

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Costock held on Wednesday May 20, 2009, in Costock Village Hall at 8.00pm.

The parish council chairman Coun. Mrs Kath Owen took the chair and welcomed seven parishioners who were present. Notts County Council member Coun. Reg Adair was also present.

Apologies were received from parish councillors Everard Robinson and Mrs Delia Pickerill.

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on April 16, 2008, had been circulated and were signed as being correct.

Chairman's Report:

The chairman, Coun. Mrs Kath Owen, commented on the various items that had been dealt with by members in the past year, including the question of road safety and speeding traffic. She said police investigations into two accidents on Leake Road that had resulted in three deaths had recently been concluded and had not shown any evidence that highway conditions played any part in the incidents.

Coun. Adair reported on the highways situation and said he had been in regular contact with the County Council department at Gamston in an attempt to obtain information. He was aware it was proposed to carry out some strengthening work on the road markings and some marker posts were to be installed as well on the approach bend to the village from East Leake. The clerk said he had been informed by the Highways Department they were looking to make use of a temporary mobile interactive speed sign as well.

The chairman also included the 99 bus service in her comments and said it was understood that Premier Travel were to take over the daytime service from Arriva on July 13. There was as yet no final word in regard to the evening service which was subsidised by Notts County Council.

The council website was also discussed and the chairman said the number of hits on it was quite satisfactory.

The council had agreed to hire the services of the litter picker employed by East Leake Parish Council to carry out a litter pick on the road between East Leake and right through Costock. Coun. Adair queried why Rushcliffe Borough Council were not doing this work and agreed to investigate.

The chairman said the felling of a number of trees and the pruning back of others in the area of the playground had assisted greatly in helping to reduce the amount of problems of a slippery surface around the equipment, because sunlight was now able to reach the area.

Coun. Mrs Owen said the village hall continued to be successful and she gave a vote of thanks to the Village Hall Management Committee for their work.

The chairman said there was a vacancy on the council and she hoped residents in the village would consider joining them.

Financial Report:

The council started the 2008/2009 financial year with a figure in hand of £11,951 – an amount split between the council three accounts – National Savings, Current and Reserve Accounts.

During the year the main items of expenditure were £1,343 for insurance, £2,582 for grass cutting and maintenance, equipment and playground equipment maintenance with £1,350, repairs in the village hall cost £3,308, while equipment for the hall was £1,636. In total the expenditure during the financial year was £16,151.

Income for the financial year was £19,321 which included £1,788 from an insurance claim for damages caused to the village hall, £805 received from grants and £331 from bank interest and £16,000 from the precept.

The council ended the year with a balance in hand of £15,121 as it strived to increase its finances and meet audit requirements for it to hold a balance of at least 18 months expenditure.

The precept for the new financial year was £16,000, same as in the previous year.

Questions to the Chair

The question of a Community Speed Watch group had been investigated but insufficient support had been offered.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm.