

**MINUTES OF BADBY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL  
AT 7.00 P.M. ON MONDAY 14TH MAY 2012**

17 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, Halson, Piner, Witcomb and Walton, and the Parish Council Clerk, Mrs Sharon Foster.

**1. APOLOGIES**

These were received from District Councillor Tony Scott, County Councillor Robin Brown, Denis and Denis Wilson.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was proposed by Karen Alexander, seconded by Sue Wilson and agreed that the minutes of the 2011 Annual Parish Meeting should be signed by the Chairman as a true record of that meeting.

**3. REPORT BY COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

The Clerk read out the report.

This year has seen The County Council continue to invest into the future of Northamptonshire and build on the many successes that have brought us a record of achievement which is now being recognised nationally.

This February we published for the first time a four year financial plan which sets out how we will continue to streamline how the Council conducts its business. In addition to this, we also took advantage of the Government's offer to freeze council tax in 2012/13, thereby retaining the lowest county council tax in the Country.

At the heart of our budget is considerable investment for the vulnerable across our County. It sees an extra £27.5m being invested into caring for older people and providing services for young adults, this includes an extra £6m into services for the County's looked after children. We will also maintain our current levels of funding for boosting prosperity and economic growth to help the County recover from the current economic downturn.

We continue to work with our parliamentary colleagues to lobby central government to ensure that Northamptonshire receives a more equitable funding settlement. In addition to this, we have also managed to attract extra investment into the county to allow us to roll out superfast broadband across the county. We are aiming for 90 per cent of the county to have superfast broadband speeds by the end of 2015 with 100 per cent coverage by the end of 2017. This scheme will help to deliver to rural communities the massive benefits and opportunities that fast broadband connections can bring.

The County Council's excellent Empowering Councillors scheme will continue to give Members the ability to invest in their communities and support local groups and organisations. Over the previous two years, I have been able to provide funding towards improving the local playing field, which will make a real difference to the village. This scheme can make a real difference to villages such as Badby, and I look forward to receiving future bids for community led projects that I can support.

This has been a year of challenges and achievements and I will continue to work closely with parish colleagues to ensure that one of Northamptonshire's most precious assets, our rural villages are protected and are able to flourish for generations to come.

**Robin Brown, County Councillor**

#### **4. REPORT BY DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

The Clerk read out the report.

Tonight I have read the report I presented to you the same time last year. Very little has changed other than the fact that the money we will receive from the Icelandic Banks could be as high as 97% of the £8 million original investment. Changes to the local authority spending have gone ahead with front line services being protected. The icon building is now up and running and it is hoped to see further developments in Daventry including a new library and University for the future.

Last year there appeared the real prospect of the Leisure Centre closing due to financial difficulties but this was seen as being unacceptable to a Town trying so hard to prosper and therefore the Council stepped in and gave the support needed to keep it going.

When the Council transferred its housing stock to Daventry District Housing, a mistake in the documentation committed the Council to pay £2.4 million in pension subscriptions for staff that were transferred. Although this was against what had been agreed, the Social landlord refused to accept responsibility. After a long legal battle the Council have been exonerated and DDH have had to accept responsibility and repay the Council all legal fees.

Unfortunately I will no longer stand as a Conservative Councillor. Having been a man made Global Warming sceptic for many years the Government's blind determination to destroy our countryside with Wind Farms was a step too far. By its own admission and statistics that are available, Wind Farms are expensive and inefficient and in such a low wind area such as the midlands, they are a complete waste of time and money. Despite this the Government have provided £400 million to speculators to get as many Wind Farms built as possible and as quickly as possible.

