

## HALE PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of a meeting of Hale Annual Parish Assembly held at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 19 April 2016 in Hale Village Hall, Hatchet Green, Hale

**Present:**

Cllr Orchard – Chairman, Cllrs Aitken-Sykes, Harrington and Templeton

**In attendance:**

County/District Councillor Heron

Ms S Plumb – Clerk

17 Parishioners

Speakers – see below

**1 To receive apologies for absence** – Apologies for absence received from Councillor Hartas, Mrs Frances Maynard and Mr Peter Roberts.

**2 To consider and approve the Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held on 28 April 2015** - The Minutes of the meeting were read, approved by a majority and signed by the Chairman.

**3 To receive the Chairman's Annual Report for 2015/16** – thanks to the village for its continuing support of vulnerable residents, to Lorraine Josling for her service as a Councillor and to Sarah Orchard for her work as Clerk. There is a casual vacancy on the Council. The Council is currently trying to register title to Hatchet Green. NFNPA is working to repair the verge damage in various parts of the Forest. The defibrillator remains unused. Much work has been carried out at the Village Hall. Superfast broadband is now available in Hale. The Council website is up and running again. National Grid has a Visual Impact Project to sink the electricity cables over Hale Purlieu underground. There will be a village meeting in the summer where further information about this will be available.

**4 To report on finances for 2015/16 (unaudited accounts)** – a copy of the unaudited accounts was available.

**5 Representative reports from local organisations:**

- i. County/District Cllr Edward Heron – Hants County Council and New Forest District Council – Hants mobile library service is being cut. Books will be available in 3 other ways. Rural bus services are likely to be cut to be replaced by a taxi share scheme. There is currently a consultation on household recycling centres, do respond. Funding for local government from central government will continue to decline in the future.
- ii. Gary Adams – for the Chair of Hale Village Hall Committee – details of the membership of the hall provided on a slide. In the last year a new kitchen has been installed. It is shared with the school. Hants County Council funded 48% of the cost. Broadband and a projector have also been installed. Looking to develop the changing facilities downstairs and refurbish the disabled toilet. Also considering a side extension to provide more storage. Some funding is in place and more is sought. Starting a film club, taster next month. May be a book club in due course. Thanks to all who support the hall.

- iii. Stephen Roper – for the Chair of Hale Social Committee – the aim is to encourage cohesion of residents in the village. There are various events coming up; Street Party on the Green for the Queen’s 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on 12 June, trip to Brownsea Island on 5 July, Safari supper on 13 August and Burns Night on 28 January 2017. Suggestions for other events welcome.
- iv. Emma Clark, Executive Head Teacher; Gaby Lucas, Vice-Chair of the Federated Governors; Ben Geary, Vice-Chair of PTA – Hale Primary School –Mrs Clark has been Head of Breamore School for over 2 years and has now been made Executive head Teacher of Hale and Breamore, sharing her time between the 2 schools. The schools are to be federated and will continue to be a strong part of the community. The PTA is looking to work for both schools and bring more people in. The former Head has retired and the Council sent it good wishes to her.
- v. Sharon Barnett – Hale Neighbourhood Watch – was present and submitted a written report read by the Chairman. There is a new PSCO Amy Waddington. Hale and Woodgreen Neighbourhood Watch have joined forces. The crime rate has increased slightly. A presentation on scams is to be arranged.
- vi. PSCO Waddington – for the police – did not attend
- vii. Jacob White, Community Ranger; Steve Whitmarsh, Volunteer Community Ranger – National Trust – the National Trust manages 4000 acres of land on Hale Purlieu for the benefit of wildlife, flora and fauna. This includes rotational management of gorse, controlling scrub, bramble and trees. The Trust also aims to encourage public safety by removing trees around car parks. It is also engaged in the VIP project, see above. It needs more information before it can take a view on the proposals. National Trust relies on volunteers, read the newsletters and help if you can.
- viii. Frances Maynard – Hale Tree Warden – unable to attend and submitted a written report read by the Chairman. There has been a healthy crop of acorns. Some trees have been lost to the gales but generally the weather has been unseasonably warm and nature is ahead of schedule. The trees next to the Hall are to be surveyed to ensure their safety in a way sympathetic to the Forest and village.

**6 To take public comments and questions – no comments or questions were raised.**

There being no further business to discuss the Meeting closed 8.20pm

**After the meeting the Chairman welcomed the Guest Speaker, Craig Daters – NFNPA Ranger – “The Roles and Responsibilities of the National Park Ranger Team”.**

Signed:  
Chairman

Date: 25 April 2017

Clerk: Sue Plumb, 5 Blue Valley Mews, Fordingbridge, Hants, SP6 1FB  
07717 851694 01425 654252 [hpcclerk@gmail.com](mailto:hpcclerk@gmail.com)