

SHIPTON GORGE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

21ST APRIL 2004

Present: Cllrs: R Hewlett (chair), M Boughton, R Cornish, D Smith, R Langran, J Epplestone, C Errington, R Coatsworth (County Councillor), M Parsons (District Councillor)

43 Parishioners attended

177. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everybody and was pleased to see a good attendance. He was especially pleased to welcome Jerry Cranmer (West Dorset Services Manager), John Noonan (representing Burton Bradstock School) and Esther Osborne (representing the police).

178. Apologies

Cllr B Lavelle, Cllr G Maxfield, B Epplestone, Ann Thompson, Jane Evans

179. Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting – 2003

The minutes had been approved and signed on the 14th May 2003. Copies of these minutes were made available to the Parishioners. There were no comments on the minutes.

180. Chairman's Report

The Chairman stated that the Annual Meeting is a requirement on the Parish Council and about this time of year there are over 8,300 such meetings taking place. It is an opportunity to meet all the different Parish organisations and to tell Parishioners what has been achieved in the last year.

John Bredemear was thanked by the PC for all the work he did as Clerk. The new Clerk (Jeff Fisher) was thanked for the work he has done.

The PC has spent the precept wisely and although there was a slight overspend this will be accommodated out of reserve.

Three Village Appraisals are in existence and copies can be obtained from the Clerk. A new Appraisal is to be produced which will be called a Parish Plan. This is a National initiative and the Parish Plans can be of great help to other organisations. All Parishioners were asked to support the Plan.

The website is now up and running. The web address is:

<http://www.shiptongorge.org.uk/>

This website will evolve and it is in the villagers hands how it is used and developed. The PC now makes extensive use of e-mails.

The PC was pleased to help the Village Society with the bonfire night.

The District Council are introducing Highway Maintenance Units, which will visit the Parish twice a year to carry out minor tasks. The PC is keen to see the new initiative succeed and have formed a close working relationship with the Council.

Robert Langran was thanked for his work on rights of way.

Ron Coatsworth and Mark Parsons were thanked for their support to the PC over the last year.

All parishioners were asked to support the PC. The next meeting is 12th May 2004.

181. Police Spokesman

Esther Osborne represented the police (PC Nat Cameron is on sick leave)

Esther is a Community Support Officer and she explained her role. She has powers associated with nuisance, abandoned vehicles, no tax on cars, litter, dog-fouling etc. This is a pilot scheme and if successful the powers of a Community Support Officer may be extended. There are two officers attached to West Dorset.

(Post meeting note: - Police Community Support Officers can be contacted on: -

Bridport Police Station 01308 422266

Esther Osborne 07791 747224 and esther.osborne@dorset.pnn.police.uk

Mark Jones 07791 747366 and mark.jones@dorset.pnn.police.uk

Frank Rodgers the Home Watch representative gave the Shipton crime figures for the last 12 months.

There were 8 reported crimes: - 4 vehicle problems, 1 theft from a car, playing field mower taken, 1 canvas hood taken, 1 garage door forced.

Frank stated there tends to be more crimes in the summer season and that distraction burglaries were becoming more common. He asked that he is kept informed of new residents. The Homewatch details are on the noticeboards.

182. Parish Council Report

Cllr Robert Cornish reported on planning activities over the last year. He reported that there is an upward trend in applications. There were 9 in 2000, 4 in 2001, 11 in 2002, 12 in 2003, and 3 in 2004 to date. Robert did not discuss individual applications but summarised the procedure. He stressed that the PC can only make recommendations should an individual have a view he encouraged them to write to the District Council.

There is now a website where applications can be seen. He encouraged more villagers to attend the PC planning meetings.

Cllr Mary Boughton reported on the playing field. Mary stated that the playing field is maintained solely by the PC and hence takes most of the precept. Mary reported that the mower had been stolen and the shed damaged. She thanked the Clerk for organising the replacement and dealing with the insurers. Grayham Rosamond was thanked for his invaluable work in cutting the grass and maintaining the playing field. The climbing frame and roundabout have recently been repaired. Some painting will be done this year. David Smith was thanked for painting the gates. The netball backboard needs to be replaced with a metal one. There is very little vandalism and all villagers are encouraged to keep an eye on the children. The fencing has been completed behind the swings along Shipton Lane.

Finally Mary stated that the playing field is there not just for the children but is a delightful place just to sit and enjoy the view.

183. Reports from other Organisations

St Martins Church

Peter Bates (vice Chairman) stated that they are currently in an interregnum. The new Team Rector Bob Thorne is now in residence in Burton Bradstock and will be instituted on 7th May. On 25th April the Bishop of Sherborne will licence Anthony Ashwell as Rural Dean of the Lyme Bay Deanery. Peter and Pam Bates are both representatives on the Lyme Bay Deanery and Peter stated that it has been a discussion for many years that the number of clergy in the Deanery be reduced from 12 to 10.

Village Society

Sally Parker (chairwoman) summarised the numerous activities during the year. These included a 5 mile walk which was supported by 35 people, coach trip, bingo etc. Sally thanked the Parish Council for their help with the bonfire and considered it to be one of the best for some time. There is a monthly quiz night at the New Inn and every fortnight there is a pensioner's lunch at the New Inn. Sally thanked John and Jean Maurice for their invaluable support to these events. Sally also thanked the support the Society receives from the villagers.

Village Hall Trust

Ed Buck (chairman) stated the Trust is entrusted with the maintenance and management of the Village Hall for the benefit of the Villagers. There is a committee of 12 and the income is generated from hire charges and fund raising events. The annual income and expenditure is approximately £5000. Over the last year there have been two films and two stage productions. The 100club and regular booking of the hall by yoga, table tennis etc all contribute to the income of the Trust. Improvements over the year have been a new notice board, new tables and a new outside light. Ed thanked all who have donated either their time or money to the Trust and especially the late Harold Jenks whose generous legacy means the Trust can now consider further improvements.

Burton Bradstock School

John Noonan (Governor) outlined the changes and achievements of the school. Mark Stratta has been appointed headmaster and Louise Brine as assistant head. Both have proved to be excellent appointments. Interactive white boards have been installed in one class and it is planned to install them in all classrooms. Initiatives are in hand to involve the children more in the running of the school. Inspection by Ofsted over a four-day period gave an overall good assessment. Teaching was from good to very good. Since the last assessment there have been improvements in teaching, financial control and teaching those with special needs. (In year 2 quarter of the children have special needs.)

John thanked the PC for the invitation.

184 Kerbside Recycling (Jerry Cranmer West Dorset Services Manager)

Jerry outlined the history of recycling in West Dorset with bottle banks being introduced in 1979. New legislation is now in place to recycle 27% of waste by 2006. This will mean the introduction of kerbside collection from households. A box will be collected every two weeks to collect glass, steel and aluminium cans. Paper will be collected in a sack. A pilot scheme in Sherborne has yielded 1000 tonnes a year with over 90% participation. For the village of Shipton there is no fixed date for introducing the scheme although it must happen by 2006. It is complicated by there being no Waste Transfer Centre near Bridport. Currently it costs the Taxpayers £168,000 to transfer local waste to the nearest site. This will rise to £225,000 when kerbside recycling is fully in place. Jerry stressed that Waste Transfer Centres are centres where waste is only transferred to larger lorries. All waste has to be removed within 24 hours and there is no smell.

Jerry enjoyed (we hope!) numerous questions during his talk.

Richard Hewlett thanked Jerry for his interesting talk and thanked all for attending the meeting.

185. Next Parish Council Meeting

12th May 2004