

ST STEPHEN PARISH COUNCIL

Bricket Wood, Chiswell Green and Park Street

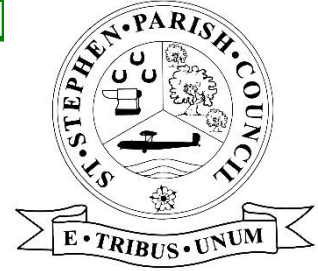
THE PARISH CENTRE STATION ROAD BRICKET WOOD

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Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday, 19 May 2022 at 6.30pm in Tennyson Hall, Parish Centre, Station Road, Bricket Wood, AL2 3PJ

Present

Cllr Wendy Berriman

Cllr Dorothy Kerry

Cllr Ajanta Hilton

Cllr David Parry (Chair)

Cllr Bill Pryce

Cllr Skelton

Cllr Tyndale

Cllr Whittaker

Cllr Yates

Also present:

Sue Hake, Clerk, Diane Hunt, Finance & Admin Assistant

District Councillor Ajanta Hilton

30 Members of public

1. Welcome by the Chairman

The Chair (Cllr Parry) welcomed members of public, councillors and staff to the meeting

2. Apologies for absence & Approval of the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 27 May 2021

Apologies received from Cllrs Brannen, Doyle and Spelman and Park Street Resident Association Chair Joy Mendelsohn

Cllr Parry confirmed the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 27 May 2021

3. Chairman's report - Cllr David Parry

Cllr Parry explained the pandemic, hopefully now endemic has provided challenges over the couple of years and thanked all staff for working above and beyond to get through this difficult time.

Confirmation of the increasingly excess popularity of Greenwood Park was mentioned and the continued success of the café.

He noted the success of the Remembrance Day Parade in November 21 and the well-attended Christmas Fair with approximately 7-800 attending and over 200 in the Santa's grotto.

The Armed Forces Day could not go ahead in 2021 but should be running in July this year.

Jubilee celebration events plans are in place to be held at Greenwood Park as well as Bricket Wood residents Association and Park Street Residents Association running events.

It has been extremely frustrating not being able to progress the asset transfers from St Albans District Council for Woodbury Field where we are working with the County Council to sign off access to the site to then progress the drainage works that are required and installation of new facilities.

Also Park Street Pavilion and recreation ground asset transfer have also not progressed, with further frustration at being let down by the contractor for the installations of the new play equipment.

4. Response to Questions received

Responses were provided to the majority of questions raised in advance by Cllr Parry and Cllr Pryce.

Other questions were agreed to be responded to directly from the Chair

A further question was raised about the Fair being permitted to run on Parish Council land that was questioned about not being environmentally friendly with diesel fumes being a concern and if the Council will consider if this activity should continue.

It was agreed that this item will be looked into further by councillors

5. Neighbourhood Plan Update - Cllr Bill Pryce

Cllr Pryce explained the Neighbourhood Plan has been created to help residents of the Parish to have some control over future development planning applications and thanked the Steering Group for the hard work over the years and resident associations for their input.

The results of the Neighbourhood referendum held as part of the District Council elections were 3,830 for and 823 against.

Cllr Pryce went on to explain it is hoped the Neighbourhood Plan will be in place for the District Council to be made at their meeting on 20 July 22 and confirmed there is already an impact where the Plan is being referred to by the District Council officers. It is on the website and reiterated if is not about development but controlling development in the Parish.

6. Parish Events-Parish Survey – Cllr Ajanta Hilton

Cllr Hilton referred to the Remembrance Day Parade on the 14 November 2021 that was attended by Cadets, Scouts, Rangers, Brownies, Guides and a Pipe band with local organisations laying wreaths purchased by the Council and donations requested to be made to RBLI. The Parade was attended by approximately 250 people.

A Christmas market was held as an alternative to the previous Christmas carols and attended by around 700 peoples with 36 stalls and a live band and described as an uplifting event. The café remained open for the event as well as the guides having a stall. Cllr Parry had the role of Santa for about 3 hours and the evening ended with Community awards being presented.

This summer's events include the jubilee event being held at Greenwood Park with local food stalls, live bands, beacon lighting and a firework finale with a further event being held at the Parish Centre for Armed Forces Day on 3rd July.

For the Jubilee event at Greenwood Park the answer to the car parking enquiry is that Watford Rd will be opened for access for some parking, disabled parking will be available at Greenwood Park and people are being encouraged to lift share and use taxis. Marshalls will be on site to direct people to the Watford Road site.

Cllr Hilton confirmed a Parish survey is planned to seek information about green space xxx, events and to seek what the community wants.

7. Vision for the coming year - Cllr David Parry

Cllr Parry explained following 2 years of Covid lockdown the Council appear to have forgotten how to communicate and consult and this is a major priority for the next year.

In this coming year he indicated that we should finally get the improvements to Woodbury field Play area and hoped to move forward with replacing the increasingly unsatisfactory facilities at the Parish centre, providing more efficient Council services based at Greenwood Park and better community facilities for Bricket wood.

8. Closing Statement from the Chairman

Meeting Closed at 7.15pm

Signed

Date