateful to everyone who has helped us to run the events so successfully. In addition, we have received very important financial help from the Parish Council, the Village Fete and the Southrop Shoot. Income from hiring the hall has also remained good. Our most recent fundraising event was the Race Night on 26<sup>th</sup> April. This was great fun and raised around £400. Other fundraising events planned for the year include a Treasure Hunt on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> June, a Harvest Lunch on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September and a Quiz Night on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October. Repair work last summer- we went ahead with the roof repairs which were mostly achieved with the aid of a number of local volunteers – ranging in age from 10 years to the wrong side of 70! Many thanks to all of them.

This year, following an electrical safety inspection, we have started to upgrade the electrical systems in the hall. We now have a new fuse board, new emergency lighting and some other smaller changes. Later, we plan to replace the heating system and modernise the lighting. In addition, we would like to install an Audio-Visual system which would allow us to run film nights etc. We are now actively seeking funding and will be submitting grant applications soon. This concludes the Village Hall report for the year. Thanks very much for the Parish Council's continuing support.

**7. Report from Jubilee Close Committee and selection of new Committee.**

It was agreed to take this report together with Item 10 below, the Village Fete:  
A report was presented as follows:

- Quiet year with no major expenditure. There is some maintenance work to be done.
- Income is very low with only 1 booking in the year.
- Finances in good shape with a balance at the end of the year of £12500.

Q: Andy Howarth was asked -who would decide on how the money is to be spent?

A: The Committee would consider expenditure and it may be that the wider community will be consulted.

The election of this years Jubilee Close was then considered. Cath Champion proposed the following people as Committee members: -

Mr. J Hibbert  
Dr. L Brookes  
Mr. A Howarth  
Mr. Bob Gowland  
Mel Simms.

The audience was asked to vote by a show of hands. The Committee was unanimously agreed.

Mr Hibbert suggested that the Parish survey might be helpful in deciding how the funds held by Jubilee Close could be best spent. Discussion took place regarding the issues of Dog fouling, a proposal for a Tennis Court was made, but Mr. MacEchern wondered if Southrop was big enough to accommodate a Tennis Court. It was agreed that a Tennis Court would require a Committee to take this forward, if it was felt that this could be accommodated. Another suggestion was the installation of a small skate surface. Andy Howarth said that these items would be considered by the Committee.

Mr Howarth went on to talk about the Fete, which had been particularly successful and raised over £9k after costs. £6500 given to worthy causes. Everything was sold out and a great day was had by all. It was agreed that at the end of the event a thank you to all would be held. This would not be restricted to just the stallholders and the Committee but would be open to anyone. This year's event is to take place on 8<sup>th</sup> June and RAF Falcon's (parachute team) will be 'Dropping In' at 4pm.

Concerns were raised by the audience on the impact that the current waterboard works in the village might have on the Fete, but they were assured that the Committee had been advised by the waterboard that the works should be completed by the 8<sup>th</sup> June. Other concerns were for a back up plan and better arrangements for disabled access. These were considered and the audience was reassured that these were things that have been considered. It was further agreed that advertising of the event should be more prominent, which is also being addressed.

**PC Mark Weedon of the Glos Constabulary arrived.**

It was agreed to bring forward the Police Report to enable PC Weedon to leave to carry on with his duties.

8. **Report from the Police** PC Weedon reported as follows: -  
This report covers the period of 01<sup>st</sup> April 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019. During this period there were 6 crimes. This compares with 10 in the same period last year. There has been a *REDUCTION* of 4 crimes or 40%

Crime Breakdown

Burglary Residential -0

Burglary Business and community - 0

Theft - 4

Criminal damage - 1

Violence - 0

Fraud - 1

It is pleasing to report that there has been a reduction of crime for Southrop for the year reported. In the Neighbourhood Policing Area of Fairford and Lechlade, which Southrop is in, has seen an increase in crime.

Three of the four thefts related to motor vehicles. The offence of criminal damage was also to a vehicle.

