

FLADBURY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 2019

The 2019 Annual Parish Meeting was held in the Village Hall on Monday 15th April 2019 at 7.30pm

Present:	Chair I Southcott	Cllr D Day
	V/Chair G Mills	Cllr P Palmer
	Cllr S Insall	Cllr A Stephens
	Cllr D Cartwright	District Cllr T Rowley
	Cllr N Manser	County Cllr E Eyre
	Cllr A King	70 Parishioners

Chair Southcott welcomed all to the meeting

1. Apologies for Absence – Dr & Mrs Borchard, Mr & Mrs North, Mrs Day
2. Approval of the Minutes of the 2018 Annual Parish Meeting
Minutes had been distributed to all Councillors and had been displayed on the website – approval proposed by Cllr Mills, seconded Cllr Manser
3. Matters Arising Not Covered Elsewhere – Chair Southcott reported on the successful application for funds for the Village Hall. £36,500 had been secured for improvements which will include heating, flooring, lighting and sound and a new front door. There is still a further £4,000 to be raised from within the community. He also reported that the review of the existing Conservation Area in Fladbury is still ongoing.
4. Special Topics
 - a) More Housing for Fladbury – Chair Southcott gave a brief resume on the current review of the SWDP, explained the process and pointed out that several sites within Fladbury had been put forward by landowners/agents as possible sites suitable for development. The point was raised that whilst none of these sites had been approved or discounted, it may be an opportunity for Fladbury to take control and ‘manage’ any future development by embarking on our own Neighbourhood Plan and focus on where we would like to see any development
 - b) Speeding/Community Speed Watch – Cllr Insall advised that the scheme was in a position to be up and running in Fladbury at the beginning of May. Thirteen volunteers had been trained, sites identified, and equipment has been received.
 - c) Neighbourhood Watch – Ian Baldry reported that 250 households had registered with the scheme, with approx. 220 of those having access to emails. Hard copies of any information are made available for those who don’t use email. Fladbury has the fastest growing NW scheme in West Mercia. Two signs have been installed at either end of the village with a further four on order. Thanks were paid to the Parish Council Wychavon District Council, the village co-ordinators and the Police for their support. County Cllr Eyre had generously made a donation towards the cost of Smart Water for the whole village, which is reported to have reduced crime by up to 80% in protected areas. If we purchase 150 kits, we are given a further 50 free of charge.
One resident reported that at a recent free property marking event, it was disappointing that only 10 parishioners attended.
 - d) Vale Crematorium – Chair Southcott reported that the Parish Council regularly met with Westerleigh management. Unfortunately, there were no conditions in the planning approval restricting operating times, but following discussion with Westerleigh they have advised that where possible they try and avoid peak times and weekends for services. Issues raised with regard the lighting have been rectified, additional parking has been arranged to relieve problems with ‘back to back’ services, and landscaping is on-going but will take a while to become established. Chair Southcott asked parishioners if there were any concerns and none were raised.
 - e) District & Parish Council Elections – Chair Southcott reported that along with himself, Cllrs Mills, Insall and Day were uncontested, leaving five seats to fill by co-option. Cllr Manser had advised that he would be prepared to be co-opted back onto the parish council, with Cllrs Stephens and Palmer happy to be co-opted for a short period. District Councillor Tony Rowley was introduced as a candidate for the Fladbury Ward seat.
 - f) Minerals Plan / Quarrying Along The Avon – Worcestershire County Council has identified ‘corridors’ where aggregate, sand and gravel exist and could be suitable for extraction. Those

suggested areas in and around Fladbury would prove difficult with regard to access, particularly with the railway line, but we will certainly 'debate' any decision made if they are put forward.

- g) Bus Service – Cllr Day reported that despite efforts to keep a service, other than the school service, at present there is no effective service in Fladbury. The 52/53 had been withdrawn and whilst the X50 was introduced it does not travel through Fladbury. A local pressure group, Vale Public Transport have been working tirelessly to try and secure some sort of service for the village. This MAY be possible with the re-routing of the Hopper services, which currently services many other villages.

A question asked by a resident regarding the removal of the current '4-hour' time restriction for parking in the lay-by in Cropthorne on the B4084 – to try and encourage use of the X50.

County Councillor Liz Eyre advised that she would look into it. She also reported that WCC are currently exploring the possibility of an 'Uber-Style' scheme, currently used in parts of Cornwall, without the cost implications. County Council had given £90k to Community Transport services, with the emphasis on the Community Transport communicating with those in need of a service, and those residents who are 'socially isolated'

5. Any Other Business – Questions from the Floor

- A question asked if the village hall improvements would include a 'loop-system' for the hard of hearing – Cllr Southcott advised that this would be taken on board
- A question asked if the parish council would be organising a 'litter' day to clear the litter from roads and verges – Cllr Southcott advised that this would be organised. Cllr Rowley reported that there is an initiative by WDC for areas to be given their own 'litter pick' equipment – the clerk would look into this
- A point raised that dog owners leave bags of dog waste hanging on trees rather than taking home
- A point raised regarding the request for kerbs on the verges on Station Road – Chair Southcott replied that these are currently under discussion
- A question asked if any improvements could be made to the footpath adjacent to the playground
- Cllr Insall reported on the problem with fly-tipping and asked if anyone witnesses this, could they report it
- Cllr Mills raised the problem with vehicles parking on footways and the inconvenience it causes for prams / pushchairs and those on mobility scooters

The meeting closed at 8pm