

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 10TH MARCH 2010 AT 7.30PM IN ROXWELL SCHOOL

PRESENT: 2 Parishioners & 6 Parish Councillors

IN ATTENDANCE: Lorraine Green (Clerk), CBC Cllr. Mrs Nicolette Chambers, ECC Cllr. John Aldridge, PCSO Gina Bennett

A minutes silence was held as a mark of respect for Cllr. Phillip Evans who had recently passed away.

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 11th March 2009. It was confirmed by the Chairman that they had been agreed and signed as a true record at the May 2009 meeting.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Nothing to report.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

GENERAL:- The death of Cllr. Phillip Evans on January 29th was a great shock not only to his family, but all that knew him in the Parish. Phillip had served as a Parish Councillor here in Roxwell for 31 years, something he was very proud of, he was always willing to listen to the concerns of Parishioners however trivial they may have been, and would always endeavour to ensure things were carried out with the interests of all parties being satisfied with the outcome. During his time as Chairman of the Parish Council he set the standards which this Council still maintains today and will continue to do so in the future. Since taking over as Chairman from Phillip he had been my font of knowledge on many issues, I will be forever grateful for his guidance and advice. Phillip was a true gentleman, his presence at meetings will be missed by us all, but we will always remember him fondly.

During the last year the Council has had to deal with the concerns of Parishioners on three major topics, thanks to the Chelmsford Borough Council publishing consultation documents on Travellers Sites, Mineral Development and Affordable Housing. The Travellers Site was removed as not being suitable. The Minerals Document and Affordable Housing matters were both vigorously opposed. We are still awaiting the outcome of the decisions on both. We certainly hope that the representations made will ensure that common sense prevails. Other planning applications were received on a regular basis.

We have been in regular contact with the Essex County Council Highways Department regarding problems with blocked drains, road surfaces and footpaths throughout the village. All the problems have been viewed by ECC staff. It is hoped that within the next 2/3 months all the matters will have been resolved.

The PCSO's attend our meetings to keep us informed of policing matter relevant to our Parish, they also regularly visit the village and carry out patrols, as well as monitoring the speed limit.

I would like to thank Cllr. Nicolette Chambers our Borough Councillor, and Cllr. John Aldridge our County Councillor for all their help and support during the year.

FINANCE:- At the end of the Councils financial year we expect our fund balance to be approx £10,800.00. The finance sub-committee recommended that the Council precept for £13,700.00 for the financial year 2010/2011, which was the same as 2009/2010.

RECREATION:- The recreation field facilities continue to be well used. Football clubs in residence are Writtle Manor FC – Saturday and Sundays, and Durassic Park also on Sundays. Cricket is played by Roxwell Blues. The fees for all matches played over the year will generate around £1,800.00. Writtle Manor undertook major repair work to both goal areas last summer at no cost to the Council after excessive damaged caused by their own players during an unauthorised kick about during the previous season.

Both Toddlers Area and Recreation Field were awarded certificates of merit in the Best Kept Playing Field Competition in 2009.

After advice from our insurers golf practice at the recreation field has been banned - relevant signs have been erected. All dogs must now be kept on leads on the recreation field – relevant signs have been erected. This decision was taken after reports of a number of dogs not being properly controlled and chasing after people, the major concern was that at some time in the future a child could be attacked, and this could not be allowed to happen.

4. REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

- a. **Memorial Hall** – Cllr. Howlett advised that the hall is well used and that her Daughter is now taking the bookings. She advised that it is an important part of the village which is run by volunteers and that they receive no funding.
- b. **Footpaths** – Cllr. Page reported that it had been a fairly quiet year with a few minor issues, i.e. footpath signs and footbridges.
- c. **Roxwell Charity** – Cllr. Hatcher advised that one payment had been made.

5. BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

A vote was taken and it was agreed that the village would enter the competition this year. The Churchyard Competition Entry form was given to Glyn Eastman.

6. BEST KEPT PLAYING FIELD COMPETITION

A vote was taken and it was agreed that the village would enter the competition again this year.

7. ANY OTHER PARISH MATTERS

The Wednesday Club had asked Cllr. Hatcher when the Post Office will be opening. The Chairman advised that the Post Office had done all they can and were now waiting for agreements to be made with whoever is taking it over.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Meeting Closed 7.46pm

CHAIRMAN.

DATE