

APM2007.04.17

At the **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** of COLEHILL PARISH held in the Betty Webster Committee Room at COLEHILL MEMORIAL HALL on **17 APRIL 2007**.

PRESENT

Cllrs Keith Baker, John Bell, Janet Dover, John Gooch, Tony Holloway, KD Johnson, Andrew Marsh, Scott Miller, Ted Phillips, David Topping, Don Wallace, John Warren.

IN ATTENDANCE

District Cllr Alex Clarke, Chairman EDDC
District Cllr Mrs M Osner
Mr Ken Lannon, Chairman, Parish Plan Steering Group

APOLOGIES

Cllrs Gwen Divall, David Packer
District Cllr Mrs P A Hymers
EDDC Chief Executive - Alan Breakwell

There were two members of the public present.

413.07 WELCOME

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr John Gooch, welcomed the Members present and thanked Ken Lannon, who had replaced Mrs Howell as Chairman of the Parish Plan Steering Group, for attending to inform the Council about the Parish Plan.

414.07 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 April 2006, having been circulated were taken as read, confirmed and signed.

415.07 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Reviewing items dealt with during a very busy year, Cllr John Gooch made particular reference to the following matters:

(a) **Parish Council Activities & Membership**

In November the death of Cllr Jeffrey Greenwood was reported. A public seat will be installed in his memory at the junction of Lapwing Road and Pilford Heath Road.

The Clerk of over 30 years, Janet Stokes, retired. A new Clerk was appointed in May who, unfortunately, had to resign due to family commitments. The current Clerk, Tracey Paine, started in January 2007.

The accounting system was computerised. Protocols for interviewing applicants for co-option as parish councillors were agreed and modifications to the code of conduct were adopted.

Cllr John Warren, who resigned as chairman of Colehill Memorial Hall management committee in 2006, was thanked for his commitment to the Hall for the past 6 years. Thanks also went to Cllr Ted Phillips, who was standing down after 28 years serving on the Parish Council.

(b) Planning

The Burts Hill/Merrifield area was awarded conservation area status by EDDC. Consultations on the South West Regional Spatial Strategy commenced and there was a proposal to build up to 600 Houses in fields behind Walford Close, Colehill *which* the Parish Council had contested.

EDDC proposals for development at land at By-the-Way (off the Leigh Road), estimated to cost between £2.5 to £3.25 million, went to committee in August but had been postponed.

The Council had commented on the future of the Post Offices and on the Bournemouth Airport Draft Master Plan, which seeks a fourfold increase in both traffic and passengers in the next 25 years. The Council has also commented on the South and East Dorset Primary Care trust consultation document “The Way Forward”. The Council supported residents who sought to register rights of way at land east of Leigh Lane.

(c) Anti-Social behaviour at Post Office crossroads

As a result of continuing noise and disturbance in the area of the Post Office crossroads, the Council purchased a CCTV camera and equipment which permits the area to be viewed remotely.

(d) Highway matters

The Council has, jointly with Holt Parish Council, acquired a Speed Indicator Advice (SID). DCC presented their preliminary proposals to remedy the speed and safety issues at Middlehill Road and Smugglers Lane.

(e) Parish Plan

A public meeting was held to consider whether to have a Parish Plan. The Chairman thanked Susan Davies for her creative ideas and Cllr Packer for his help in designing the initial publicity. Public attendance was high and following presentations by Dorset Community Action a Parish Plan Steering Group was formed.

(f) Library

Colehill Library has been under threat of closure for some years. The Parish Council opposes this closure and has formed a Colehill Library Action Group in company with the Friends of Colehill Library to fight the closure and to determine whether volunteers could run the library in the event that Dorset County Council withdraws funding in March 2008.

The Chairman concluded his report by inviting comments or questions about the matters raised.

RESOLVED that the Chairman be thanked for his comprehensive report.

**416.07 PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2006**

Copies of the audited Annual Return and External Auditor's Certificate and Opinion for the year ended 31 March 2006 had been circulated and a Receipts and Payments summary of the Accounts at 31 March 2007 was available for information.

RESOLVED that the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2006 be received and noted.

**417.07 PRESENTATION BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE
PARISH PLAN STEERING GROUP**

Mr Ken Lannon outlined the work to date of the Steering Group. Preparations had begun on the questionnaire, which will be distributed to all householders in Colehill. Opinions will be sought on subjects such as housing, crime, safety, transport, health, community facilities and education. There will be a separate questionnaire for people aged 15 and under.

The Group plan to analyse the answers electronically with help from East Dorset District Council and hope to produce a draft parish plan by September.

Following a time of questions the Chairman thanked Ken Lannon for his presentation.

The Chairman thanked the Members for their hard work and support during the last year and closed the meeting at 19.40 hours.

CHAIRMAN