

# **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

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## **MINUTES of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING Held on THURSDAY, 25<sup>th</sup> MAY 2017 at 7.30PM In the VILLAGE HALL, SHERSTON.**

### **Present**

Sherston Parish Council Chairman – John Matthews (JM)

8 members of the public

### **1. Approval of Convening Notice**

The notice was approved.

### **2. Apologies**

Apologies were sent from Sarah Wood

### **3. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

The minutes were approved.

### **4. Report by the Chairman of the Parish Council**

Mr Matthews started his report by thanking the clerk and councillors for their work on the parish council over the past year. JM particularly thanked Sean Magee for all his work on the accounts and audits and Sarah Wood who cannot be here tonight for her work as the Parish Clerk.

The Cliffhanger continues to be the life blood and glue that makes our village such a vibrant community. JM thanked the Cliffhanger team for all their work on the publication.

JM also thanked all the other groups, clubs and societies mentioned in the Cliffhanger which help add to our vibrancy as a community. We should remember that each and every one of these groups is headed up by a few volunteers who give generously of their free time to make these groups work and flourish.

Sherston has had another busy year ; another successful Boules week with this year's event only just over the horizon. A special evensong to mark the Queens 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday, but probably the highlight of last year which we will have to wait many a year to see again, was the re-enactment of the Battle of Sherston. The village experienced a Viking invasion on the 25<sup>th</sup> June, making the Battle now nearly 1001 years ago. A huge vote of thanks must go the Adrienne Rea and her team for all their time and effort that went into making it a resounding success.

The Neighbourhood Plan rumbles on. A questionnaire seeking the views of residents on the proposed plan received 94% support. This was followed by a public meeting where another group wished to find an alternative funding solution with fewer houses. We had hoped that their plan would be ready for full discussion at this APM but we shall have to wait until next week when we should have a clearer picture at a meeting of the Steering Group next week where all members of the public are welcome. We do need to press on with our plan both for the benefit of the surgery and the pre-school but also to give ourselves a level of protection against predatory planning applications. JM suggested that any questions on the NP should wait until next week's meeting.

You will see that there is no agenda. This is because the public make the agenda with question from the floor but it is customary to have a short presentation at APM and tonight's presentation is one of the topics that has been a forefront of national debate. It is not Brexit, it is not Mr Trump, or potholes on the B4040 but it is about the nation's health.

## 2. Ellen Blacker – Dementia Friendly Communities

Ellen Blacker who is Wiltshire Councils Health and Wellbeing Champion gave a presentation on what makes a community dementia friendly. Mrs Blacker also informed the meeting that she has been working on a Dementia Friendly Action Plan which will help guide communities to become more Dementia friendly aware and how to raise awareness of Dementia. Ellen will circulate information to councils next month and ask for a volunteer to lead the steering group from the parish council. JM thanked Ellen for the presentation and will look forward to receiving the plan next month.

JM thanked all for attending. The meeting finished at 8.30 pm.