

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 20 MAY 2014

PRESENT

The Mayor – Councillor Swift
The Deputy Mayor - Councillor Adams
Councillor Baddeley
Councillor Davies
Councillor Deane
Councillor Deaville
Councillor Ellsum
Councillor Gibson
Councillor Hall
Councillor Harper
Councillor Hart
Councillor Jackson
Councillor Jones
Councillor Lovatt
Councillor Redfern
Councillor Rogers
Councillor Sheldon
Councillor Walley
Councillor Whilding

Also in attendance:
The Chief Officer
Officer to the Council
The Town Crier
Members of the press and public

1.13 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence and reasons accepted were received from Councillor Hawley

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Town meeting held on 21 May 2013 were Received.

3. ANNUAL REPORT & FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Annual Report and Financial Statement for the year ended 31 March 2014 were moved Received. There were no questions.

4. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

- a Mr McNulty reported that the Twinning Association President had resigned and, on behalf of the Association, Mr McNulty invited the Mayor to be President, the figure head. Councillor Hall noted that this was a decision to be made personally by the Mayor and not the Council. Councillor Swift expressed his willingness to accept the post.

- b Mr Lloyd spoke on behalf of some residents of the Gillow Heath area, saying that they didn't know what was going on with the Halls Road playing fields and the sports village plans, and that they found things confusing. He added that the area at the top of Essex Drive and the Biddulph Valley Way were not swept or cleaned. Mr Lloyd felt that knowing who managed what and how to get hold of them would be helpful. Councillor Hall responded that the whole purpose of the offices at the Town Hall – Councils Connect – was to address such issues; he added that the Playing Fields plans had been well discussed at the Gillow Heath Resident Association meetings. Councillor Rogers noted that town forums had been attempted, with poor attendance. He encouraged people to take pride in their own areas. Councillor Hart encouraged people to talk to their local Councillors who could act for them.

- c Ms Palmer spoke about a KAARMA (Kids Adolescents and Residents Mentoring Association) event she would be hosting on 20 June 2014 at Biddulph Town Hall and invited Councillors to attend. Councillor Harper responded that the Council would agree in principle to support Ms Palmer and wished her well.

5. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The meeting closed at 6.50 pm.

Signed Date