

**MINUTES OF THE STANTON DREW PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL
MEETING HELD IN THE PARISH HALL ON THURSDAY 3RD MAY 2012
AT 7.30 PM**

PRESENT: Mrs J Chubb-Whittle(Chair), Mr G Roscoe, Mrs K Mountford, Mr J Swift, Mr M Elsbury, Mr D Winstone, Mr M Naunton, Ward Councillor J Sparks and six parishioners.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies received.

PARISHIONERS COMMENTS

There were no comments received for this meeting.

MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The minutes, having been circulated to the parish councillors, were agreed and signed as a correct record.

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The chair presented her first annual report in what she considered to be Council's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

STRENGTHS: Our clerk. Relationship and support of our Ward Councillor, Mr J Sparks. Good communication/relationship as councillor team. Councillors with many years' experience and local knowledge. The playing field project. The allotments provision. The Parish Plan committee work. School Governor Involvement. The commitment of councillors and our relationship with the secretary of the B&NES Group of ALCA, Mr Peter Duppa-Miller.

WEAKNESSES: Keeping on top of the B&NES website, planning feedback and issues. Attendance of parishioners to parish council meetings. Possible age range of councillors. The majority of councillors have their own jobs! Keeping up to date with changing legislation, guidance, e.g. planning. Few councillor training opportunities and Issues arising from Parish Plan feedback.

OPPORTUNITIES: Good relationship and support from our Ward Councillor, Mr J Sparks. Upping our profile. Getting younger people involved in becoming councillors. Connecting the disparate locations and keeping the community motivated.

THREATS: B&NES Council's proposal for the Old Colliery site. Money and time. Getting projects completed and Apathy of parishioners.

THE RICHARD JONES FOUNDATION REPORT

The clerk, who is also a village trustee of the foundation, explained the history and make-up of the foundation and presented the accounts for the twelve month period ending 31st August 2011. Total income was £8,641 which included £4,831 carried forward. Total payments were £2,702, balances in hand therefore were £5,939. Educational grants to 5 Stanton Drew recipients totalled £705 and payments for the benefit of the poor were paid to 9 Stanton Drew recipients totalling £180.

THE VILLAGE OF THE YEAR REPORT

Mr G Roscoe, council's co-ordinator, presented the report. He reiterated his comments that he had reported to council at the November 2011 parish council meeting. The village was not placed in the first three of the small village section but he felt that the judges' comments were inconsistent and very disappointing. For example, they stated that they could not find the allotments and that there were no signs, even though a map had been provided and the provision of signs had never been asked for in the past. There was no comment on the churchyard even though it is a central part of the village and had always been commented upon in the past.

We will however be entering the competition again this year and the recent publicity and offers of litter picking is greatly appreciated. A big thank you to the grass cutters, in particular at the churchyard and the village seat areas. Hopefully we can obtain better marks this time.

ADOPTION OF THE PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2012

The clerk/responsible financial officer presented the accounts. Balances brought forward totalled £11,981.52. Receipts during the year totalled £9,381.69 and payments were £12,833.10. Payments exceeded receipts therefore by £3,451.41. Closing balances totalled £8,838.11. It was proposed by Mr G Roscoe, seconded by Mr M Naunton and agreed that the accounts should be adopted. A vote of thanks to the clerk/RFO for producing the accounts was proposed and agreed.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no other issues raised and the meeting was declared closed at 8.10 pm.

_____ CHAIRMAN _____ DATE