

MINUTES OF COPYTHORNE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12 MARCH 2008 AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE PARISH HALL

PRESENT: Cllr G James (Chairman); Cllr R Good, Cllr Lady Kara Hawks, Cllr I Mansell,
Cllr M Moriarty, Cllr J Samways and Cllr G Stenson
County Cllr Mrs K Heron; District Cllrs H Forse, L Puttock and D Tipp
PC M Bemand
together with 10 parishioners

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2007 were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Councillor James reported on Parish Council matters from the past year. These included: Parish elections held in May 2007 resulting in one new elected member (Robert Good) and two new co-opted members (Ina Mansell and Mike Moriarty); ongoing development of the parish web site; discussions with the local Scouts concerning a joint newsletter; retention of the Bartley and Cadnam post offices, notwithstanding closures elsewhere; highway matters (including a 30 mph speed limit for Winsor Road as part of the Village 30 Programme and use of the speed indicator sign in Southampton Road, Cadnam); environmental matters (including dialogue with Rights of Way concerning footpath maintenance); planning issues (including Council involvement in planning application consultation, land-raising works at Copperfield, Pollards Moor Road and proposals for two new conservation areas).

COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

Councillor Mrs Heron reported on the following County Council matters:
Highway issues, including approval of the Winsor 30 mph speed limit and efforts to address other outstanding Copythorne matters
A payment of £750 to Copythorne Parish Hall from Cllr Heron's devolved budget of £10,000 to assist with Hall improvements
The continuing search by the National Park Authority for permanent accommodation

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORTS

The following reports were presented on District Council matters:

Councillor Puttock:

Creation of new conservation areas which appear to have the support of residents
Concerns among residents about traffic speed and volume, localised flooding issues, changes to the licensing laws and the new smoking ban
Issues regarding domestic waste, including efforts to retain the plastic bag collection service as opposed to wheeled bins

Councillor Tipp:

Good level of recycling being achieved
Details of bulky refuse collection service
The Clean Neighbourhood and Environment Act, including fixed penalties for litter
Use of CCTV cameras in town centres and their use to catch flytippers
The financial effects of the concessionary travel scheme
New planning application procedures and the proposal to withdraw paper copies for Parish Councils

POLICE MATTERS

The Chairman welcomed the emphasis on community policing and the regular reports to the Parish Council on crime statistics etc. PC Bemand, the beat office for the Cadnam area, commented on various aspects of prevention and detection of crime and liaison with the community. With limited resources, working with residents through Neighbourhood Watch was particularly important. The Chairman emphasised the need to report all incidents of crime to ensure adequate recording and follow-up. It was noted that many residents' complaints related to speeding which were a matter for the Traffic Unit.

PARISHIONERS' COMMENTS

The following matters were raised during this session:

Q Concessionary travel for young people not well publicised

A Vouchers not well promoted. Arrangements in hand to improve publicity

Q New speed limit for Winsor Road welcomed but concerns re different limits in Barrow Hill Road

A Frontage criteria determine which limits can apply. Hopefully, the situation can be changed for the future to allow a more rational outcome

Q More lorries using Winsor Road as a 'rat run' to Totton

A Council would welcome details from residents which can then be pursued with Highways

Q What can be done to tackle localised flooding?

A The NFDC plans for the Bartley area had been passed to the Environment Agency who regrettably had insufficient funds to proceed. There was a particular problem where flooding only affected a few properties. However, it was important to maintain pressure on the Agency if local issues were to be resolved

Q Will the Parish Council be represented at the forthcoming Copperfield Public Inquiry?

A Confirmed

Q The Lyndhurst bypass and local flood relief were priorities last year but no progress has been made. There should be dedicated funding for local projects.

A Agreed, but solutions are in the hands of the respective authorities