

## **TIDBURY GREEN PARISH**

### **Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 6.30pm, Tidbury Green Village Hall**

Cllr Seddon as Chairman of the Parish Council welcomed everyone and outlined the purpose of the Annual Parish Meeting.

#### **1. Record of Members Present:**

Tidbury Green Parish Councillors: Cllr. P. Seddon, Cllr. E. Child, Cllr. A. Last, Cllr. G. Thomas; Mr J. Marshall, Chairman of Allotment Association; Mrs A. Thomas, Speedwatch Co-ordinator.

Parish Clerk: Mrs K Hearn

#### **2. Apologies for Absence.**

2.1 Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr C. Farr and Mr I. McDowell

#### **3. Minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2009**

3.1 The minutes were read out and accepted.

#### **4. Report from Chairman of Parish Council (Cllr Peter Seddon)**

4.1 The Parish Council has been in existence since June 2009 following an election for council members. There are five councillors and a paid parish clerk who joined in October. The new parish council assumed some of the responsibilities of the previous Hockley Heath Parish Council including the allotments and the village hall. The Residents Association was dissolved in July 2009 when it was determined that its funds be transferred to the new parish council under specific terms and conditions. Part of those funds have been earmarked for new parish council noticeboards. Early work has involved dealing with a number of technical legal issues but other matters have included:-

- The setting up of the Village Hall Management Committee
- Establishing a relationship with the Allotment Association
- Reviewing planning applications
- Dealing with local issues – the location of the Christmas tree, litter and environmental issues, initiating a programme of planting in the area, parking problems, the state of the roads.
- Also dealing with legacy issues from the old parish council, recruiting a parish clerk, drawing up a list of objectives for 2010/11, determining the options for vehicle activated speed signs, considering the need for a parish plan.

The council would like to see more members of the community attending their meetings to help understand the desires and needs of the local people.

Some of the council's objectives for the forthcoming year were given, these having been previously circulated in their newsletter.

Mrs Thomas raised the need to increase publicity of the meetings.

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**Signed .....**      **Date.....**

## **5. Report on Annual Accounts of Parish Council (Cllr Graham Thomas)**

5.1 Cllr Thomas, the Parish Council's Responsible Officer, went through the circulated accounts. There were no questions.

## **6. Reports**

### **6.1 Village Hall Management Committee (given by Cllr Seddon in the Chairman's, Mr McDowell, absence)**

The Village Hall is leased by TGPC from Solihull Council who own the land and building on a 125 year lease. In September 2009 the Parish Council decided to appoint a separate management committee to oversee the management of the hall which has met every three months. The Committee comprises of the Ian McDowell (Chairman), David Ollis (Treasurer), Tony Causon, two representatives from the Parish Council, Cllrs Seddon and Thomas, and Peter Fumagalli (Hall Manager). A major review has taken place of the hall facilities with particular focus on meeting Health and Safety requirements. Most of the actions are now completed. With the hall being 15 years old the committee is very mindful that significant costs will be incurred over the next few years in replacing and refurbishing major items. Financially the Hall is in good shape and secured a significant cost saving in 2008/9 with the help of one of the borough councillors which resulted in an 80% reduction in the charge for non-domestic rates. The hall continues to be well used with about 10 groups having long term contracts for weekly use. Every effort is made to respond to their feedback and needs regarding the use of the hall and to continue to provide facilities that all who hire the hall enjoy using.

### **6.2 Allotment Association (Report Received from Secretary Brian Wood)**

The allotment site was recently inherited from Hockley Heath Parish Council. It is situated in Wood Lane, Earlswood and consists of approximately four acres of land. The site was first used as allotments 34 years ago when an association of volunteers was formed to administer and maintain the facility. Originally, the site was divided into 20 plots each measuring approximately 90 by 30 feet but due to recent demand from local residents the Association decided to limit allocation to half plots only. Currently, the Association has a total of 32 plot holders and a waiting list of 12. Unfortunately, the size of the site limits the provision of additional plots. The Association has a Committee of 6 members which meets on an ad hoc basis and is responsible for the day to day running of the organisation. An Annual General Meeting is held each year in February to which Officers of the Parish Council are warmly invited. A copy of the Minutes is also placed with the Parish Council. Operation and maintenance costs are met from charges made on each plot holder supplemented by monies raised by the Association through various fund raising events including a quiz night and annual vegetable show. The charges currently levied on plot holders consist of an initial one-off returnable deposit of £10 plus an annual half plot rent of £20 plus £1 annual membership fee. The rent is halved for plot holders over the age of 60. The Association is affiliated to the National Society of Allotment and Leisure Gardeners and holds an insurance policy as recommended by NSALG. A copy of the Association's Income and Expenditure Account for 2009 approved at the AGM in January 2010 was also made available.

Following the report a discussion took place of other possible events.

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**Signed .....**      **Date.....**

**6. Issues of particular local importance**

**6.1 Speedwatch (Co-ordinator, Mrs Agnes Thomas)**

The Speedwatch project has just passed its second anniversary. Bookings on all four roads have increased this year compared to last, with the highest recorded speed being 62mph. Repeated requests for the police to come out with a laser gun have proved unfruitful so a letter has been sent to the Chief Constable this week requesting this support. The Parish Council were asked to show their support by writing themselves. Overall, it was felt this was a good community project fostering good community relations.

**7. Other matters raised by an Elector of the Parish**

7.1 No other matters were raised.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.02pm.