

Chelveston-cum-Caldecott Parish Council

Northamptonshire

Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly

14th May 2007

Meeting Number APA07

Minutes of the **Annual Parish Assembly** held at 7:30 p.m. - **Monday 14th May 2007** in the Chelveston Village Hall.

Present :- Councillors : Cllr. A.R.Dale (Chairman)
Cllrs M.W.Emerson, M.L.Foulger, G.Harwood,
M.J.Izzard, P.Mommersteeg & M.W.Wooding.

Clerk: Mr. M.H.Hunter

Public: Approx. 29 members of the public

1 Introduction

Cllr Dale welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that this was an annual meeting of the parish (rather than the Council). He then introduced the members of the Council.

2 Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary Parish Assembly held on 5th June 2006

The Clerk outlined the minutes of the previous meeting. Michael Smith proposed the adoption of the minutes. Seconded by Melvyn Wooding and carried. Cllr Dale & the Clerk then signed the minutes.

3 Annual Report of the Parish Council

The Council has met 13 times since the last APA. It has considered 12 planning applications, none had been decided differently by the District, but 4 were still to be determined. Some 440 items of correspondence have been received (plus e-mails). The twin focus throughout the year was opposition to the CRE development proposals and the 305th BG war memorial project.

Along with Preserve and other councils, objections were lodged to both the generator application made in September 2006 and the anemometer renewal made in March 2007. The strength of the objections had delayed the planning decisions, though the generators were likely to be determined later this month.

The memorial has been taking shape over the year and has generated a large amount of interest from surrounding areas, with people coming to view it from afar. Lots of residents have contributed either through funding or providing skills or resources and we noticed a real sense of community ownership surround the project.

The old Rights of Way have been reopened across the former airfield (albeit in fenced corridors) and maintenance work had been carried out to try and solve the flooding on the Joes/High Lane section behind Disbrowe Court.

During the year, NCC had announced its intention to seek unitary status to take over the powers and functions of the 7 District & Borough Councils. This announcement failed to achieve the backing the Chief executive had hoped for and he was now resigning at the end of May. From a local perspective, this is very good news, as we have a far better working relationship (and get better service) from ENC than we have ever done from NCC and their partners, Atkins.

The grass cutting contractors had provided an excellent service, but the most recent cut was felt to be below standard. The Council has replaced an old mercury lamp in Water Lane with a brighter,

Chelveston-cum-Caldecott Parish Council

Northamptonshire

but more energy efficient sodium unit and we are looking to replacing a lamp in Duchy Close that has a cracked base.

The Council's web-site continues to grow, especially the history pages, so much so that we had to increase the server space size that hosts it. The free parish newsletter has also stepped up to bi-monthly issues, plus the election special which preceded our first full election in 24 years. The average turnout around the district was around 33%, but over 57% of the village expressed their democratic choice in this hall at the start of May, so the new Council can truly say it represents the parish.

4 Update on the 305th BG memorial dedication service.

Mark Hunter went through the road closure plans, the public parking behind the village hall and display area behind the *Star & Garter*, as well as the layout of the dedication service planned for Saturday 26th May. Stuart Green asked for confirmation of the road closure times (13:30 – 15:30).

5 Update on the CRE proposals for the former airfield.

Pieter Mommersteeg (Chairman of Preserve) advised that the Council and Preserve had managed to generate enough public interest to delay the developer's plans that were exhibited here 12 months ago. It was likely the generator application would go to the planning committee on the 23rd May; though the committee composition would not be known until the 16th May (ENC annual meeting). The application was aimed at subverting the Three Towns Plan, by industrialising the greenfield site. A map showing the divide between urban and rural areas either side of the A6 bypass was displayed.

He outlined part of a letter that was going out to all the ENC Cllrs and explained that 4 hoardings will be going up in the 4 most affected villages to highlight the campaign. He asked the public to support the social events and fund raising activities and enquired if the Preserve newsletters were read. The public present replied that the newsletters were very good and welcomed.

6 Any other matter the Electorate wish to debate.

Cllr Dale asked the meeting to suggest areas the Council should tackle for the coming year. Michael Smith asked that the Council look to tackling speeding motorbikes. Sharon Smart asked that footpaths/footways be considered. Michael Smith asked about signage to the church.

7 Summary of the meeting.

Cllr Dale summarised the meeting, noting that the requested priorities were traffic calming and footpath/footway improvements.

The meeting closed at 8:12 p.m.

Issued on 15th May 2007

Pages 1211-1212 signed under seal as a true record

Adrian Dale
Chairman of the Parish Council

Mark Hunter
Clerk to the Parish Council