

The Annual Parish Meeting

The following are the minutes of the last annual parish meeting.

The Annual Parish Meeting of Puriton Parish Council was held in the Village Hall, Riverton Road, Puriton, on Tuesday 10th April 2007, commencing at 7.30 p.m., when the following business was transacted:

PRESENT Councillors M P Herbert (Chairman) and the clerk Mr B Poole.

In addition there were twenty four members of the public present, the speaker Sarah McKean of the Community Council of Somerset, together with the following Parish Councillors: Mrs J Fletcher, Messrs. B Crowe, D Good, M Healey and W Watts.

APOLOGIES Councillors Mrs S Tizzard and J Hood

MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 11th April 2006 were read by the clerk and thereafter approved as being a correct record and signed as such by the Chairman.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

THE 2007/08 PRECEPT

The Clerk Mr Poole gave a PowerPoint presentation in respect of 2007/08 council precept, a copy of which is attached to the minute book.

UNDERTAKING A VILLAGE PLAN - SARAH McKEAN

Sarah McKean, of the Community Council of Somerset, gave a very interesting presentation on the Undertaking of a Village Plan. A number of questions were asked.

PRESENTATIONS - GRANT FUNDING CHEQUES

It was announced that the following grant funding cheques had been forwarded to the respective organisations:-

Air Ambulance	100.00
Citizens Advice Bureau	100.00
Age Concern	50.00
Victim Support Somerset	50.00
St Michael and all Angels PCC	500.00

Maintenance cheques to:-

St Michael and all Angels PCC	325.00
Puriton Playing Fields	325.00
Puriton Village Hall	325.00

The Chairman then made two presentations: a cheque for £1000 to the Sunshine Pre-School and £2000 to the Puriton Village Hall management committee. The representatives from the two groups gave a short account of how the money would be spent. It was also announced that the sum of £1000 had been earmarked for the Puriton Playing Fields management committee.

Left, council chairman Paul Herbert presents the cheque for the Village Hall to Mark Healey, chair of the Village Hall management committee.

OPEN FORUM

A number of general questions were asked such as:

The provision of dog bins
Directional signs to "The Church" "Webbers Way" and "The 37 Club"

Mr Poole on behalf of Mr Roberts tabled the Puriton Charities Report.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and gave special thanks to Mr & Mrs Healey for the preparation of the refreshments.

The Meeting concluded at 9.15pm.

OPEN SPACES

Three issues of note have arisen over the past year.

- ❖ The ongoing obstruction of BW 28/1, the only bridleway in the parish. This is the path that starts at the top of Hillside and passes New Ground Covert and Home Covert and proceeds towards Crancombe Lane in Woolavington. Despite repeated applications to Somerset

County Council by Puriton Parish Council, this problem has yet to be resolved. †

- ❖ The County Council's proposal to clear and maintain only the most well-used public footpaths. The Parish Council has expressed its dissatisfaction with this proposal.
- ❖ The request for support from a resident, Mrs Sarah Williams, for her application that Dunball Drove be designated a public footpath. Dunball Drove runs from the A38, opposite the junction with Downend Road, to footpath BW 28/10 which runs along the riverbank, and it provides a much safer route to the river than the existing route through Dunball Wharf. Mrs Williams began her campaign in 1996. The Parish Council has yet to decide whether it will support her in this matter.

† Editor's Note: Since the last annual meeting this issue has now been resolved