

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD OF ROMSLEY PARISH
COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 28TH MAY 2009 AT 8.00PM**

The meeting was attended by three Parish Councillors and one County Councillor.

1. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Previous Meeting were read. It was Proposed by Cllr. Price, Seconded by Cllr. Mrs Cooper and **RESOLVED** by those able to vote that they were a true record and signed accordingly.

2. To Receive Chairman's Report

Mr Hodgetts outlined the activities of the Parish Council during the year, as follows:-

- The Parish Council had met 11 times during the year; sub-committees were also held to discuss plans and any other matters needing urgent attention.
- Following a request by a Parishioner that we look into the possibility of Romsley and Hunnington Parish Council's joining forces, after a lengthy discussion it was decided an amalgamation would not be beneficial. Hunnington Parish Council was subsequently informed of our decision.
- Several planning applications were dealt with. One application went to appeal which was for the height of a fence at 25 Bromsgrove Road and this appeal was granted. Plans are now being received and responded to electronically. This, however, in the Council's view is not proving a satisfactory method as the plans are made available on a much smaller scale.
- At most meetings a Police report is given of any incidents which may have taken place in the village. One act of vandalism resulted in a bench having to be replaced. This was paid for through insurance.
- BT informed us that the telephone box adjacent to the Manchester Inn was to be removed unless we, the Council, took on the up-keep. Following a survey of the residents in Dayhouse Bank it was decided to request BT to remove the box as the alternative would be too costly.
- The Village Design Statement has had a negative response in spite of much time and hard work by Cllr. Mrs Tandy to promote this. It was decided to leave this item in abeyance for the time being.
- The Council agreed to enter the Lengthsman Scheme this year which allocates us 16 hours per month.

- We are still seeking to recruit a Gate Keeper and also a Play Equipment Safety Officer.
- We received a very good report from RoSPA this year regarding the playing field equipment and stating that all was in order and no work was needed.
- Various road repairs have been carried out on Bromsgrove Road, St Kenelms Road, Dark Lane and Poplar Lane.
- In closing I wish to thank Margaret, our Vice Chairman for her wisdom and advice, my fellow Councillors for their knowledge and input and for making every effort to attend the various seminars and forums at Bromsgrove and Worcester all contributing to the good of the Council.
- My thanks also go to our new Clerk who has now completed twelve months with us and successfully attained her CiLCA award. Ruth has fitted well into the workload, helping and assisting wherever possible and attending the Seminars' and Forums at County Hall and Bromsgrove.

3. **To Receive Financial Statements of the 2008/09 Accounts**

These had been circulated to the meeting. There were no comments.

4. **To Receive report on the Council's Representative on the Governing Body of St Kenelms Primary School**

Since last years AGM Mrs Gommersall has retired from her position as Head Teacher. The children, parents, staff and governors gave her a memorable send off with several events ending with a wonderful concert celebrating her good work at St Kenelms.

It was of course sad to lose someone who had dedicated fifteen years to bring the school to such a high standard and it must have been daunting for any new Head Teacher to uphold our expectations.

However Mrs Jane Woakes was appointed and has indeed fulfilled our hopes. The school was recently awarded "Best of the Best" status of which we are very proud.

The governors are grateful for all the hard work by the Head Teachers and all other staff. This school is well recognised for its standards and ethos and parents apply from other areas for places here, indeed ten children were disappointed to not succeed in gaining a place here in September because we are so popular.

This village has every reason to be happy to have such a successful and welcoming school at its heart.

5. To Receive Report of the County Councillor Representative – Mr E Moore

The Planning Application for the expansion of Chadwick Quarry had been turned down and subsequently Wildmoor had withdrawn their application. Chadwick Quarry had put in an appeal and if this was granted, this would create a tremendous impact on traffic at Dayhouse Bank.

An additional £15m had been received to upgrade unclassified road, of which Cllr Moore has £0.5m to spend and Romsley had received the second largest amount of this money.

6. To Receive Report of District Councillor Representative – Mr D Hancox

None received.

7. To Receive Report of the Neighbourhood Watch Representative

Three Smartwater signs have been purchased from monies collected from subscriptions. They have a healthy bank balance of £847.58 and the date of their next meeting is Wednesday 8th July 2009.

8. To Receive Report of the Tree Warden

There has recently been considerable interest in the recording of ancient trees. To this end, I attended a field workshop around Bredon and have also posted the first entry for the Parish of Romsley on the ancient trees of Worcestershire database. If anyone knows of any ancient trees in the area, not just the parish, I will be pleased to come and look at them. As a general rule this will involve trees with a girth at chest height of 3.5m or more.

9. To Receive Report of the Footpath Warden

None received.

10. To Review any Items of Parochial Interest

None

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.30pm.