

MINUTES OF A PATTINGHAM AND PATSHULL PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 10TH APRIL 2017 AT PATTINGHAM VILLAGE HALL

Present: Councillors: R Lines (Chairman), D Billson (Vice Chairman), T Mason, S Hubble, M Finch, Mrs S Hughes, J Dyas, Mrs A Davies.

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Cllr K James, W Hurford, G Deane and Mrs J Burton MBE sent their apologies for the meeting due to a prior commitments.

2. **Minutes of the previous meetings held on the 27th April 2016**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 27th April 2016 were agreed as an accurate and true record of that meeting with the exception that on the Pattingham Allotment Report the proposer should read Cllr S Hubble not Cllr Stuart.

3. **To discuss any matters arising from the previous Annual Parish Meeting of the 27th April 2016**

None were reported.

4. **Report of the Chairman**

Chairman's Annual Parish Meeting Report 2017

Focus has again been on controlling costs by good house keeping, for example saving over £1000 on combining multiple insurances into a single policy. We are pleased to report no increase in parish council tax for 2017/18.

Work is almost complete on the lower field football pitch drainage project. On the upper field the goal areas have been repaired and the park goal posts safely reinstalled. We won a Community Pathways Initiative grant to buy materials to improve some of the Public Right of Ways (PRoW) in the village. Gravel has been laid to firm up some very muddy ground on sections of PRoW.

Elsewhere, we have assisted the St Chads Allotment Group with securing a new 20-year lease on the Newgate field and wish them many happy hours allotmenting. We are currently reviewing a new 15-year lease on the Burnhill Green Recreation Ground and, with agreement from the Crown Estate, have included the village green area in Snowdon Road as part of the demise.

On the personnel front we said farewell to John Williams who retired from his litter picking role and to Amy Watson who moved to take up the position of Clerk for another parish. We welcomed Jenny Spaul as our new Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer, and with Jenny's help we have created a new Parish Council website with information, news and links to report items directly to the relevant authorities. You can find the site here:

www.pattinghamparishcouncil.com.

Rob Lines
Chairman 2016 - 2017.

5. Parish Reports

5.1 REPORT FROM PATTINGHAM & PATSHULL OVER 65 CHRISTMAS LUNCH

The Annual Christmas Lunch was held on December 8th 2016 at Pattingham Village Hall. It is open to all residents of Pattingham & Patshull who are 65 and older.

136 [133 previous year] residents sat down to the meal, which was excellent, served by Plyvine. The Children from St Chad's did another super Christmas presentation, and we finished with a seasonal sing a long led by, the organist. We presented the school with the new Guinness Book of Records.

The Raffle made £421.00, which covered the cost our main expenses, organist, drinks, chocolates etc.

We sent approximately 20 sick & housebound families two small chocolates per person. We received £3,000 Grant from the Parish Council, and £50 from South Staffs Council as part of the Seisdon Legacy.

At 31st March 2017 we have £7426.50 in the Santander accounts. It has cost £2,725.45 to put the meal on which is £20.04 per head. This is an 84p increase from 2015.

The Committee is very grateful to the Council, as we could not put this event on without your help.

Following our last meeting the OAP Welfare Committee agreed to change the name to 'Pattingham and Patsull Over 65 Christmas Lunch', although all legal documents will keep the original name.

The Annual Return for the Charity Commission is below:-

Pattingham & Patshull Over 65 Christmas Lunch 2016 -2017

Income

April	2016	Santander Interest	00.59
May	"	"	00.57
Jun	"	"	00.59
Jul	"	"	00.57
Aug	"	"	00.59
Sep	"	"	00.34
Oct	"	"	00.28
Nov	"	"	00.28
Dec	"	"	00.27
Jan	2016	"	00.31
Feb	"	"	00.31
Mar	"	"	00.28
Dec 08		Raffle	421.00
Dec 05		Pattingham & Patshull Grant	3000.00
Nov 25		South Staffs Council Grant	50.00
Dec 13		Cash to bank [surplus raffle 113.31]	

