

DRAFT Minutes of Grafton Parish Annual Parish Meeting held at the Coronation Hall

on Monday 9 May 2016 at 1915 hours

Item	Topic and Actions
1	<p>Attendees: Mr Hosier (Chair), Ms Bullock, Mr Hyslop, Mr Lemon, Mr Morris (part), Mrs Parkin (Clerk)</p> <p>Members of the Public: 14 members of the public in attendance: 8 Grafton Parish organisation representatives, Mr and Mrs Beale, Mr and Mrs Beazley, Mrs Comyn, Mrs Walsh</p>
2	<p>Apologies: Mrs Dudney, Mrs Whitcher, Mr Herrod-Taylor</p>
3	<p>Parish Reviews</p> <p>Grafton Parish Council – Mr Hosier reported on the key activities and progress of the parish council during the past year, including speed management where the Speed Watch team had now deployed the speed gun on 3 occasions with further use planned during the current week and the continued pressure being applied to reduce the speed limit through Marten; improved working with the Coronation Hall Committee and the investigation of beneficial changes to the relationship moving forwards; and the development of proposals for the enhancement of junior activities at the playing fields.</p> <p>Wiltshire Police – PCSO Jonathan Mills presented the report focusing particularly on rural crime operations, rogue trading and online fraud and telephone scams. A number of day and night-time rural crime operations had taken place during the year, the most recent being in April 2016. These operations resulted in arrests of individuals driving whilst unfit through intoxication, vehicle seizures for no insurance, extensive numbers of vehicles and individuals stop-searched and fuel tanks checked for red diesel. A rogue trading operation was conducted in April resulting in offences involving the illegal carrying of scrap metal and a £300 fixed penalty for one uninsured motorist. There has been an increase in online fraud and telephone scams with elderly residents in particular being targeted. PC Teresa Herbert intends to attend some of the meetings of elderly parish residents to provide awareness and guidance. The full report can be obtained from clerk@graftonparish.com</p> <p>Pewsey Community Area Partnership (PCAP) – Mrs Susie Brew reported on a number of achievements made by PCAP during the past year including helping resolve parish issues (where issues are collated across parishes to identify priorities); the launch of the Pewsey Vale Tourism Partnership, which Mrs Brew invited local businesses to join; work to preserve bus travel in the area by gaining agreement to a bus service from Grafton parish through Pewsey to Devizes that now includes improved links with train services and other bus services; the launch of Spice Time Credits to encourage volunteering in young people as well as working with the Local Youth Network; success to-date regarding halting/postponing the closure of Everleigh Recycling Centre and pressing for data to be reviewed; the launch of the monthly Memory Café in Pewsey; and lobbying to avert the full closure of the A345 for 3 months this summer. Mrs Brew explained that Wiltshire Council had withdrawn its funding for PCAP and that parish councils had therefore been approached to contribute to the running costs. She thanked Grafton parish council for its financial support and advised that local businesses were now also being approached. PCAP would continue to engage in all the above initiatives in the coming year and in addition would launch a Safe Places initiative in the coming weeks, whereby local businesses have signed up to help the elderly and vulnerable should they be out and about and need some help, even if that is just to be able to make a phone call to a family member.</p>

Coronation Hall Committee – Mr Bill Clemence reported a positive prior year for the Hall. A new booking and accounting system was in place and new people on the team. A surplus of £2,500 was anticipated for the current year. Two-thirds of income is derived from 10 regular users of the Hall and the remainder from activities such as weddings and childrens’ parties. Opportunities to increase the ad-hoc rental income were balanced with consideration for local residents and therefore not widely marketed. Re-decoration of the Hall had been completed during the year along with work to the carpark area to improve grass cover and also to the communal track, recognising its use by visitors to the Hall. Work had been underway during the year to better understand the relationships between the Coronation Hall as a charity and the parish council - its trustees - and the Hall Management Committee. These relationships would continue to evolve during 2016.

Sunflowers at Grafton – Mrs Sue England reported that Sunflowers was now in its 5th year of operation and continuing to flourish with very strong occupancy rates and a good local reputation. Challenges are presenting themselves for the next 3-5 years driven by external changes such as the introduction of the national minimum wage and pension provision, which will impact on costs and which Sunflowers will look to alleviate through additional revenues. Sunflowers has a strong group of trustees and a dedicated team and is currently bringing on board more good people. From a parish point of view, Sunflowers is conscious of the impact it has regarding the volume of traffic across the Green and particularly the speed at which some parents drive. They have reminded parents of the speed limit and that caution needs to be taken given local residents out walking and walking dogs. A discussion was had on what measures might be taken. It was agreed that some investigations would be undertaken, but that regular reminders from Sunflowers to parents was important to help change behaviour.

Grafton Goslings – Mrs England reported another good year for Goslings. 20-25 children attend on Thursday mornings at the Hall.

