**Addingham Parish Council**

**Annual Parish Meeting**

**Held at The Old School on the 15th April 2015 at 6.30 p.m.**

**Draft Minutes**

Attendees- Six members of the public, Clerk to Addingham Parish Council, Inspector Susan Sanderson

The following Parish Councillors were in attendance: Cllrs Coates, Brady, Hindle, Jerome, Mawson, Naylor and Tennant. Cllrs Flesher and Smith had sent apologies.

Cllr Coates, Chair of Addingham Parish Council welcomed those present to the meeting and introduced Members of the Parish Council who were in attendance.

**Proposed: Cllr Mawson**

**Seconded: Cllr Jerome**

**Resolved: The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 1st May 2014 were accepted as a correct record of the meeting and were signed by Cllr Coates**.

**Police Report**

Inspector Susan Sanderson, West Yorkshire Police gave the following report:

The number of crimes had reduced from the previous year. However there had been an increase in the incidence of shoplifting which was consistent with the rest of the Bradford District. Although there had been a reduction in the number of recorded crimes it was expected that the figures would rise over the next twelve months. The Police would now record all crimes and there would be no distinction between recorded and reported crimes.

Inspector Sanderson confirmed that were no plans to sell Keighley Police Station however administrative roles currently based there would be transferred to Bradford; Ilkley Police Station will remain open on the same current operating basis. Inspector Sanderson was now responsible for the Keighley Area.

Budget cuts are being made in line with all Public Bodies, however the intention is to protect the number of front line officers as far as is possible.

Questions from Councillors:

Cllr Hindle: What had the arrest rate been for crimes recorded in Addingham over the period?

Ins. Sanderson – of the reported 48 crimes 18 had had a suspect attached to the crime i.e. interviewed by police.

Cllr Jerome: Is this better or worse than last year?

Insp. Sanderson did not have the figures to hand however confirmed they would be forwarded to the Clerk following the meeting.

Cllr Brady: Does removing the distinction between reported and recorded crime make the job of the Police harder?

Insp. Sanderson: It may do however now members of the public would have a fuller picture of all crimes committed.

Cllr Coates thanked Inspector Sanderson for attending.

**Cllr Coates – Chairman’s Report**

**Tour De France -** Addingham experienced one of its most memorable weekends in July last year when the Tour De France came through the village on both days.

A lot of hard work was put in by the TDF committee as well as Addingham Garden Friends the Primary School, local businesses and residents.

The village was resplendent in bunting, painted bikes, art work and other displays around the village including the ducks on the road.

We couldn’t have asked for better weather, it was glorious. We welcomed many visitors to our village from all over the world. They were impressed by the effort we had made and this was also noted by ASO and Christian Prudhoe.

It was a truly memorable weekend that won’t be forgotten and I’m sure that many of us won’t be part of anything like it again in our life-times.

**Local Groups -** In January a village meeting was held by the PC and Liz Horn from the Keighley Area Coordinators Office to get together as many representatives from groups, clubs and societies in Addingham.

There was an amazing turnout to the meeting, bearing in mind it was an awful wintery night.

Everyone had the opportunity of presenting a brief account of what they do, their aims/ goals and any help they need.

All this information is being compiled at the moment and will be used to update the village guide, be added to the PC website and used by other organisations.

It was a very worthwhile exercise and the feedback was that it had been very useful in all learning about what there is available in the village.

**Cllr Tennant -Totally Locally Group** – The Totally Locally Group had had another successful year, particularly the Xmas Market and there were plans to hold another market in 2015 to coincide with the Xmas Light Switch On. It was proving difficult to keep the group going however there were still a lot of businesses who were involved and they were looking at ideas to continue promoting the Totally Locally concept. Cllr Tennant thanked those residents who supported local businesses as it was vital to keep the Village the attractive place it was to live in.

**Cllr Mawson – Lengthsman –** The Council had appointed a Lengthsman in January 2015 and his role and responsibilities was under on-going review to establish how best the Village could benefit and which services the Village wished to maintain. This appointment has been key to keeping the Sugar Hill Public Conveniences open and operational as responsibility was to transfer from Bradford MDC to the Parish Council.

**Cllr Naylor – Bradford MDC Cuts** – BMDCwas to discuss the budget cuts at their meeting to be held on the 22nd April. The New Deal was a process by which BMDC had consulted with Bradford District residents over which services they wanted to see protected and also a method of highlighting the choices that BMDC will have to make over which services it continues to provide and those which will be removed or reduced. It is an ideological approach, the easy cuts have been made and they are now looking at ways in which other savings can be made. BMDC have the belief that other groups are “willing” to take over services with Communities “helping themselves” to run services like Libraries, litter picking, maintaining flower beds and after –school activities. They were actively looking to rent out BMDC owned buildings and enlist volunteers to help with provision of non-statutory services. Kirsten England had recently been appointed as the New Chief Executive of BMDC.

