

# CHEDDON FITZPAINE

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING ON 22 March 2018

AT 7.00 pm

### MEMORIAL HALL, CHEDDON FITZPAINE, TA2 8JY.

1. **Cllr R Isaacs, Vice-Chairman**, welcomed approximately 30 parishioners to the Annual Parish Meeting. The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 30 March 2017 were accepted as a true record and signed by the Vice-Chairman.
2. **No Matters Arising.**
3. **Chairman's Report:**
  - The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. A Powerpoint presentation was given.
  - Since last year phenomenal change had taken place within the parish, especially for Northwalls Grange.
  - Plans approved by Taunton Deane BC & SCC County Hall include: New developments at Northwalls Grange, New Primary School proposed at Nerrols – due Sept 2019, Western Relief Road (WRR), Creation of Country Park – off Maidenbrook lane, moving Conquest Riding Centre into area. Slide showing map displayed.
  - Gratitude was accorded to the Parish Councillors for their indispensable work throughout the year, particularly to those who worked on the Neighbourhood Plan. NP Referendum on 19 April 2018.
  - Thanks to the local Farmers who cleared the recent snow from the roads and the 4x4 drivers who went out of their way to help the stranded and trips to Musgrove Hospital.
  - Thanks given to the Inland Waterways Association IWA, Mike Slade – Co-Ordinator from Bridgwater, Steve Bulgin from Crewkerne for the work put in at Waterleaze in Autumn 2017. This was outstanding and the Parish Council are pleased to donate funds to the IWA to support such a worthwhile cause.
4. **Guest Speakers:**

**Jolyon Chesworth**, Nature & Wellbeing Manager, Somerset Wildlife Trust (SWT)  
JC explained the functions of the Trust, for educational purposes by inspiring young people through informal learning of the natural world, and Natures benefits for health. SWT is the largest organisation within Somerset with 18,000 members, covering 70 nature reserves including wetlands and moors, with iconic species. SWT works in collaboration with communities and organisations overseeing the 'living landscape'. Projects include Routes to the River Tone which incorporated many events, including Art and Performance projects. The Garden Town status for Taunton brings a strong vision for the local area. In 1898, Ebenezer Howard promoted community ownership of land, alongside well-designed developments and houses. Key words: Healthy, connected, green, and vibrant! The Green Infrastructure Strategy (GI) was published by TDBC in October 2016, and the Country Park in Cheddon Fitzpaine is listed as the key project.  
D Cllr Cavill added words regarding the situation on the plans for the Country Park. Land is being protected from the east of Viridor Recycling Centre all the way north towards Hestercombe as a 'Green Wedge'. This is to provide a healthy lung for the new residential developments nearby; an ambitious scheme 25 years in the making.

**Georgina Wood**, Business Boating Manger (SW) Canal & River Trust (CRT)  
(Duncan Gordon deputised in GW's absence). The British Waterways ceased to exist five years ago, and the CRT was from in July 2012 covering 2,000 miles of waterways. Canals provide a place to escape, are unfenced, managed and supported by volunteers. Structures include 336 aqueducts, 1583 locks, 55 tunnels, 2663 listed buildings, 50 ancient monuments and 63 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The Bridgwater & Taunton Canal is 14 miles long, was meant to link to Bristol, but carried cargo of coal and iron from South Wales. Commercial cargo ceased in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, but relaxation and pleasure are the main sources of enjoyment both on and off the water. Wildlife habitats provide cover for otters, water voles, mink, and bats amongst other creatures.
5. **Philip White, CEO of Hestercombe Gardens Trust (HGT)** unable to attend this year.  
News reported at Community Advisory Group meeting in February 2018 available on parish website.

**Lucy Back, Savills, Director on behalf of The Crown Estate:**

- The Crown Estate has decided to dispose of its interests in the Taunton estate which means the areas around Cheddon will be sold. Discussions are being held with a number of farm tenants.
- It is extremely unlikely that small areas will be sold to individuals, primarily because of the secure tenancies in place.
- It is expected that the estate will be sold within this calendar year.
- The Crown will shortly be progressing with discussions on Nerrols phase 2
- D Cllr Norman Cavill had already updated on the progress with discussions between The Crown Estate and the local authority over the sale of land to the local authority for the Country Park and discussions for the possible relocation of the Conquest Centre, subject to planning.

**Duncan Gordon, Headmaster, Cheddon Fitzpaine Church School**

There were 72 applicants for 21 school spaces. The children's results have been above the national average for the past year. DG held up large photographic evidence describing 'what the children doing each day?' The RE Day had children working in groups washing feet thereby working together, the Bugman showed off a tarantula (brave teachers!), Assembly promotes the awards for good behaviour, house points and gymnastic results in and out of school. Other topics include Maths, Hockey, Pancake Day, and the planting of crab apple saplings in Hestercombe driveway. Those present wished to return to school!

**Rev Mary Styles, Rector & Pauline Stone, Churchwarden of Cheddon Fitzpaine Church**

Rev Mary reported the Annual Parish *Church* Meeting will be held on 22 April 2018 after church. This has been an amazing full year working within the community and the school. The staffing situation within the Clergy will improve. A new Pioneer Ordinand, Tracey Hallett, will be moving into the area and ordained in 2019; a Pioneer works outside the Church but within the community. Also, West Monkton is to receive a Pioneer as the Deanery has identified the area as a hotspot of pioneering because of the new developments taking place. Pauline Stone reported the problems within an old building; the heating, lighting and electrics require updating and advice is being sought from the Diocese and Kingston St Mary. Events include Harvest Festival and well supported Harvest Lunch in church ably provided by Mary Gunning from her nearby home; Baptisms, musical instruments for children, regular Churchyard working parties, and local choir to sing at the Carol Concert.

**Malcolm Lown, Chairman of Cheddon Fitzpaine Memorial Hall**

Welcomed everyone to this fantastic facility run by Trustees since 1999. There is a record turnover for hiring the hall, with bookings taken two years in advance. The Management has been restructured with paid positions for the Treasurer, Hall Manager, and a new day-to-day cleaner. Two Trustees from the school are a huge asset providing communication links. The heating pump has been replaced in the past 12 months, and regrettably the Cheddoner's Play was cancelled owing to the recent snow losing valuable income. The current work by HGT in the woodland surrounding the Hall has brought muddy mess which HGT will rectify. The ongoing saga surrounding the ownership of the immediate area of land continues with the Crown.

**Christine Curtis, Business Development Manager, Akesis Medical Services**

CC was an emergency ambulance technician. Now based in Wellington, she travels all over the SW providing training for schools, businesses, and community groups. First aid has changed significantly, with the inclusion of defibrillators ie a shock box or Automatic External Device AED. Information and statistics were provided on coronary heart disease deaths in the UK, with the need for defibrillators giving the best chance of survival. An excellent briefing was given on defibrillators, training and overall background to the requirement for the installation of equipment. The first training session will be on 8 May 2018.

- The vacancy was announced for a Parish Councillor
- IWA Mike Slade thanked the Parish Council for the grant, and was happy to support the work at Maidenbrook. Volunteers always welcome for a couple of hours (including fun and banter!).
- The Clerk was thanked for her endeavours.

The Meeting formally closed at 8.45 pm.

Conversations and information continued to be exchanged over drinks and refreshments for the following half hour.

Signed by the Chairman as a true record

Denise Webber

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28 March 2019  
Date: .....

J Pearson, Parish Clerk, 12 April 2018