

Sparsholt Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting 24 April 2019

Present:

County Cllr J Warwick

City Cllr C Horrill

Sparsholt Parish Council: Cllr S Wood, Cllr S Wooles, Cllr S Annesley, Cllr J Little, Cllr Osmond, Cllr N Reid

Other: Mrs J Judge, Clerk and 15 members of the public

Apologies:

Cllr J Alexander, Cllr P Chadwick, Cllr J Cooper

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed all to the meeting and noted apologies as above.

2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 18 April 2018

The minutes were approved and signed. There were no matters arising not on the agenda.

3. Report from County Councillor Jan Warwick

A copy of Cllr Warwick's report attached. A parishioner asked about the durability of pot hole repairs. Cllr Warwick explained that emergency repairs are made initially as problems are reported. More extensive works are completed as part of Operation Resilience, a planned maintenance programme to make Hampshire's roads more resilient to the effects of extreme weather and heavy traffic.

4. Report from City Councillor Caroline Horrill

A copy of Cllr Horrill's report attached. A parishioner reported that she had that day witnessed the success of the programme to help those facing homelessness.

5. Reports from Village Organisations

Sparsholt College – report attached

Sparsholt WI - report attached

Ham Green Volunteers – report attached

St Stephens with Lainston – Alastair Barron, Church Warden, highlighted that the Church welcomed all to worship at the Church and indeed visited those that were homebound. To facilitate the mission of the Church it was open every day for private contemplation and prayer. With "Messy Church" introduced and led by Sally Wesley and links with the School continually developing (the children now led services) all generations were involved. The success of the Annual Fete had enabled donations to community organisations including Ham Green, the Village Playground and local charity Karis Kids. The cost of maintaining the church and paying the annual stipend was challenging and donations were always welcomed!

Sparsholt Village Shop

Alastair Barron, the Chair of the Shop Committee, emphasised that the shop was so much more than a retail outlet and acted as social hub for the village. Local produce was featured, and the Post Office provided an important function. Mr Barron extended his thanks to the many volunteers without whom the shop would not operate.

As ever finances were on a knife edge and the message remained "Use It or Lose It! Working closely with Hursley Village Shop it was hoped that joint initiatives would enable better buying terms etc. All new parishioners were invited to buy a share in the Village Shop Association.

Memorial Hall – report attached

6. Report from Sparsholt Parish Councillor Sue Wood

A copy of the Chair's report attached.

The Chair opened the meeting to questions.

A parishioner sought clarification relating to the improved HGV signage in the village. It was emphasised that the signs were for guidance and not mandatory. To install enforceable signage a traffic order would be required, and Hampshire County Council would need evidence to justify such action. Parishioners were being asked to report to the clerk (with photos if possible) road safety and traffic incidents and unauthorised HGVs going through the village, enabling an evidence base to be built."

A question was asked about the proposed Anaerobic Digester at Sparsholt College. The Chair highlighted the report received from Tim Jackson, Principal of Sparsholt College *“In terms of sustainable land management, the College hopes to be moving ahead with the new Sustainable Energy and Renewable Environmental Technology building over the next few months, following an extended period of government policy inertia with regard to renewable energy, which has not enabled the project involving the College with Ecotricity to progress.”*

The Chair thanked all for attending and the meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed..... Date.....