Addingham had already taken steps in preparing for the impact of the above, setting up a Community Library Group, employing a Lengthsman and continuing to support the Garden Friends and had precepted accordingly to ensure Addingham remains an attractive place to live and work and attract visitors.

**Core Strategy/ Neighbourhood Planning –** the Core Strategy had been subjected to the Planning Inspector review which had taken place in Saltaire during March 2015. The Inspector had requested further information from BMDC and asked them to state how the evidence data had been prepared and obtained. Details of the process were available on BMDC’s website. The Planning Inspector was expected to make a decision on the Core Strategy in the Summer.

BMDC had increased the level of housing allocations for areas of the Wharfe Valley however there had been no increase in the allocation for Addingham. There would now be a 6 week consultation on the new increased housing numbers; however these would probably not form part of the Public Inspection process. The Core Strategy would have to be ratified by BMDC once approval, if applicable, had been given by the Planning Inspector that the document was based on sound principles and evidence.

Residents were reminded that there was no protection guaranteed over the number of new dwellings that Addingham may have to accommodate as part of the Bradford District Strategy.

Cllr Jerome: Does the 5 year supply of land requirement made by Central Government have an impact on proposed developments?

Cllr Naylor: Yes - Developers would have an opportunity to appeal against planning decisions and cite that because BMDC did not have a 5 year supply of land identified then currently available land could be delivered by the developers, i.e. land in the Wharfe Valley could be built upon. This made a Neighbourhood Plan even more important as it would be taken into consideration and would help to influence type, design, location and size of developments on planning applications which would exceed the proposed 200 total new dwellings.

Cllr Jerome: Developers should join together and look at overall building plans and how they could fund a new Secondary School, which is desperately needed in the Wharfe Valley. Allowing large increases in the number of houses in the Wharfe Valley will have a big impact on the future education provision and need for new schools in the future.

**Allotments- information provided by the Allotment Manager**

The present situation of the 109 allotments is:  there are currently 3 plots vacant and although there are 3 on the waiting list 2 of those either want 1/2 plots or a plot on the Newton site only. Now the weather has improved, allotment holders are beginning to start working their plots. A complaint has been made about loose dogs on Silsden Road site and the matter is to be discussed at the next P.C meeting.

**Cllr Jerome – Tribute to Cllr Campbell** – it was with much sadness that the Parish Council reported that Cllr Campbell had passed away in March 2015. Gordon had served on the Council from June 1998 to March 2015 serving as Chairman from May 1999 to May 2008. He was a great supporter of Addingham, a true friend and a great Guy, with his wisdom his amusing way of approaching problems and issues and his great sense of humour he was an incredible asset to the Council. He bravely fought his illness beating it a number of times until finally succumbing to it in March 2015. He was an irreplaceable member of the Council representing residents, helping Village Groups, particularly the Football Club and the Cricket Club. He was a real Family Man and he will be sadly missed by all on the Council.

Cllr Coates thanked all Councillors for their reports.

**Cllr Coates – Looking Forward**

**School House** **Refurbishment** - the Council were investigating the proposals to refurbish renovate the School House building which would secure its long term future and also provide a better environment for the Library provision and library volunteers.

**Public Conveniences – Sugar Hill** – were now the responsibility of Addingham Parish Council as they were considered an important facility in the Village. The Council had managed to have BMDC carry out some painting and asbestos removal by BMDC prior to transfer.

The forthcoming Elections will change the political make up of BMDC and would prove another challenge for the Council in dealing with this along with the imposed level of cuts to services.

**Tour De Yorkshire**

The momentum is just getting going for the Tour De Yorkshire that is coming through the village on Sunday 3rd May.

When this new annual race was announced it was felt that we may get it through the village in a year or two but certainly not this year.

At a recent meeting that Welcome to Yorkshire hosted for Parish Councils Addingham was named as having made such an impact with the T de F organisers. They mentioned the ducks on the road and welcome that they had had from the village.

There won’t be the road closures like last year however we believe that it would be sensible not to have any cars parked down the main street on that day. There is a Sportif in the morning when 2 to 3 thousand members of the public will be doing the race. There are 3 different length routes however it is possible that other members of the public who didn’t get a place will still take part.

It is possible then on the day that there will a continual stream of cyclists of all ages. To safe guard everyone’s cars then it would be sensible to park off the road.

There will be many activities going on that weekend and let’s hope to have lovely weather so that villagers and visitors will enjoy the hospitality on offer. The painted ducks on the road would be re-instated and hopefully made permanent. The Brown TDF signs were also being reinstated and bunting was to be put up by the Gala Committee. Cllr Coates thanked Cllr Jerome for gifting a picture of the TDF in Addingham, signed by Gary Verity, and now on display in the School Room.

**Questions from Members of the Public**

No questions were asked.

Cllr Coates thanked those present for attending and brought the meeting to a close at 7.30 p.m.

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Chairman of the Parish Council