

# HAWKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Hawkley Parish Council Hawkley Parish Hall, Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2015 at 7.00 p.m.

*Draft*

PRESENT: Peter Cregeen (Chairman); Nick Davis; Charlie Butcher; Jilly Caesar; Susan Sinclair; Geoff Brighton; David Caukill  
Sue Harwood (Clerk) was in attendance, also 2 officers from RAF Odiham  
There were more than 25 residents present.

### 1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone present and thanked them for coming.

### 2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2014

These were confirmed and signed as a true record.

### 3. Chairman's Annual Report

The Chairman began by paying warm tribute to the late Parish Councillor John Scutt. Nick Davis is standing down at the forthcoming election and he was thanked for his immense contribution.

Tony Madeley has now retired as parish lengthsmen and he too was thanked for his dedicated service over many years. Alternative provision is being investigated.

The Parish Council finishes the year in good shape carrying over ££4677. Major items of expenditure were identified.

Thanks to the hard work of Susan Sinclair Jilly Caesar and Charlie Butcher the Parish Plan is now completed and has been adopted by EHDC.

The Parish Council has adopted the children's play area.

Many thanks to all our Councillors and the clerk for their hard work over the last year.

### 4. Report from District Councillor

District Councillor Judy Onslow reported that EHDC will shortly be carrying out a local transport consultation.

The SDNP local plan is proceeding. Several sites for gypsies and travellers were put forward by landowners and these are being investigated.

Litter picking from road verges has commenced in earnest.

There will be no increase in EHDC's share of council tax this year.

### 5. Report from County Councillor

County Councillor Vaughan Clarke reported that for the 6<sup>th</sup> successive year, there would be no increase in HCC's share of Council Tax, despite continued reduction in government funding (to approx. £156 million – about 20% of Hampshire business rate payments to central government). Partly due to successful marketing of services to other public bodies. Substantial capital expenditure projects are in place.

Street lighting installation now complete, greatly reducing light pollution.

Access to superfast broadband likely to reach 95% by 2016/17. Costs increase dramatically for more remote areas such as Hawkley.

Unemployment continues very low.

### 6. Open Forum

Nick Walker reported on the findings of a recent questionnaire seeking residents' views on broadband provision. Survey went to all households, 29 replies were received. While most people regard superfast broadband provision as highly desirable, there is a marked reluctance to pay a premium for it. Outlook is therefore very pessimistic. Nick will continue to pursue all options and he was thanked for his efforts which are much appreciated.

Following a small number of questions the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and he then closed the formal meeting at 8.10pm.

An interesting and informative presentation by officers from RAF Odiham then followed.

\_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_ Date