

**MINUTES OF BADBY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL  
AT 7.00 P.M. ON MONDAY 13TH MAY 2013**

5 parishioners attended the meeting, with the Chairman of the Parish Council, Mr Mike Richards, in the chair. Also in attendance were Parish Councillors Alexander, Cooper, Piner, Walton and Witcomb, and the Parish Council Clerk, Mrs Sharon Foster.

**1. APOLOGIES**

These were received from District Councillors Jo Gilford, Bob Patchett, Liz Griffin, County Councillor Robin Brown and PCSO Carl Barton.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was proposed by Sue Wilson, seconded by Karen Alexander and agreed that the minutes of the 2012 Annual Parish Meeting should be signed by the Chairman as a true record of that meeting.

**4. REPORT BY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

The Clerk read out the report from District Councillor Gilford.

Dear residents of Daventry District Council Woodford Ward,

Firstly, I would like to thank you for inviting me to Badby AGM but unfortunately due to the meeting clashing with a DDC meeting I am unable to attend on this occasion. Both Bob and Liz would also like to have attended but they too have to attend the same meeting as I at DDC.

First of all I would like to thank Badby Parish Councillors for all their hard work during the year on behalf of Badby Parishioners. Their roles are voluntary and their job can be quite hard at times.

This has been my first year as your representative and my first year in office. During the council year, most of my time as your District Councillor has been taken up with planning applications in the now larger area of the new Woodford Ward and the District as a whole. I have listened to Badby Parish Council and put forward their opinions and comments of local residents. As with everything we have won some and lost some.

I am also a member of:

- the Corporate Governance Committee which deals with the changes to the audit system and constitution under the new coalition government.
- the Appeals/standards Committee which deals with the conduct of elected personnel.

Half way into my first year I was appointed the Portfolio Holder for Customer Access, Communication & Marketing. In this role it is my responsibility to make sure that residents have access to services and that as a Council we communicate with our residents.

Improvements have been made to the way residents can report environmental issues directly to the Council via its website. They can pinpoint on a map and report instances of graffiti, litter and fly-tipping, as well as missed bins, grass, hedge and tree cutting. In addition a Web app is now available enabling residents to access services and information on the move via their smart phone or tablets.

In connection with DDC there have been a lot of new projects started this year such as:

- the redevelopment of Morris Road on the Royal Oak Way Industrial estate
- 45 new homes are being built to rent out by the council on the Middlemore Estate in Daventry Town under the guise of a Company called THE DAVENTRY ESTATE COMPNAY

- a new Crematorium will be built in joint partnership with Rugby Borough Council on Ashlawn Road Rugby.
- Solar panels have been installed on the roof of the council offices
- the university UTC project is now going ahead and will be open this September.
- A new 15 million pound marina will be built at Onley near to the prison
- and of course the 50 million pound project to provide shops, cinema and supermarket petrol station is now ongoing
- there is a free school at Middlemore now looking like a possibility with funding provided by the new housing development at Monksmore and the County Council.

I have also attended most of the Parish Council meetings, helping when the needs arises with any issues Badby PC may have.

I have enjoyed being your elected representative immensely during the year. There are many other aspects of work at DDC which are too numerous to discuss in a short report but should any of you have any queries or would like me to take up an issue you have with DDC please contact me.

Jo Gilford JTele: 01327 872156 Email: [jmgilford@daventrydc.gov.uk](mailto:jmgilford@daventrydc.gov.uk)

#### **5. REPORT BY POLICE**

The Clerk reported on behalf of PCSO Barton that there had been 9 incidents in the village. These consisted of 2 theft from motor vehicle, 2 other burglary and 5 theft handling although it was noted that the theft handling figure is due to incidents at the Badby Park Care Home.

#### **6. REPORT BY PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN**

Mike Richards reported registration of village greens had been completed and the parish council is in the process of addressing parking issues and damage caused to the greens.

Trees are an ongoing issue and are due to be inspected in the coming months. A fence has been erected around one of the horse chestnuts on The Green.

A general clean up has taken place in the cemetery and some new fencing erected.

