

# LANGAR CUM BARNSTONE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May 2013 at 7.45pm at Barnstone Village Hall

*Present: Cllrs.– R Whitehead – Chairman, A Bellamy, R Brooks, A Cessford, V Gell, N Wood*

*In attendance: 16 members of the public*

**1. Apologies for absence.**

Apologies were received from Cllr T Simpson County Cllr R Butler, Borough Cllrs G Moore & S Bailey

**2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 24 May 2012** were approved as correct and signed by the Chairman

**3. Chairman's Report.**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and reported as follows:

## Football Field

- **New Community Hall**

This has taken much of our time. Planning is conditional on us meeting criteria which we know are within our ability and so with funding in hand, this project is ready to go. It would be a significant disappointment if the community do not take the opportunity to get involved at this stage and it fails for want of a bit of enthusiasm.

- A **MUGA** is being used and we have received some enquiries during the year as to its availability. We hope to extend its use as the development of the field progresses

## Police

- The local police have done a great job for us in the villages, most months now anti-social behaviour is recorded as zero. At meetings with local people it has been confirmed that the main directions for the Police will be the four key priorities, speeding, seat belt offences, drink driving, and the use of mobile phones. With it now proven that being on the phone whilst driving impairs your ability to the same level as being twice over the drink drive limit, none of us should be accepting of that behaviour from those around us on the road, and certainly not within our villages although it is still an all too common sight.

## Activities

- The Parish Council have continued to support "The Cushion Club" which it is intended will become the main focus of village social events. The films shown are reasonably well supported and we have quite full turnouts for things like The Kings Speech and Skyfall, but support on a monthly basis is variable and we would like to see social activities increase. Some plans are afoot to make this happen but the Parish Council can't and really shouldn't drive these things all the time.
- The Vale Market Café is a continuing and a rip roaring success with around 100 people attending the monthly event, and it's entirely due to the efforts of the volunteers who organise it. We need to spread some of their success into other local activities and will direct some of our attention in the coming year to exactly that.

## Community Support

- Within the year the Parish Council have supported a number of local projects. The budget for that support in the 2012/13 year was fully exhausted by donations to the following:
- The Bowls Club, to support their work to establish toilet facilities on site with disabled access; we have continued to support the Village hall with a significant proportion of the costs of the caretaker; St Andrews Church also benefits from support towards grounds maintenance; and we have ensured football at the field is able to continue with support to Barnstone Celtic FC to help them with their expenses.

- The Parish Council have also worked in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council Highways which has seen the footpath widened on the corner of Main Street, Langar, ensuring pedestrian access is a little safer, and especially for children walking to school.
- After what seems like an eternity of trying, and it has been many years in the making, it seems that we are also about to achieve a long held ambition to see the speed limit on Musters Road reduced to 30mph. In addition to the speed limit reduction there will be a village gateway scheme installed and we are told, almost immediately thereafter, an interactive speed sign which as in many other locations, should hopefully embarrass speeding motorists into slowing down.
- Speedwatch will be out and about on Musters Road once the new limit is in force to encourage motorists to respect the limit and the safety of our residents.

## Communications

- To some extent we have lacked an integrated communications strategy for the Parish Council and villagers. Whilst we have made our communications as good as we think we can individually, there has been no connection between them. All that is about to change with the launch of a fully integrated system. A new Parish Website is about to be launched, the blog will be integrated into it, residents will be able to subscribe to the web site so it feeds information to you as it is released. Further, and bringing us right into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, the blog and site will feed into new pages on Facebook and Twitter and vice versa. Apart from keeping residents right up to date with what is happening, there are other advantages. A couple of months ago, the Police broke off from dealing with a local break in to deliver their monthly report to the Parish Council. They had some information on vehicles being used etc and with an immediate upload to Facebook, and linked in to residents, we could have had information out within minutes of an incident occurring and people looking out for suspicious activity.

## REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS

Short reports were given by the following groups:

- Langar & Barnstone Village Hall Committee – Tom McHarg
- Vale Market Café – Andrew Charlett
- Lafarge – Josie Morrisey & Niki Heath
- Reading Group – Sarah Fleming
- Langar & Barnstone Website – Alan Carter-Davies & Ed Fleming
- 1<sup>st</sup> Barnstone Brownies – Dot Clayton
- Drama in the Vale – Jayne Whitehead
- Belvoir Archers – Vicki Denton

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed .....Chairman

Date .....