

Minutes of the **ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY** held by the Parish Council of
Denmead on **TUESDAY 15 MARCH 2016** commencing at 7.30 pm
in the **ASHLING PAVILION, DENMEAD**

Present: Cllr Kevin Andreoli (Chairman) Cllr Ian Brown
Cllr Carolyn Hargreaves Cllr Felicity Hull
Cllr Anne Huntington Cllr Helen Jackson
Cllr Neil Lander-Brinkley Cllr Paula Langford-Smith
Cllr Stef Nienaltowski Cllr Neil Rusbridger
Cllr Ken Scholey Cllr Gary West

County Councillor Patricia Stallard
District Councillors Mike Read and Kirk Phillips
Sgt Stuart Gilmour – Hampshire Police
Andy Smale and Richard Blackman of Winchester Action on Climate Change

Mr Tony Daniells Clerk to the Council

Public: 35 members of the public were in attendance.

1. **Informal Discussions**

The meeting started at 7.30pm by giving residents the opportunity to take refreshments and have informal discussions with Councillors. Residents were encouraged to post questions on the ‘question wall’ which would be answered later in the evening.

2. **Welcome**

Cllr Stef Nienaltowski gave a formal welcome to residents and outlined the agenda for the evening. He outlined the theme for the evening and for the future term of this Council as being ‘Connections’. This was for the Council to meet with residents and vice versa. Council would take time out to celebrate its successes. Council would also look to build robust communications to share and inform but also to receive feedback. He encouraged use of the question wall at the back of the Hall. He then introduced each parish councillor with special mention to the two newest councillors, Cllrs Huntington and Jackson. He thanked everyone for attending and hoped they would enjoy the meeting.

3. **Home Energy Usage – Andy Smale – Winchester Action for Climate Change (WinACC)**

Andy first explained how WinACC was funded, by WCC and Dept. of Energy.

He then explained that his objective was to encourage homeowners to switch energy suppliers to save money and to better insulate their properties.

Top five energy savers were

- Better insulation of lofts and walls with at least 300mm of insulation in the loft
- Block out draughts wherever they come from
- Take control of heating settings and he recommended setting the thermostat between 18-21C
- Change old light bulbs to LED bulbs – most can now be changed cheaply
- Don’t waste hot water – heat twice a day and set the thermostat appropriately.

Renewable energy was complicated but could be worth utilising

Smart meters will be good to show energy consumption

Andy then moved onto switching energy suppliers. There were big savings to be had. The Government had made it easier by restricting the number of tariffs available. Additional savings could be made by taking dual fuel. Most suppliers had a daily standing charge but some didn’t. If you are a low energy user, it would be worth looking at these suppliers. Before switching it was worth reviewing the customer service ratings of a supplier. Switching was easy

and use of a price comparison website was suggested, although these did receive payment for everyone who switched through the site. Andy recommended www.goenergysshopping.co.uk Andy finished by mentioning the Priority Services Register where vulnerable people could get help.

Richard Blackman gave a short plug for the Cool Communities Programme. This was an award winning programme that takes individuals on an easy step-by-step journey to reduce their energy consumption and cut their carbon footprint. However the best thing about it is that it brings neighbours / community groups / parents together to work through the programme in small friendly groups.

The Chairman thanked Andy and Richard for their informative talks.

4. **Crime Update – Sgt Stuart Gilmour – Hampshire Police**

Sgt Gilmour on reflected on his three years as Sargent for the area. He then summarised the reorganisation of the Force from last year and how it affected this area.

Denmead was a low crime area but as the population grew, he would expect to see a slight increase in crime. Anti Social Behaviours (ASB) had decreased by 42% and he saw this as positive and a reflection of the work of PCSO Rebecca Stevens and the Denmead Youth Partnership. There has been a slight rise in violence and criminal damage but a decrease in dwelling burglary.

On the theme of connections, he welcomed this opportunity to engage with residents. There were no questions for Sgt Gilmour.

5. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Mark Willoughby and the Chairman gave apologies from residents Ian and Janet Reed.

6. **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Assembly held on the 24 March 2015 were issued and it was agreed to accept the minutes as a correct record of this meeting.

7. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters raised in relation to the minutes.

8. **Chairman's Report**

Cllr Kevin Andreoli welcomed everyone to the meeting.