Improvements to the BMX track at the playing field are currently being considered.

One major project being undertaken, under the chairmanship of Peter Cooper is the development of a village plan. This will be in consultation with and the involvement of parishioners and village organisations.

Parish Council finances are in good order with a bank balance of £13k. The precept remains the same as the last 3 years at £14,000. Major expenditure will be made on the maintenance of greens and 80+ trees around the village.

For the past year, the Parish Council has had all seats filled by members who all contribute. The Chairman passed on his personal thanks to all for being an active group of councillors who are prepared to put in their own time and effort for the benefit of the village.

Issues going forward are protection of the greens, development of wind farms and the Badby village plan.

## **7. REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS**

### **a. BADBY VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

It has been an eventful year for both the Village Hall and the Management Committee. Susan Levett stood down from her role as caretaker at the end of 2012 and the main hall has had a coat of paint. The Management Committee give a big thank you to Susan for all of the tender loving care that she has bestowed on the Village Hall over the last 10 years and welcome Catrina Signey who has taken on the caretaker role. The committee also thank the 'Cummins Project Team' for painting the walls in the main hall.

Sadly, we lost our former chairman and friend, David Pearce, at the start of October. June kindly invited donations to the Village Hall in David's memory. His contributions to village life are missed; but thanks to peoples generosity, we have a brand new oven and hob in the kitchen to remind us of David.

Regular hall use continues to increase, we now have an additional daytime "Zumba" class and a new early evening Junior Martial Arts class. There are still some times available during the day, but evening bookings are becoming congested.

As with all buildings, the fabric and fittings of the Village hall need to be maintained, and the committee work hard organising fund raising events. Last year we noticed cracking in the walls of the Committee Room and hopefully our insurance claim will soon be settled and the remedial work for subsidence of the 1974 extension will start.

The Village Hall Management Committee's Annual General Meeting is being held on 17<sup>th</sup> June at 7:30pm when the committee will present their report and accounts for the year ended April 2013.

Dick Earley

### **b. WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

Badby and Fawsley Women's Institute is part of the Northamptonshire Federation and was first formed in 1918. It has come a long way since the days of Lady Knightley.

This year has seen our membership increase to more than 60 ladies, some of whom travel from as far as East and West Haddon, Preston Capes, Watford and Daventry. We are a very welcoming and fun loving group who meet at 7:30pm on the second Thursday of each month.

Our programme secretary and committee always work hard to produce an entertaining programme for the year and make sure that members have an enjoyable evening. Our meetings so far in 2013 have included talks on the History of Bone China, Country customs, Hearing Dogs for the deaf and a flower arranging demonstration. The full WI programme for 2013 can be found on the Badby Village Website and on the WI Notice Board in the Village Hall, and reminders for the current month are include in the 'Link'.

Each year we enter a team in the Northamptonshire skittles league and this year we came second in our division. Skittles continues throughout the year with practise sessions at the Red Lion in Hellidon and lunches (to discuss tactics I am told) at various pubs around the county.

If you know anyone who would like to join us please give me (Kate Earley) a ring on 01327 700544.

Kate Earley  
President Badby and Fawsley WI

### **c. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

Report read out by Denis Wilson.

d. **BADBY WEBSITE**

Denis Wilson reported that a new village website is under construction under the name badbyvillage.com. This will be more user friendly and free of charge except for the purchase of the web domain at a cost of £18.

e. **HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

We currently have 69 members so far this year, and 8 Committee Members. Our programme of events for 2013 started with our Wine and Quiche Evening on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February in Badby Village Hall, which was full to capacity. Our speaker was Laurence Conisbee from Virtual Orchard speaking on the art of cider making which was very well received by all. The buffet was again all homemade by Committee members.

Our next event is a coach trip to the Malvern Spring Show on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May, tickets are available at a cost of £30 for Society members and £32 for non-members, be inspired to enter your own produce in the Badby Show.....

