

Parish of Belmont Rural

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 19th May 2011 at Northolme Community Centre, Northolme Road, Belmont, at 7.15pm

Present: Mr. P. Edwards In the Chair
9 members of the public

In attendance: Mrs. E. Kelso Clerk
Andrew Nixon
Sgt. C. Payne West Mercia Police (part of agenda item 4 only)

001/11 Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed those in attendance to the meeting and explained the format for the meeting.

002/11 Report from Belmont Rural Parish Council

The Chairman read out the statement from Belmont Rural Parish Council, as attached to these Minutes, outlining the activities and achievements of Belmont Rural Parish Council during the preceding year.

Those in attendance noted in particular progress towards the review of the parish plan and the questionnaire which was completed by residents and was being analysed. Those who chose to add their names and contact details on the questionnaire were included in a prize draw to win £100.00 in garden centre vouchers. The Chairman asked Andrew Nixon to select the winning questionnaire, which went to Dr. Amalka Ratnayake.

003/11 Talk by Andrew Nixon on the Brown Banded Carder Bee

The Chairman welcomed Andrew Nixon to the meeting, who then gave an informative talk on the Brown Banded Carder Bee, an endangered species of bee which was found to be living within the parish on Abbey View Park. In response to questions from members of the public, Mr. Nixon explained that Abbey View Park is an ideal habitat for the bee which may be travelling outside the Park area as well as foraging within it. Ideally, grass should be cut once a year and grass collected to maintain environmental conditions favourable to the bee.

004/11 Reports from local organisations

(a) West Mercia Police

Sgt. Chris Payne, on behalf of West Mercia police, explained changes in the policing team from September onwards when one police officer, PC Andy Larkin, supported by 4 CSOs would be responsible for covering the South Wye area of Hereford, including the Belmont Rural area.

With regard to specific instances locally and noting that many occurred after 10pm when CSOs were no longer on duty, Sgt. Payne reported some issues with small fires in wheelie bins around the Newton Farm area and at Belmont Pools, and noted problems with littering around the Northolme Community Centre although he felt that these problems would not occur if the car park were closed at night. Sgt. Payne disputed the suggestion that some vehicles had been driving erratically around the parish or that offences were being committed by vehicles congregating at the Northolme Centre in the evenings on the basis that there was no evidence of this. In response to a question from a member of the public on vehicle speeds exiting the Belmont Road roundabout towards Waterfield Road, Sgt. Payne noted that there had been no accidents reported at that site.

After responding to questions from members of the public on car tax and off road notices, Sgt. Payne left the meeting.

(b) Belmont Community Centre

Andy Myatt presented a report on activities at the Belmont Community Centre in the proceeding year, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes.

(c) Northolme Community Centre

Adrian Bridges presented a report on activities at the Northolme Community Centre, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes.

(d) Parish Watch

The Chairman, as Parish Watch co-ordinator, gave a report on Parish Watch, noting that several instances of anti social behaviour had been successfully reported to police during the year resulting in a drop in matters of concern.

005/11 Any Other Business

There were no other items raised by members of the public in attendance.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8:16pm.

DRAFT