

Thurlestone Annual Parish Meeting

Members of the Public and Press are welcome to attend

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 18th April 2011
At 7.30 pm in Thurlestone Parish Hall

Present: Cllr A Rhymes – Chairman,
Graham Philips (Chairman Hope Cove Life Boat)
Sergeant Jane Corkhill & PC Steve Mullin – Devon & Cornwall
Constabulary
Mrs Shonaugh Rankin
Sir Simon Day

In attendance: 16 parishioners and Phil Millard (Clerk).

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30 pm. He welcomed everyone and introduced the evening's speakers.

1. Chairman's Report

Chairman gave a report giving details of the main events over the last 12 months. Which covered:

Cllr Mitchelmore took up the role of tree warden again
Parish Plan was finalized, printed and distributed. The resultant action plan is now being implemented. (Thanked Cllr Marshall for all his hard work on this)

Local Development Plan was published and councils had to respond and give their opinions – this was done and as we all know we no longer feature in the finalized document. (Thanks to Cllr Came for all his hard work on this issue).

The development at the old telephone exchange in the village was outlined to us by Steve Prime – this has since been on hold over planning issues and costs but should go ahead shortly.

Dog bins – finally got two new ones – which means we now have three.

Meeting was arranged in November with S.Milton Parish Council and National Trust Regarding the ongoing problem of the naming of the area behind Thurlestone Sands as South Milton Sands. No solution found and we are continuing to seek a solution.

Meeting with John Halliday (Highways) re the unwanted 64 parking restriction signs through the village – cost of removal is prohibitive.

Planning was a major feature throughout the year with a number of houses being knocked down and rebuilt – not sure our views are taken into account at SHDC.

Bus Timetables are being changed and this is a concern that with certain bus services being removed older people will become isolated.

Mugs were chosen to commemorate the upcoming Royal Wedding and will be distributed to the children in the Parish in due course.

The ongoing poor state of our roads continues to be a concern.

Finally thanked the rest of the council for their support and in particular Cllrs Stidston and Marshall who are standing down this year for their long service (30yrs+ & 12yrs) to the community of Thurlestone.

2. Guests

Graham Philips (Chairman Hope Cove Life Boat)

Report was given to us by Graham a synopsis of which is given below.

There has been a lifeboat in Hope Cove since 1878 since 1960 have been under the MCA (Marine & Coastguard Authority) – grounded last year for rescuing someone.

However since election attitudes have changed and have had lot of support from government (no money still) and have now set up new company (limited by guarantee). 17 Trustees and set up as a registered charity.

Rent boat house – running costs are £25k pa – which is mainly insurance, training etc. Can be inspected at any time. Crew are very high quality. Boat may need to be replaced in 2 years – at a cost of £50k – so are trying to raise £100k so these funds are available. Have raised £26k so far.

Boat should be fully operational by Easter weekend and will operate in conjunction with Bantham and Salcolm life boats.

Web site www.Hopercove.org

Took questions from Public.

Sergeant Jane Corkhill & PC Steve Mullen

Report was given by Sergeant Corkhill – gave us an outline of her background and the makeup of the force locally. Together with what is happening currently with the changes they are having to make (need to save £50m over 4 years). This means they will need to lose 700 officers.

Main changes affecting us are – front desk at Kingsbridge is closing but will remain a main hub. We will keep Dave Gibson our PCSO as funding is in place until 2013.

PC Mullen reported – 1000 crimes in the district – 18 in Thurlestone none of these were serious crimes – few problems re parking by school now seem to be ok.

Continue to attend coffee mornings at church meeting room.

Thanked us for our support.

Reassured us that we live in one of the safest places in the UK.

Mrs Shonaugh Rankin (ex Dist Councillor)

Is standing down as our District Councillor after 8 years – This is due to family/time commitments and thanked us for our support over the years.
The years ahead will be tough as a result of the cuts now being imposed.

Sir Simon Day

Sir Simon has represented us now for 40 years - gave us a report – which briefly covered the tough choices which will be needed going forward.
Revenue budget £520m – cut by £54m this year.
Salaries have become an issue as gone up dramatically over last few years.
Council tax has been frozen this year.
Continues to chair – Audit committee and Police Authority
Does have a maintenance fund we can use for projects.

Took Questions from public.

3. Open Forum

Virtual pavement through the village – white line is wearing out – can it be restored.
Village Voice requested new councillors to E mail them with reasons they have become a councillor – no more than 100 words.

There being no other business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.30 pm.

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19th April 2011

Chairman