Other events on our programme are the Spring Plant Sale on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May at Badby Village Hall, with stalls from local nurseries and donated plants for sale, as well as a selection of home-made cakes. Summer High Tea on 9<sup>th</sup> June, details to be finalised shortly, we hope to have music provided by local Badby musicians and to hold the event in a Badby village garden, Annual Show Sunday 1st September and the AGM on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October.

If you would like to join the Society or would like any further information on any of our events, please contact Zelda or Pete Shapter on 01327 872118 or [zelda@peteshapter.co.uk](mailto:zelda@peteshapter.co.uk) or contact any member of the Committee  
Zelda Shapter

f. **BADBY ALLOTMENT SOCIETY**

At the start of the year there are no vacant allotments.

Last year was a very difficult year for vegetable growing and it was difficult to keep the plots under control due to bad weather and hungry animals. However, a working party has cut the surrounding hedges, the electric fencing has been extended all round and most plot holders have already begun planting.

If anyone would like to be added to the waiting list please contact me or the Association's Secretary, Ian Bromwich.

Pauline Hartshorn

g. **BADBY AND DISTRICT FILM SOCIETY**

Badby & District Film Society started life in January 2008, and has a Management Committee of 9 drawn from Badby and its 8 closest villages. Over the last 5½ years, we have shown 105 different films and now have more than 300 members. Our film screenings – usually two each month – are held in Badby Village Hall, and we are probably its biggest user.

Our aim is to show good films in a friendly environment. Our evenings start with half-an-hour of socialising fuelled by some excellent home-made light refreshments. Many members like to bring a bottle of wine or a can of beer to enjoy before or during the film screening.

Our big screen (5 metres across the diagonal), state-of-the-art HD digital projector and Dolby Digital 5.1 surround sound system, together with our comfortable theatre-style seating, ensure an enjoyable experience hard to match outside the commercial cinemas. In addition, every film is preceded by a 5-minute illustrated talk.

Our shows are limited to members and their guests. Membership of the Society is open to anyone over 16 and resident in Badby or its surrounding villages, or by invitation of an existing member. Just £9 buys life membership of the Society plus a free first

screening. Standard ticket prices are £5 for members or £7 for guests (including light refreshments and tea or coffee).

We have also built up a collection of more than 150 DVDs available for loan to members for just a £10 refundable deposit.

Each year we put on a short film festival. Previous film festivals have been themed on French films, Shakespeare films and films about modern jazz. This year it'll be French films again. Each festival has included a 3-course dinner for our members.

We have also organised a couple of projects to engage young people from our local rural communities. In 2010 we launched a film-making project for 16 local children between the ages of 8 and 15 to put on a performance of Shakespeare's play *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, which was then filmed. In 2012 we launched another project for local young people to teach themselves about film-making, using an on-line training course on a specially-created website. Northamptonshire Community Foundation (NCF), Daventry District Council (DDC) and others have helped fund the creation of the website by a local media skills organisation, Threshold Studios. The project was budgeted at £3,500, and included some funding from the Film Society itself. We're currently screening a short film made by our young participants immediately before each of our feature film presentations.

The Film Society's screen and projection equipment are regularly used by other village organisations for fund-raising events to support the restoration of Badby Church or Badby Village Hall. Events that combine a film and a meal tend to be especially popular. In addition, other local organisations – such as Badby & Fawsley WI, Badby Photo Club and the Knightley Parishes – have hired the equipment and a projectionist to screen films for their own events. All in all, the cinema set-up in the Village Hall has proved to be a well-used and much-appreciated amenity.

*Jocelyn Hartland-Swann, Secretary, B&DFS May 2013*

h. **BADBY JUBILEE COMMITTEE**

Badby Jubilee Committee was formed with the intention for the village to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in June 2012. The committee consisted of representatives from many organisations and individuals from the village. We were able to obtain sponsorship from Daventry District Council, local individuals and both pubs enabling us to make the day-time programme a free event.

We chose Monday June 5. The programme of events started with a quarter peel on the Church bells. Huge numbers of villagers and friends then enjoyed socialising with their picnics on the Green. There were musicians playing, a free bouncy castle for children, screening of Coronation footage in the village hall and Tug-of-War competitions. The children were very much involved and had fun with a fancy dress competition followed by races for all ages.