The Fairford and Lechlade Neighbourhood Policing Area has seen an increase in theft from motor vehicles. It appears that villages in the area have been targeted for theft related vehicle offences which is reflected in the rise of this type of crime.

The rural villages are patrolled by your Neighbourhood Policing Team on a regular basis. This is done at various times of day and night. The Neighbourhood Policing Team for Fairford and Lechlade is PC 2071 Mark Weedon, PCSO 9098 Gemma Butcher and PCSO 9302 Zaheer Bulbul. The sergeant for the team is PS 745 Garrett Gloyn.

We are encouraging members of the community that haven't already done so to sign up to Your Community Alerts. Your Community Alerts is a messaging alert system used by the Constabulary to send out messages. You can select what topic of message you wish to receive from Crime Alerts to traffic alerts. Registration is simple and can be done by logging into [www.yourcommunityalerts.co.uk](http://www.yourcommunityalerts.co.uk)

Our job on the neighbourhood policing team is to keep our communities safe, which includes your homes. We can come to your home and carry out a crime reduction survey. This involves looking around the outside and inside of your home and pointing out areas where security can be improved. This can be arranged by emailing [Cotswolds.NPT@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Cotswolds.NPT@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk)

Please report incidents or suspicious incidents to Police by phoning 101 or on-line by visiting [www.gloucestershire.police.uk](http://www.gloucestershire.police.uk)  
You can also report information via Crime Stoppers. In an emergency call 999.

Your Neighbourhood Policing Team, PC 2071 Mark Weedon, PCSO 9098 Gemma Butcher and PCSO 9302 Zaheer Bulbul would like to thank Southrop Parish Council and the local residents for their continued support.

9. **Report from St. Peters Church**

The report was presented by Margaret Davey.

Services have continued every Sunday thanks to our vicar Andrew Cinnamond, visiting clergy and readers. Andrew is the vicar of Lechlade but has responsibility for Southrop and Eastleach so his time is very stretched, and he cannot cover all the services as well as baptisms, weddings and funerals without the help of the other mainly retired clergy.

Times of some services have been altered namely Mothering Sunday, Easter, Harvest and Christmas to encourage families to attend and this has been quite successful. The next later service particularly for families will be Harvest on 29<sup>th</sup> September when we shall be combining with the Village Hall to serve lunch after the service.

Every 5 years an architect comes to inspect the church building and sends the quinquennial report indicating repairs that should be undertaken within certain time frames. We have managed to complete all the requirements from the last report which involved replacement and repairs to guttering and downpipes, pointing, removal of moss from the roof and some tile repairs as well as numerous other smaller items. So, the building is in good order and the newly installed replacement lighting shows the beauty of the interior to great effect.

The possibility of an area in the churchyard being created as a Garden of Remembrance was mentioned previously and is still on-going but I hope that soon we shall have a plan to submit to the diocese for Faculty approval.

Our finances need the income that we receive from the Fete and Shoot but we need to do additional things so our next money raising event is an Evening Garden Party on 26<sup>th</sup> July from 6.30 to 8.30 at Southrop Manor by invitation of Caryn and Jerry Hibbert. We hope for a glorious evening with support from residents as well as visitors.

If there is anyone who would like to make a regular donation or a one-off gift to help with keeping our historical church safe for future generations, please contact our treasurer, Charles Llewellyn, who can give details of the Gloucestershire Scheme.

#### **10. Report from Southrop Primary School**

The report was presented by Julia McLellan.

Much change has taken place at Southrop School this year, with Mr Brown retiring and Miss Davies and Mrs McLellan taking over as Co-Head Teachers. This has meant that two part-time teachers have been employed to share the teaching in the Infant and Junior classes, and the number of teachers doubled, bringing many new talents to the school. The Co-Head Teachers wish to bring improvements to the school, whilst retaining the essence that has made the school so successful for so many years.

