

SWAY CIVIL PARISH – ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY 2017

Minutes of the Sway Civil Parish Annual Parish Assembly held on Thursday 27th April 2017 at Jubilee Field Pavilion, Station Road, Sway at 19:30.

Present: The Chair of the Parish Council, ten further Parish Councillors, the Parish Clerk, County Councillor Ken Thornber, seventeen members of the public and representatives from The Lymington Times and Sway News.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from Councillor Dance.

2. Introduction by Cllr Barry Rickman

Councillor Rickman welcomed members of the public to the meeting. Councillor Rickman advised that following the meeting there would be a separate meeting of the parish Council to which members of the public were welcome to stay if they wished.

Councillor Rickman was particularly pleased to welcome Councillor Thornber to the meeting. Councillor Thornber was standing down as a county councillor after having sat as a county councillor for over 40 years, 18 of which had been as leader of the County Council. Councillor Rickman thanked Councillor Thornber for his years of service and in particular for all the help, support and advice he had provided both to him personally and also to the Parish of Sway. Councillor Rickman made a small presentation to Councillor Thornber on behalf of the Parish Council and offered his best wishes for the future.

Councillor Thornber then welcomed the evening's guest speaker Councillor Heron.

3. SPEAKER: COUNCILLOR EDWARD HERON OF THE NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL TO TALK ABOUT ANIMAL CASUALTIES IN THE NEW FOREST

Councillor Heron introduced himself to the meeting and explained how animal casualties caused by traffic in the New Forest were monitored. Councillor Heron outlined how these were dealt with and the steps being taken to try to reduce the overall number of casualties. At the end of his presentation Councillor Heron took a number of questions from members of the public.

4. REPORTS BY REPRESENTATIVES OF LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

Sway Welfare Aid Group

Councillor Golby outlined the work of the Sway Welfare Aid group (SWAG) during the year. The transport service co-ordinated by SWAG continued to be well used. In addition, during the year a total of 19 families had received hardship grants. SWAG existed because of the generosity of the residents of Sway and Councillor Golby thanked residents for their continued support. Councillor Golby reminded residents of the contact details for SWAG which were as follows: Telephone 01590 681500, email: info@swaghants.org.uk

Sway Relief in Sickness Fund

Clive Potter spoke about the work of the Sway Relief in Sickness Fund. It had been originally established in 1984 following the sale of the Nurse's Cottage (now The Silver Hind) which had been built by public subscription. The fund had supported the aid call alarm system and had also contributed to the cost of the defibrillator at the Jubilee Field Pavilion. The fund also worked closely

with SWAG's trustees. Clive Potter also gave out contact details as follows: Telephone 01590 683259, email cpotter@uwclub.net

Community Speedwatch

Councillor Marchant outlined the work undertaken by the Community Speedwatch volunteers. They have operated for three years during which they have reductions in the number of cars speeding in some areas although there remained a number of areas where drivers still routinely exceeded the speed limit. Councillor Marchant made a plea for more volunteers. The ability of the Speedwatch team to monitor speeding motorists was constrained by the current level of volunteers. Anyone wishing to volunteer should contact Councillor Marchant directly. Councillor Marchant's contact details are on the Parish Council website.

Allotment Society

Roger Dew thanked the Parish Council for the support they had provided to the Allotment Society and spoke enthusiastically about the pleasures of owning an allotment. There were no current vacancies but anyone interested should contact the Parish Clerk.

Sway Village Hall

Wendy Collyer from the Friends of Sway Village Hall project gave a short presentation outlining the proposals for change. Following an extensive consultation detailed plans had been prepared to renovate and extend the Village Hall. Discussions were also at an advanced stage to enable the Village Hall to have access to the land at Stanford Rise to enable the extension to proceed. In order for the project to succeed the Friends of Sway Village Hall would need to raise approximately £500,000 of additional funding.

Sway Lawn Tennis Club

Graham Levers said that the tennis club was thriving with approximately one hundred members and catered for all age ranges. The coach has recently taken on an apprentice and the holiday activity for school-children was very popular. The tennis club were having their open day on Saturday 13th May and in view of their success were keen to be involved in the re-development of the Jubilee Field Pavilion.

Sway Cricket Club

Chris Baughan advised that since the Cricket Club's reincarnation in the 1990's it had gone from strength to strength. There were currently 175 players and it ran 13 teams including two girls' teams. They were, however, always keen to welcome new players. Chris Baughan played particular tribute to the work of Andy Lee who maintained the grounds.

Junior Football Club

Emma Monk said that the junior football teams had had a successful season. During the year they had started a girls' team which had reached the semi-final of the cup. Numbers had reduced slightly because Brockenhurst had recently started their own junior team but there remained excellent support.

Senior Football Club

Mike Steadman spoke on behalf of the Senior Football Club. There were three teams in total. The first team had been promoted and the reserves had also had an excellent season reaching the final of the cup.

5. TO CONSIDER SUPPORT FOR A PROPOSAL THAT THE PARISH COUNCIL SHOULD PRESENT AWARDS AT FUTURE PARISH ASSEMBLIES TO INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS WHO HAVE MADE AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO THE BENEFIT OF THE PEOPLE OF SWAY

Councillor Marchant advised that a number of other Parish Councils did this and asked the audience if they felt this was an idea that should also be adopted by Sway. The general view was that this would be a good idea and the resolution was accordingly passed.

6. PUBLIC SESSION – TO CONSIDER ANY MATTERS RAISED BY THE ELECTORS OF SWAY

Councillor Warden advised that the new Cango bus timetable was now available and handed out copies .

There being no further business the Chair thanked all those attending for coming to the Meeting.

Meeting closed at 20:45.