Every village child attending Badby School was given a Jubilee mug sponsored by the Parish Council.

All village children and families then enjoyed a tea party, which was re-located to the village hall due to a downpour at 3.00 pm!

At 4.30 we gathered to sing the National Anthem and other patriotic songs.

The evening event was a Family Barn Dance with 'fish-and-chip' supper which was very popular with all ages.

Badby residents enjoyed a day to be proud of, thanks to the many who helped with organisation.

Sarah Hartland-Swann - Chairman, Badby Jubilee Committee

i. **BADBY BELLRINGERS**

During the past year we have rung the bells for most services, two weddings and two funerals and to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and heralded the London Olympics.

This year we are training Year Six of Badby School to ring tower bells. One hour sessions on Tuesday afternoons are being carried out in two groups. The first group struck their first blows after the School Easter service.

Initial training sessions from 6.45pm on most Wednesdays are open to anyone to come along to the tower and have a try and hopefully to continue to learn the traditional English art of change-ringing.

Geoff Pullin

j. **THE GUSHER' CORRESPONDENT**

Please send news of future events, their results and personal celebrations as early as possible to me, Geoff Pullin (at [gcsspullin@yahoo.com](mailto:gcsspullin@yahoo.com) or on 01327 871806 or at 25 The Glebe). My deadline is usually Sunday evening for the following Thursday's edition of the Daventry Express.

The Chairman thanked all those who had sent in reports and noted that it was encouraging to see so much participation in the village.

Geoff Pullin

**7. OPEN FORUM FOR PARISHIONERS**

- a) Sue Wilson reported on recent wind farm planning applications at Long Furlong Farm and Shuckburgh as well as proposals at Boddington and Wormleighton.
- b) Sue Wilson requested an update on the Japanese knotweed situation in the grounds of the village hall. The Chairman reported that the matter is on the agenda for the Parish Council meeting which would follow this meeting.

**3. REPORT BY COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

The Clerk read out County Councillor Brown's report.

The County Council has been making sustained progress on a number of fronts since my report last year. For the third year running we have managed to continue a freeze on council tax which means that over the last eight years of the administration the average council tax rise has been 2.3%; compared to an average 7% plus in the eight years prior.

We are in the second year of our four year financial plan and this year we have had to absorb a central government revenue cut of £33m, we have managed to make this reduction by sharing more services in particular "Back" Office such as Finance, HR, Legal and Property Management, plus stopping many administrative tasks previously actioned (less "tick" box target checking) whilst still funding essential frontline services. 600 libraries nationally are expected to close, the County Council have managed not only to avoid any closures but are investing and expanding the range of services offered by libraries in the county including free wi-fi facilities, the opening of job clubs and Sunday opening, as well as continuing the Mobile Service and development of friends of the Library schemes that in some areas provide assistance to the less able in changing and delivering Library Books.

There is continued investment in the roads maintenance programme albeit the dreadful weather this winter has not helped as more damage has been caused and the patch up during the winter is made as a temporary fix rather than the permanent repairs that the Council is now nationally recognised as providing best value maintenance for Rural and Urban roads.

I am pleased to announce that the council have chosen BT as their partner to roll out our new Next Generation Superfast Broadband programme which will see many rural areas properly served. We are scheduled to have 90% county coverage by the end of 2015 and full coverage by 2017.

Our Empowering Councillors scheme is as popular as ever. Countywide we have funded 2000 community projects to the tune of over £2million. In my district I made sure my money has made a positive difference by funding Badby Cemetery path improvements; production of a Shakespeare DVD; Badby and District Film Society: improvements to Badby playing field and repair work; Tree maintenance work; contributing to Connexions Young Leaders Scheme; purchasing equipment for Age Concern's mobility bus and donating funds to the Stroke Association as well as supporting a variety worthy causes in the other Parishes within my division.

Robin Brown, County Councillor

There being no further questions the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.40pm.

However, County Councillor Brown arrived just after the meeting had closed. He reported that he was delighted to have retained his seat and that a £7k empowerment grant would be available this year.