The Co-Heads have worked with pupils, staff, governors and parents to develop a new vision for the school:

**Together we can fly**

**What if I fall? Oh, but...**

**What if you fly?** "Don't be afraid; just believe." Mark 5 verse 36



In our Christian school we treat everyone with respect and compassion. Our faith and friendships give us strength to persevere to achieve our aspirations.

Children are rewarded with their "wings" when they show resilience and perseverance in undertaking tasks, they find difficult.

The school joins together for daily worship, which is driven by 12 core values. Once a week a group of children from the Junior class runs the worship. There are frequently visitors in worship, and particularly popular is Steve Hutchinson from

Scripture Union. We have regular visits from the Open the Book team, who also organised Experience Easter in St Peter's Church, which was a lovely morning of interaction and calm reflection on the days leading up to the crucifixion and resurrection. As part of our RE teaching we have had visits from a Jewish lady, a young Christian and a Rastafarian.

The school is very proud of the broad curriculum we offer the children, as well as the standards achieved by the children in the national Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs).

Results achieved in the 2018 tests:

#### **KEY STAGE 1 ASSESSMENT**

<b>Key Stage 1 Assessment</b>	<b>6 pupils (1 child= 16.6%) 2 children SEN</b>
Meeting and Exceeding Expected Standard in Reading	66.7%
Meeting and Exceeding Expected Standard in Writing	50%
Meeting and Exceeding Expected Standard in Mathematics	67%

#### **KEY STAGE 2 ASSESSMENT.**

<b>Key Stage 2 Assessment</b>	<b>7 pupils (1 child = 14.28%) No children with SEN</b>
Meeting and Exceeding Standard in Reading	100%
Meeting High Reading test threshold	57%
Meeting and Exceeding Standard in Writing	100%
Meeting Greater Depth Standard in Writing	14.28%
Meeting and Exceeding Standard in Mathematics	100%
Meeting High Mathematics test threshold	42.9%
Meeting Expected Standard in Combined Reading + Writing + Mathematics	100%

Music is an important part of the curriculum and driven by Miss Davies's passion for this subject. This year the children participated in Young Voices, the largest school choir concerts in the world, which took place in Birmingham and raised money for a range of charities, including Barnados and Great Ormond Street. The

children in the Junior Class take whole class music lessons, this year learning the clarinet and taking part in a performance at Cheltenham Town Hall, along with 600 others. The children also have the opportunity to learn brass, guitar, ukulele and cello.

Pupils are encouraged to develop a healthy lifestyle through healthy eating and participating in sport. The school teams compete regularly in Tag Rugby tournaments, Football tournaments and Netball matches, as well as a wide range of PE and Sport in the curriculum.

The school remains a key element of the communities of Southrop and Eastleach. We are proud to support the village hall and the Jubilee field.

We hope this brief report has given members of the community a flavour of the range of activities that are part of the daily life of the school. It is a thriving and successful school, and I would like to feel that the whole community values having their own village school at the heart of their community.

**11. Report from Village Fete (See above)**

**12. Report from the Police (See above)**

**13. Other reports**

Cathy Brickley reported on the outcome of the recent Parish Survey. Cathy thanked Joss Young. For all her help with collating the results. Cathy reported that 86% of the responders put the Village Hall at the top of their priority list, closely followed by 80% for the Village Fete and then the provision of a Cinema Night (76%). This Village shop followed with 52%. Concerns from residents were as follows:

90% - condition of roads

50% - pavements

84% - speeding

68% - parking.

GRCC (Glos. Rural Communities Council) have been helping with advice. The plan is a 'Community Led' plan with a medium-term strategic view of what is wanted in the village. Cllr Brickley reported that the next step is to create a working party, and people were asked to come forward and leave their names and contact details if they are willing to part of this working party. The Parish Council would be consulted with reference to help with financing the Parish Plan. Working with the Village Hall and Jubilee Close Committees is essential in progressing this Plan.

**14. Open Session**

No further matters were discussed, and the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

..... **Chairman Southrop Parish Council**

.....**2020**