



# Barnt Green Parish Council



## Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting for the Parish of Barnt Green

Wednesday 5th May 2010

The Parish Centre, Sandhills Road, Barnt Green.

The Meeting was chaired by Mrs Judith Jagger, Chairman of the Parish Council, and was attended by residents of the parish whose names are recorded on the Attendance List. In addition, District Councillors Ann Doyle and Richard Deeming attended.

**1. Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed those present and thanked them for attending.

**2. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllr Tom Gray

**3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 6 May 2009**

These were circulated at the Meeting and approved by those present as a true record. They were signed by the Chairman.

**4. Report of the Chairman of the Parish Council**

The Chairman reported on the activities of the Council during the last 12 months and its aims for the forthcoming year. She highlighted the completion of the concrete lighting column replacement programme, adoption of the Power of Well Being, enhancement of the Christmas lighting scheme, resurfacing of several roads and footways in the village and the acquisition of an office for the Parish Council. She thanked Cllrs Harding and Gilburn, who had stepped down from the Council during the year, for their work and advised the meeting that Alun Davies and Doreen Hawkley had joined the Council to replace them.

Finally she thanked all Councillors and volunteers and the Council's executive officer for their hard work during the year.

**5. Financial Report of the Parish Council**

The accounts for the financial year 2009-10 were circulated at the meeting. The Parish Council's Responsible Finance Officer, Roger Westbury, explained the reasons for any significant variances between the figures for 2008-09 and 2009-10. The Parish Council had current reserves in excess of £83,000 and had confirmed its target of having one year's precept (currently £56000) as a prudent minimum figure for its reserves. In view of the current low interest levels available on deposit accounts, the Parish Council had taken the decision to invest £50000 in short term bonds in Lloyds TSB.

**6. Questions on the Reports**

District Cllr Doyle asked what plans the Parish Council had with regard to the level of precept for the coming year. The Chairman replied that the precept had been



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maintained at the same level for four consecutive years and the Parish Council would hope to continue with this policy for the foreseeable future.

### **7. Any Other Issues**

In view of the low number of residents attending the meeting, there was some discussion on attracting more people to next year's event. Suggestions included delivering a flyer to every household in advance of the meeting; placing posters in shop and office windows; making the meeting more of a social event and having a guest speaker. The Parish Council undertook to consider these.

A resident asked what use would be made of the Parish Office. The Chairman replied that, as well as being an information centre for residents and the workplace for the Council's executive officer, the office would be made available to other agencies such as Age UK, Citizens Advice Bureau, Police, County and District Councillors etc with a view to these bodies holding surgeries in the village. She advised the meeting that Age UK had already taken up this invitation and would be holding a surgery in the Parish Office on June 8.

District Cllr Deeming advised the meeting that there was some development taking place on the Longbridge site, but that progress was slow. The Bournville College development was due for completion by October 2011.

### **8. Close of Meeting**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.30pm.