£3475.98

Expenditure

Oct 11	Plyvine deposit	360.00
Nov 18	Raffle tickets	1.75
Oct 15	Sharon Simmons Guinness Book	10.00
Dec 08	Chocolates	6.00
Dec 08	Ann Raymond Raffle	24.00
Dec 08	Photocopying	0.80
Dec 08	R Lyon Drinks	174.17
Dec 08	Raffle tickets	1.20
Dec 08	Village Hall Hire	89.77
Dec 05	Plyvine 130 meals less deposit	2245.21
Dec 05	Plyvine 1 meals	20.04
	Dec 09 Plyvine 5meals	100.20

£3033.14

SURPLUS 442.84

£475.98

Julie Wood and Sharon Simmons

This report was proposed to be accepted by Cllr Mrs S Hughes and seconded by Cllr T Mason.

It was noted that the group have been informed that the Seisdon legacy is no longer issuing funds, so this coming year they will not be receiving their £50 donation. Cllr T Mason will investigate this and see why the funds are no longer available.

They have to hold a permanent balance of £5000, the lunches used to be funded from the interest received from this money, but due to dropping interest rates, they now only receive a few pounds interest per annum.

They have checked that holding this sum of money is still legal and it has been confirmed by a solicitor that they cannot spend the £5000.

They have reduced the number of trustees with the Charity Commission, from 21 to 4, which will make it easier to try move funds to get better interest rates.

For those that cannot attend the lunch, the group give 2 small chocolates. Members of the Council suggested perhaps buying them a larger box of chocolates or perhaps a voucher for the local shops? This they will look at this at their next meeting.

5.2 JOHN MORGAN – HEAD OF GOVENORS – ST CHADS FIRST SCHOOL

Mr Morgan thanked members of the Council for the ongoing support from them and the Community it is increasingly important to the School.

The Ofsted report was very close to being outstanding this year, the school Inspector was very impressed with the staff, pupils and the school. They have a number of projects running with the Church one of them being “the open book project” this is where members of the church / community act out a story from the bible in school for the children.

The children use the football field for their PE time, they run laps of the field and play on the children's play equipment.

The school still has links with a school in Kenya, he has visited the school (self-funded the trip) and also another parishioner with their daughter have been to visit the school. They are currently fund raising to try to get a teacher from the school in Kenya to visit Pattingham.

The Academy process is moving along, they are firming links with the other First schools, Middle and High schools in the area. This will help the children when they change schools as this will give continuity between the schools.

Funding – the school along with others in South Staffs have been campaigning to increase the funding for the school children. MP Gavin Williamson has been leading this campaign. A new formula has been agreed and implemented, but unfortunately it now leaves the school with less funds of £190 per pupil. If the school has pupils that get free school meals, then an additional payment of £1200 per year per child is given. There are only 10 children that fit the criteria to get this funding in Pattingham First School.

The class sizes are reducing, which affects funding for the school and with the reduction per head per child, and redundancies are in the process of being made at the school.

He is trying to promote St Chads Church School at a local Perton Event, to inform parents that there is a local Church School they can send their children too, and let people know where they are.

This report was proposed to be accepted by Cllr J Dyas and seconded by Cllr M Finch.

5.3 PATTINGHAM BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

ANNUAL REPORT 2016-17 Carol Rees

The Group meets every Tuesday during term times, 10 – 11.30am at the Village Hall. It has gone from strength to strength in the past 12 months and we now have between 25 – 30 children regularly attending each week. Children come with a mixture of both parents, grandparents and child minders.

We also have a solid committee of six members who work closely together to ensure that the group runs smoothly each week.

Every week there is a craft activity engaging all ages of the children attending. We try to encompass themes / celebrations that are relevant for the week the session is being held.

We also have outside groups come and hold taster sessions as well as independent companies selling age appropriate goods like Penguin Pottery to do hand prints / keepsakes for Mother's Day presents.

