

GODSHILL PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES
26th April 2016

Present:

Cllr Draper – Chairman
Cllr Cakebread
Cllr Fell
Cllr Williams

Bev Cornish, Clerk
7 members of the public.

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Lintonbon, Cllr Thomas, D/Cllr Dow and C/Cllr Heron.

2 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 28th April 2015:

Cllr Cakebread proposed, Cllr Williams seconded and it was RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 28th April 2015 be approved and signed as a true record. **All voted in favour.**

3 Guest Speaker: Mr Craig Daters – The Role of a New Forest Ranger:

Mr Craig Daters gave a very detailed and interesting presentation on the role of the New Forest Ranger team which was to promote the Forest and also to educate residents and visitors on how to best and safely enjoy the Forest whilst protecting it at the same time.

A brief discussion was held on how the Ranger Team assisted the Prince's Trust in providing a week's introduction to the Forest for 'NEETs', young people who were "Not in Education, Employment, or Training". He said this was a successful scheme and enabled the young people to explore different outdoor avenues for employment.

Mr Daters also responded to questions regarding dog fouling in the Forest, particularly at the Cricket Pitch in Godshill, and he confirmed that dog walkers were now being asked to pick up after their dogs rather than the previous instruction to 'stick and flick'. He provided an example of how Wellow Parish Council had recently had a drive to inform the dog walkers using Canada Common about picking up after their dogs and with his assistance, councillors had spent a morning talking to users of the Common. He also said he would be happy to work with the Parish Council organise a similar event in Godshill.

Cllr Draper thanked Mr Daters for his excellent presentation and for attending the meeting.

4 Chairman's Report

The Chairman read his report which is attached to these minutes and thanked everyone for their hard work over the past year.

4 Public Forum

Mr Peter Stammers asked whether the Parish Council could consider asking the Forestry Commission to install a footbridge at Pitts Wood to enable walkers to cross the stream during the winter months. Cllr Draper advised that this was a very good idea and it would be added as an item to the next Parish Council Agenda.

The Chairman thanked those present for attending the meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm.