

## **SHENLEY PARISH ANNUAL MEETING**

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, 20 MARCH 2014, AT 6.30PM  
IN THE VILLAGE HALL, 108 LONDON ROAD, SHENLEY.

Apologies for Absence: County Councillor Morris Brice, Borough Councillor Peter Wayne and Councillors Alex Black and Rosemary Gilligan.

Councillor Ross Brice, Chairman of the Parish Council formally opened the proceedings by welcoming everybody present. Thirty local residents/electors were present. The Chair invited the Parish Clerk, Amanda Leboff, to record the Minutes with the agreement of the meeting.

Copies of the Minutes of the Parish Meeting held on 21 March 2013 had been distributed together with copies of the audited accounts for the year 2012/13 and the Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2013. It was agreed by those present to accept the Minutes as read, and with the consent of the meeting, the Chairman signed the Minutes as a true record. There were no matters arising from the above Minutes.

The meeting received Cllr Hulme's report on the Sir Richard Cox's charity.

The Chairman then proceeded to read a copy of his report on the activities of the Parish Council for the past year as follows:-

*Good evening, fellow councillors, ladies, gentlemen and children, welcome to our Annual Parish Meeting.*

*Let us start with an update on the pond. Hopefully you have seen there is a notice board sited at the back of the cage detailing all the mysterious goings on over the years. Thanks to Bob Dearden for writing and researching the facts. On a couple of occasions you would have seen Jane Hudson with Guy and Nicky Beaton keeping the pond surrounds tidy and even guy in the pond. Thanks for their help. The pond should be cleared of pond weed in the next couple of months and by the summer we should have electricity in the cage and lighting up the village sign. The Cage and the War Memorial should also be cleaned in the next couple of months, depending on our success with our grade two planning application. Kevin Lloyd our village carpenter is currently making another wooden rail to stop children falling into the pond from the board walk. He will then build replacement planters to be placed on the 4 corners of the war memorial replace the once existing ones at the four corners of the memorial.*

*The Cage also saw use three times in the last year. It started on the last day of October when over 150 parents and children all dressed up celebrated Halloween. Thanks go to the two wicked witches Nicky Beaton and Tracy Brice, supported by William Susman as a skeleton. Alex Black was busy with the food, Guy Beaton taking photos and Steve Piacenti along with our two PCSO's Chris Ramdeen and Graham Tippet for organising the flow of people. Then at the start of December*

*Chanukah was celebrated led by Shenley United Synagogue's Rabbi Garber, ably supported Anthony, Alex, William, Steve and James, and was a great success. Santa at the grotto took place just before Christmas and was in full swing with hymns being sung by the St Martins church choir, when the heavens opened up and everybody dashed for cover. Thanks again to Cllr Susman and all the other Cllrs that helped at the event.*

*As far as land responsibilities are concerned Cllr Susman has now sorted out the leases for Pursley Field and we are delighted to have Borehamwood 2000 there as tenants, playing girls and boys football. At Harris Lane Playing Field and Rookery Field our big expense (£10,000) was the pruning and removal of trees which were in danger of causing harm to residents. Our allotments are fully used with a waiting list but the drains have caused issues and Cllr Hulme has saved us £5000 in sourcing the new drainage work. We hope you all like the new planters around the village which were donated by the old village nursery, we have managed to gain sponsors for each of the four planters, and thanks to Jane Hudson for planting them up.*

*Thanks to Cllr Spencer, crime and anti-social behaviour appears to be under control. The camera we have erected seems to be acting as a deterrent, and with regular meetings with the police and housing associations, a joined up strategy is emerging.*

*Last summer Cllr Bright was appointed as our County Councillor and has had an immediate positive effect. Firstly he has helped both financially and in influencing the appropriate departments with the result that a pelican crossing will be sighted at Shenleybury. He is now assisting us in our plan to have a 20 mile and hour zone past our village school with parking restrictions in order that parents do not park on pavements. Most recently he has assisted the village by paying for a bus route from Shenley to Borehamwood, so we would like to say a special thank you to Cllr Morris Bright.*

*Last year saw us organise three trips for our senior citizens. It started with our first ever cultural trip which went to Leeds Castle, with a stop off at a pub on the way back. In the summer it was off to Whitstable for fish and chips, and our Christmas outing was to see the amazing show 'Jersey Boys'. Although many Cllrs assisted, the only Cllr that went on every trip was Cllr William Susman, so special thanks to him.*

*As far as routine matters are concerned firstly huge thanks go to Cllr Guy Beaton who puts together our superb 'Shenley Village Matters' publication. Secondly thanks to Bob and Fay Gough who together with their two sons manage all the mowing and hedge cutting around our village. Finally and most importantly we would like to thank our clerk Amanda as without her hard work cheery nature and total commitment none of this would have gone ahead.*

*Lastly thank you as always to my fellow councillors on your behalf for all the unpaid work they carry out.*

The Chairman then invited Mrs Beryl Mackay MBE, Mrs Louise Bourton, Councillors Susman and Beaton to address the meeting on the topic 'Preserving The Village of Shenley'. Cllr Beaton spoke in place of Cllr Black who was unable to attend due to illness. Mrs Mackay gave a wonderful background synopsis of the village of Shenley that is in-fact mentioned in the Domesday Book as 'SCENLAI'. Mrs Bourton spoke of the history behind the Shenley Methodist Church and Cllrs Susman and Beaton spoke on Shenley as it currently is and where it could be heading with regards to development.

There were several questions asked under 'Questions and Matters of Local Interest', which related to the presentations.

The Chairman thanked his fellow Councillors and everybody for attending.

The meeting ended at 7.30p.m.

March 2015

Chairman .....