

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING FOR EYNSHAM

held on Tuesday 16 April 2013 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Eynsham

Present: G Beach (Chairman), 8 Parish Councillors, PC Richard Conner, Mr F Patterson, Watch manager, Eynsham Fire Station, Oxfordshire County Councillor C Mathew, West Oxfordshire District Councillor L Poole, Mr A Hamilton, Bartholomew School, Mr M Anderson – (Parish Clerk) & 21 members of the public.

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed all those present to the Annual Parish Meeting and thanked them for their attendance. The Parish Councillors introduced themselves.

1. Apologies for Absence

Eynsham Parish Councillor Mrs V Hughes.

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** - The minutes of the meeting of 17 April 2012 were agreed.

3. **Matters Arising from the previous Minutes** – Item(5) the unsolved crimes numbers will be passed on to West Oxfordshire District Council L Poole.

4. **Notification of any other business** – Gritting and road conditions. Dr Wright thanked Eynsham Parish Council for providing daffodil bulbs.

5. **Police Report** – The report had been tabled. Crime numbers have reduced to two hundred and fifty two incidents compared with two hundred and seventy one in the previous year. Forty two incidents involved people leaving the garage on the A40 without paying and nine were commercial burglaries. Anti-social behaviour has seen the biggest reduction by one half.

The team changes were outlined. NAG meetings were taking place regularly with speeding, parking and youth issues being the main issues considered. Regular work with the Schools was also taking place. Following the painting of road markings, warning letters have been issued for cars obstructing the highway in The Tuer.

Mr Brown advised that a telephone exchange box had been vandalised.

Mr Green asked about how people in possession of large amounts of drugs are dealt with. PC Conner advised that these things were outside of his authority.

6. **Fire Service Report** – The Report was tabled. Mr Patterson, Watch Manager, was called away from the meeting, but then returned and introduced himself. He advised that there were thirteen fire fighters in Eynsham, but they were actively recruiting. Last year there were one hundred and ninety one calls made to Eynsham Fire Station. So far this year there has been sixty. A new vehicle will be arriving within the next few weeks.

7. **Parish Council Chairman's Report** – The Chairman had nothing further to add. The problem of dog fouling and people letting their dogs run free was raised. The Chairman highlighted the number of warning notices displayed and that he was also in contact with the Dog Wardens and West Oxfordshire District Council Civil Enforcement Officers. He thought that the only further way forward may be to prosecute an offender. The Parish Council have received many complaints of dog fouling. West Oxfordshire District Councillor L Poole gave details of the authority that the Civil Enforcement Officers have and requested that members of the public report any regular offenders.

8. **Financial Report for 2012/13** – there were no questions.

9. Oxfordshire County Councillor's Report -

Councillor Mathew advised that it had just been announced that £3.55m had been awarded by the Government to assist in repairing Oxfordshire's roads. Mr Brown would like to see Eynsham side roads and pavements gritted. He also was concerned with pot holes. Councillor Mathew advised that Oxfordshire County Council was aware of the problem.

10 West Oxfordshire District Councillors' Report – Councillor Poole advised that Council Tax had been frozen again. The production of the Local Development Plan had been delayed by unfolding events, but has now gone out to public consultation.

Mr Brown asked for a grit bin to be provided for Heycroft.

Mr Green was told that 1000 new houses would be provided on the edge of Witney. He was concerned at the increased number of cars that would result travelling along the A40. All the Councils have joined in requesting funds to improve the A34 and A40.

12 Bartholomew School Report – Mr Hamilton advised that the School had been an academy for a year and this had resulted in new opportunities such as working with the youth club and a proposed MUGA development.

Mr Brown asked for staff to manage bus queues at the end of the school day. Mr Hamilton said that there is staff on duty and that a specific S1 bus is used for the children.

Mr Emery raised the problem of litter on Conduit Lane, saying that his observation was that this was worse during school term time. Mr Hamilton said that the problem of littering was regularly raised with children.

Thanks were expressed for all that the School was doing.

13. Eynsham Charities – There were no questions.

14. Playing Fields Managers' Report – The problem with vandalised toilets was raised. There were no questions.

15. Eynsham Village Hall Management Committee Report – The Report was tabled. Dr Wright advised that the Village Hall Management Committee had seen little benefit from having the Solar Panels. An Awning will be installed for the children at the Play School. A new fire alarm system will also be installed. He thanked many people for their help during the year.

Ms Osborne asked that the bollards in the car park be made more visible with reflective strips placed on them.

16. Allotments Association Report – There were no questions.

17. Any other business – None.

The Chairman thanked everyone present for their attendance.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Signed:

Dated:

Items for the Council to consider: – None.