His report for the year was included in the Annual Parish Report and he did not propose to read this out but instead chose this forum to introduce his fellow councillors and the skills they brought to Council. He summarised the skills of each Councillor in turn. As well as being busy in their personal and business lives, each Councillors served on two Committees as well as the Full Council. There were also other commitments such as Speedwatch.

Cllr Andreoli then thanked the Council's staff, from the Office Staff to the Groundstaff to the Youth Workers for their work.

He ended by then introducing himself and his background.

9. **Questions on the chairman's report**

There were no questions on the Chairman's Report.

10. **QUESTIONS FROM THE QUESTION WALL**

Following the success of this from previous Assemblies, electors were invited to write their questions on a post it note and put these on a 'question wall' to be answered during this session. Replies to questions would be by the Councillor with the most relevant knowledge. Cllr Paula Langford-Smith managed this Q&A session.

Q. Why are there no new footpaths from Parklands to join the footpaths network?

A. *Cllr Neil Lander-Brinkley first referred to developers contributions that would enable a footpath from Parklands into the network in Creech Woods. Access to the village centre was by*

using the footway in the Business Park.

Q. When will all disputes be sorted at the Memorial Hall and the carpet baggers sorted out?

A. *The Chairman referred to a boundary dispute and the Council had commissioned a boundary survey to define the boundary once and for all.*

Q. Why can't the Memorial Hall car park and grounds be looked after as well as the Community Centre? The hedge was overgrown with brambles, there was litter and overgrown shrubs etc. There are people who would like to help.

A. *The Chairman stated that the grounds were owned by DPC. Maintenance was done on a rotation basis. He referred to the Village litter pick on 10 April. DPC dealt with problems as they became aware of them. A resident asked why the War Memorial Hall Committee could not help maintain the grounds. The Chairman would pass this to the Amenities Committee for discussion.*

Q. When the hedgerows are pruned in the winter, why are the prunings then shredded? Surely this kills the over-wintering invertebrates.

A. *The Chairman replied that the spoils were left for a few days and then shredded and the chippings put back into the soil.*

Q. Why was lighting to the Winchester P&R left on after the service ended each day?

A. *D/C Read replied that some users came back late and the lights were left on to allow them to find their cars.*

Q. Would the Parish Council be interested in discussing a resident's report on flooding in Anmore to support their objections to the Carpenters Field development?

A. *Cllr Paula Langford-Smith replied that she had spoken with residents about this earlier in the evening. DPC would be happy to meet to discuss the report.*

Q. How will the proposal for Solent City and an elected Mayor affect Denmead?

A. *C/C Patricia Stallard summarised the position with the first bid for a Hampshire and IoW Combined Authority and the delays in getting a Government response to the bid. HCC did not want the added layer of bureaucracy that having a Mayor would bring. A subsequent bid for Solent City had been submitted and this did propose a Mayor. The position changed daily. The Government would likely take their time to reply. The involvement of HCC might still be possible. If not, then the remainder of Hampshire may be vulnerable. She cited the carving up of Oxfordshire as an example. The future was unknown and uncertain. D/C Mike Read had attended a meeting where Councillors from the Councils in the Solent City bid were unaware of their Council's involvement. He agreed that the rest of Hampshire could be vulnerable.*

Q. Can Anmore Road be added to Speedwatch?

A. *Sgt Gilmour referred to the two areas that had been risk assessed where Speedwatch could operate. He was happy to expand the scheme and risk assess Anmore Road.*

Q A subsequent question asked what can residents do about speeding in the village?

A. *Cllr Paula Langford-Smith asked for residents to volunteer for Speedwatch for one hour a month to help.*

11. **VOTE OF THANKS**

Cllr Anne Huntington gave the Vote of Thanks, explaining that she was a new councillor and this was her 'baptism of fire'. She considered the attendance was good. She thanked:

- Andy Smale and Richard Blackman for their talks on Home Energy Usage and Cool Communities Programme;
- Sgt Stuart Gilmour for his crime update;
- County Councillor Patricia Stallard for supporting the event and taking part in the informal and formal questions sessions;
- The Co-op and Denmead Poultry for sponsoring the refreshments
- Neil Rusbridger, the youth partnership, youth workers and young people for preparing and serving the refreshments so well;
- The Chairman and Clerk for hosting the evening and
- All of the residents who attended the meeting for their interest and questions.

Meeting closed at 9.05 pm