

PARISH OF ORTON WATERVILLE

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting
held at the Village Hall, Glebe Avenue, Orton Waterville, on
Wednesday, 20 May 2009 at 7.00 pm

Present: Mr M Chambers (Chairman and Chairman of the Parish Council) 8 electors and the Parish Clerk

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Mr C Long and Mr M Stone.
2. MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 19 MARCH 2008 were read, approved and signed.
3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – The Chairman gave his report, a copy of which is attached.
4. LOCAL MATTERS RAISED BY PARISH ELECTORS – There were none.
5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS – There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.20 pm.

ORTON WATERVILLE PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 20TH MAY 2009

Normally the Chairman's report is for a period of 12 months but this year, as we are a month later than usual, it covers 13 months.

PLANNING

The year has been quite a busy one for the Parish Council on the planning front with a total of 95 planning applications received. We made a total of 14 objections. Ten applications were refused and 3 withdrawn.

POLICE

We have maintained a good relationship with the police who attend the majority of our meetings. They have been of great assistance in dealing with anti-social Behaviour, particularly round the shops and also the usual cases of vandalism, graffiti and theft.

ROADS

For some time we have been putting pressure on the City Council to improve the poor surface of Cherry Orton Road and Debdale. At long last contractors have carried out the re-surfacing but, regrettably, they have not done a good job and corrective action will be necessary.

Conservation Report

The report, which was originally prepared by the Development Corporation, has been revised this year by Jim Daley and following consultation revised boundary limits have been agreed.

Allotments

There has been a great demand for allotments on all 3 sites. During the year we have had to spend a considerable amount on security and fencing, together with repairs to the water supply. In the past the allotment rents have been subsidised by the rental which the Council receive in respect of the 2 chicken houses on the Cherry Orton site. However, following the significant fall of snow in February, the roof of one building partially collapsed and it was necessary to arrange for its demolition. Following withdrawal of cover on the remaining building by our insurers, it will be necessary to take similar action once it has been vacated by the current tenant.

Cemetery

There has been a considerable amount of time money spent on the preparations for the new cemetery. Fortunately a major part of this expenditure will be recoverable from the City Council and once they have completed their administrative procedures, we should be able to instruct the chosen contractors to start work. This will be good news for the community as the churchyard is full.

Freedom of information

The Parish Council is required to comply with the Freedom of Information Act and it is perhaps fortunate that members of the public are able to access minutes of meetings online. It would appear from the record made of the number of hits on our website that it is one of the most popular on the City Council links.

I would like to conclude by thanking fellow Parish Councillors for their support and also our Clerk for all her hard work during a very busy year.

M Chambers
20 May 2009