At the end of each term we have a party for all the children involving a buffet and seasonal games / activities.

We are also looking to book an away day as a treat for the regular attendees, but this is still in its very early planning stages.

In the absence of any Pre-School in the village, we have forged stronger links with St Chads School: Year 4 pupils visited at Christmas to sing a selection of carols to the toddlers and we are looking forward to welcoming the current nursery staff to run a session for our attendees after Easter.

We continue to offer breastfeeding peer to peer support where needed and generally help new parents to combat isolation and loneliness. Offering a purpose to leave the house and socialise with other parents over a cuppa has been described as a lifeline to people sometimes struggling when having young children or moving to the area and not knowing anyone. We pride ourselves on being friendly and welcoming and sharing these important networking friendships for both parents and children alike, that can then continue into a school setting.

We have recruited our first non-parent volunteer who has been obviously fantastic at helping the Group to run smoothly whilst relieving some of the pressure of organising and tidying up as parents in attendance.

Due to generosity of the Parish Council in funding the room hire, we have been able to update some of our older equipment and buy new items for the older ones to enjoy, such as dressing up clothes and activity tables.

We hope the Parish Council will support us again this financial year and we will be submitting our application shortly once we have the details required from the bank.

This report was proposed to be accepted by Cllr D Bilson and seconded by Cllr Mrs S Hughes.

5.4 ST CHADS ALLOTMENT GROUP PATTINGHAM

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2016-17 Mrs Linda Robinson Secretary

2016-17 presented another challenging season with sustained adverse weather early on but on the whole everyone achieving good success with fresh vegetables, soft fruit and flowers, providing a recreational & social facility with much family involvement for Pittingham Village and the wider Community. We take great pride in maintaining the site to a high standard, we are affiliated to the National Society of Allotment Growers and we have a popular Kings Seeds and Potato Scheme, plus the Best Kept Plot of course, there is some keen competition on site.

Chairman for 2017 is Roy Wilby who cannot attend this evening, St Chad's Allotment Group is administered by an annually elected Committee of 8. There are full plots, half plots and 6 raised beds to suit most requirements. There are 2 full plots currently available; we have recognised a trend for smaller easily managed spaces so plots are convertible if this need arises. The site has a consistent rental income from year to year.

We are pleased to announce a new 20 year lease with Pittingham Church Trustees. However the annual rent is now £325 from £240 and will be reviewed every five years. As well as our own, we are required to take on additional liability for the Church Trustees at a cost of £45 p.a. Our main expenses are rent, water, NSALG fees, insurance and site maintenance, the costs of which are estimated to increase in line with current trends. Sadly we will have to bring plot rental fees in line with these costs for 2018.

We would like to extend our thanks to Mr Robert Lines Chairman who supported us throughout and also to Cllr Terry Mason for a generous South Staffs Budget Grant of £400, which will be used to offset the one off legal costs incurred, half of which St. Chad's agreed to pay which is estimated at around £700, plus insurance costs of £287.53 We would wish to approach the Parish Council next year for funding towards our liability insurance should the need arise and would ask for a contingency arrangement if possible.

We remain grateful to the Parish Council for their invaluable support of what we consider to be a well-run and important community asset. We are very happy to be included in Best Kept Village Competition or similar schemes the Parish Council may be involved with at any future point.

Mrs Linda J Robinson Secretary, St Chad's Allotment Group

This report was proposed to be accepted by Cllr M Finch and seconded by Cllr Mrs A Davies.

No report was received from St Chads Church, it was noted that a report is required to meet the grant conditions from any organisation that receives funds from the Parish Council.

6. **Matters raised by the public present**

Cllr M Finch reminded the members of the public that he is the Council Parish Connector and can help the local groups in the Parish in this capacity. If they can let him know of any events happening that would be helpful.

7. **Date of next APM meeting –**

The date of the next meeting will be held in April 2018 tbc.