

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Walditch Parish Council held in the Church Hall, Bothenhampton on Monday 14 April 1997 at 7.30pm

Present: Mr.F.R.Botham [Chairman], Mr.G.L.Matthews, Mr.D.A.Blythe, Mr.P.G.Hulbert, Mr.J.E.Mitchell, Mrs.F.Ball, Mrs.D.M.England MBE, Mr.M.C.Farnham [Clerk]

In attendance; Cty Dist Councillor Rear Admiral G Pritchard CB

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 1 April 1996, having been circulated to all members, were accepted as a true record of the meeting and duly signed.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from: Mr.G.C.L.Warburton

3. MATTERS ARISING

The money held by others for the up keep of the John Holt Play Area, has this been handed over to the Parish Council?. Mr.Matthews to provide the Clerk with the names of those holding the money so that they could be approached concerning the matter.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 19967

The Chairman opened his report by thanking Rear Admiral Pritchard for the support he had giving to the Parish Council in the last 12 months. As in previous years the Tip and Bulky Household Waste Facility had figured highly, and in some respects progress had been made. DDC have now suggested that the Bulky Household Waste Facility could be relocated at the Old Highways Depot in South Street Bridport, this is now the subject of a planning application. The development in Lower Walditch Lane is progressing and it is expected that the access to the development from the A35 will start soon. The possible take over of the nature walk off Lower Walditch Lane following the completion of the development had been discussed by the Parish Council and WDDC. But because of the unlimited liability that would come with this the Parish Council have informed WDDC that they do not want to take over this area. However they are still willing to take over the open space within the development. The possible provision of a Car Park off Main Street Bothenhampton has been looked into but without any success to date. Work on the Real Tennis Courts in Walditch has still not not started and the site is becoming very unsightly. Finally new Accounting Regulations for Parish Councils with income over £5,000 per annum had been introduced and will take effect from the 1 April 1997.

5. REPORT BY Cty Dist Councillor Rear Admiral G Pritchard CB

Rear Admiral Pritchard thanked Mr.Botham for his kind words and commented that it was a pleasure working with the Parish Council. He confirmed that DDC had started the process off concerning the sitting the Bulky Household Waste Facility to the Old Highway Offices in South Street. DDC have already purchased the Fisherman's Arms Public House to provide access to the site. The Planning Application will be a matter of some concern to Town Council, while the County Councillor for Bridport supported the application in general terms as a temporary solution. BFI must continue to look for a site that will provide a long term solution. Local Government Reorganisation is now complete with staff being transfered to the three new Authorities in Bourenmouth, Poole and the new County Council. This has resulted in the large increase in Council Tax this year, a further rise of £25.00 next year on Band "D" houses. This situation will need further consideration by DDC but it should not take the form of further cuts in essential services. WDDC has a large amount of money in the Bank which they are unable to use as the interest earned is

used on the day to day running of the Council. This extra revenue has been used to kept the WDDC level of Council Tax down, measures are now in hand to try to help this situation so that the money in the Bank can be used.

6. REPORT FROM BOTHENHAMPTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Mr.Ffooks informed the meeting that the membership of the association remains steady at 100 households. They have held 2 general meetings and 3 committee meetings during the year and produced 2 Newsletters. They have maintained close contact with developments at the Landfill Site including letters to DDC Planning Committee urging refusal of further extensions to the Bulky Household Waste Site. They negotiated significant contribution from BFI to the cost of the Church Hall lighting system and the Flower Show scheduled for July 1997. Repaired and then removed the twice vandalised public seat in Pasture Way. Donated a new sign for the Village Shop. Have had endless correspondence and discussions with WDDC enforcement Officer and Parish Council on the unwanted telegraph pole opposite Lych Gate and our efforts to have the pole removed are continuing. Have commented on two local planning applications.

6. FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1996/7

Statement of Accounts for the Financial Year 1 April 1996 to 31 March 1997

Opening balance Current Account	£513.33		
Opening balance Capital Reserve Acc	£824.02		
		Total	<u>£1,337.35</u>
Expenditure to 31 March 1997		Income to 31 March 1997	
Hire of Halls	£155.50	Opening Balances	£1,337.35
Clerk Salary plus expenses	£2,256.47	Precept	£9,400.00
Office Rent	£390.00	Grants	£947.37
Street Lighting energy cost etc	£1,548.48	Bank Interest	£3.12
Grass cutting etc.	£687.30	VAT to be reclaimed	£474.10
Grants	£1,336.00		
Provision of new seat at play area	£346.63	Total	<u>£12,161.94</u>
Play area maintenance	£86.04		
Walditch Green improvements etc	£2,006.37		
DAPTC Fees	£357.89		
Audit Commission Fees	£103.40		
Solicitors Fees	£371.25		
Insurance	£101.50		
Repair to notice board	£25.00		
Purchase of Books	£9.99		
Photo copying	£17.70		
Estimated carry forward to 97/98	£2,362.42		
		Total	<u>£12,161.94</u>

SUBJECT TO AUDIT

8. OPEN FORUM

The following matter were raised;
 [a] The porvision of a new seat in Pasture Way.

The meeting was brought to a close at 7.55pm

Date 11/5/98 Chairman 