Horticultural Society – Mrs Marijke Craig reported a successful year for the ‘gardening club’ with 35 members meeting 10 times a year from March to December. The programme of activities includes 4 evening lectures, visits to private gardens not usually open to the public coupled with lunch at a local pub beforehand, a summer buffet with a garden visit, and a Christmas buffet. The result of the programme is that the club has become a very social and friendly group and new members would be very made very welcome.

Wilton Cricket Club – Mr Peter Hayward reported that the cricket club was growing in strength with between 27 and 30 Juniors (4-11 year olds) attending the 6 training sessions. Several have gone on to play at County and District level. The Seniors had 16 games planned, 5 were won and 5 lost and the remaining 6 cancelled due to the weather. For the first time in the Club’s history, last season one individual averaged over 100 runs, which was an impressive performance. Attendance was strong with more than 20 participants turning up for the last match. Both sessions so far held at the nets in Wilton had also been well-attended.

Wilton Windmill Society – Mr Kevin Challen reported a positive year for the Society with more than 2,000 people having been taken on a tour of the Mill during its usual Sunday afternoon opening and as a result of a growing number of mid-week bookings from various clubs that have been targeted to build awareness. The Society has decided to undertake the majority of the maintenance work required itself this year, for example the sails are to be taken off and overhauled. The Society is working with both BBC radio and television on the reparation project. The Windmill will be open free of charge for the Heritage Open Day in September

and a further Murder Mystery event will take place in June. It is also participating in 'Mills on the Air' where amateur radio enthusiasts and experts set up an amateur radio station at the mills and contact other mills and other radio enthusiasts worldwide. An updated website has been launched and various profile-raising materials will be launched soon.

Grafton PCC – Mrs Parkin reported on behalf of Mr Peter Horne advising availability of the full financial report and St. Nicholas' annual report. In summary, St. Nicholas' Church funds ended 2015 at £16,000. Income in the year had increased due to the second part of a bequest and funds raised by activities to support church roof repairs. Without the bequest and the Roof Fund, income would have been £14,000. Expenditure in the year, excluding payments related to roof repairs, was £16,500. The PCC is working hard to raise sufficient income to cover expenditure and welcomed all ideas for events and fund raising activities.

Bedwyn and Grafton Link Scheme – Mr Mike Fleckney reported that the Scheme has continued to provide transport to medical appointments and other community services (taking residents to hairdressers, shops etc). The new system of co-ordination – a laptop and mobile phone passed between volunteers – has worked well, although more volunteers for co-ordinating and driving would be welcomed particularly given the age demographic of the current volunteer team. The number of Link requests had fallen year on year, consistent with a trend seen with similar schemes elsewhere in the country. A possible reason is the introduction of Care Co-ordinators at many GP surgeries leading to a reduction in elderly patients visiting surgeries for minor ailments. The Scheme's finances are sound, thanks to the support of parish councils and other local organisations. Mr Fleckney thanked Grafton parish council for its contribution to the running of the Scheme and requested that the support continue. He advised that it had been decided to raise the volunteer mileage rate to 45p, the first rise for many years. There are a number of residents in Grafton parish who make regular use of the Scheme and Mr Fleckney encouraged anyone who may be interested to join - volunteers help when they can and can do as little or as much as they want.

Wiltshire Council – Mrs Parkin presented on behalf of Councillor Stuart Wheeler reporting that Wiltshire Council had experienced a challenging year financially but would come in on budget. For the coming year, it again has a challenging but sound budget and continues its three priority areas: To protect the vulnerable – the elderly, children and disabled people; to boost the economy to ensure good value jobs and a skilled workforce; and to support communities to be as self-reliant as possible. The year ahead will continue to be one of transition and the council is working up proposals to manage this and will consult with residents in the months ahead. On broadband, so far 74,000 premises have been reached with fibre broadband with this to increase to 80,000 by the end of 2017, with 70,000 having access to Superfast services. Investment in highways has continued with 200 resurfacing schemes undertaken. The re-location of the Canal Trust Museum from Devizes to Crofton Beam Engine had been under consideration, however the current decision is not to re-locate but to concentrate on fund raising to restore the fabric of the Canal Trust Museum building and to improve the educational and visitor experience at its current location. The full Wiltshire Council 2016 report can be obtained from clerk@graftonparish.com

A question was raised regarding sewage tankers travelling through Wilton and the potential for collision. Mr Lemon agreed to look into this. A question was raised regarding whether the school buses travelling from Wilton could be smaller in size, for similar reasons, but it was advised that this was the start of pupil pick-up and that buses were full by the time they reached their destination.

Action: Mr Lemon to investigate regarding sewage tanker routes.

Meeting closed at 2015 hrs with all contributors being thanked by Mr Hosier

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