In November 2010 the District Council wrote to the Secretary of State explaining that we had a problem with the number of applications received and

the extra cost in terms of time and money this was causing the Local Authority and asked if they could be phased in as part of a national programme. This suggestion was rejected. We wrote to the Secretary of State again asking if we could take into account the efficiency of the Wind Farms in determining the planning application. We were told that this was irrelevant. We asked if, like other parts of Europe, Scotland and Northern Ireland, could we have a minimum distance from domestic dwellings and a wind turbine. We were told no. Chris Heaton-Harris M.P. tabled a ten minute bill asking if property owners could be compensated for loss of value due to the close proximity to Wind Farms. The Government would not afford any time for the bill to be debated. A petition signed by over 100 M.P.'s asking the Government to reduce the subsidy and promotion of on shore Wind Farms was ignored.

Last month the District Council wrote to the Secretary of State asking for a review of the Planning Inspectorate having seen three planning application decisions for Wind Farms being overturned by the Inspector on the instructions of the Government. The response has been to look at it in the future.

Matters are due to get worse with the scrapping of most of the Planning Policy Guidelines and replacing them with clear instructions to approve development "unless there are compelling reasons to object". This will cost the Tax payers hundreds of thousands of pounds in planning appeals to protect our villages and countryside.

I will be standing for election on the 3<sup>rd</sup> May as an Independent candidate. Regretfully no other member of the Planning Committee felt inclined to do the same.

I would like to thank Badby Parish Council and its residents for their support over the last twelve years and if I am elected I am still only a 'phone call away if any of you require help or assistance in any District Council business.

**Tony Scott, District Councillor**

Sue Wilson added the following:

I would like to say a few words about our immediate past District Councillor Tony Scott by way of recognition and thanks for all his hard work on our behalf over the last 12 years. Just to select 3 things.

First, he put a great deal of time and effort into improving highway safety on the A361, especially after a series of fatal accidents. He helped achieve the new speed limits, new signage and the regrading of the bend between the Newnham – Staverton crossroads and the bypass.

Second, he supported this Council and those most affected in bringing the noise nuisance from the motocross events on Arbury Hill under control.

And, thirdly, he could always be relied upon to do his utmost to protect our wonderful unspoilt countryside from inappropriate development, and especially from wind farms.

When he took over from our previous District Councillor, I can well remember telling him that he had a hard act to follow in Lady Dent.

I find I can now say precisely the same thing to his successors, our new District Councillors. You have a hard act to follow in Tony Scott, and I wish you every success.

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

No representative of the police attended the meeting.

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

The Chairman reviewed the past 12 months. Following last year's election, the Parish Council had five Councillors. However, since then four new members have been co-opted and we now have a far better representation of the village.

The trees on The Green are an ongoing issue and regular reports and inspections have taken place. The latest report, carried out earlier this month, shows that the work carried out to the trees in September was good and the trees show no sign of further damage. The recommendation was to continue to monitor the trees.

Health and safety inspections have been carried out in the cemetery following an accident with some headstones being laid down as a consequence. Regular inspections will continue to make sure that they remain safe.

The unaudited accounts for year 2011/2012 show the Parish Council coming in under budget by @£4,000. However, this underspend has already been earmarked for works to the trees on The Green as well as all the other trees in the village. Income shows £2,100 which was bolstered by the receipt of a £1,500 grant from NCC.

A member of the public asked a question regarding the tree on Pinfold Green which was removed a few weeks ago. The Chairman reported that the tree had been the responsibility of NCC and a report had been carried out on all three trees some months ago. However, when the work was due to be carried out, one of the trees had deteriorated considerably and so, on health and safety grounds, NCC had taken the decision to remove the tree. It was noted that there is a national problem with disease in horse chestnut trees.

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

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

Report attached.

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

Report attached.

### **c. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

Report read out by Sue Wilson.

Badby Neighbourhood Watch held its last meeting at the end of March. This gave us the opportunity to meet two of our local PCSOs, Matt Atkins and Les Conopo who came in the absence of Carl Barton. Matt gave us an update on crimes which had happened since our last meeting in October.

These included 1 Theft from a motor vehicle and three lots of criminal damage to motor vehicles. There had also been a theft from a farm building; criminal damage to a gate; and some builder's materials were stolen from a property in the village

It is of course a pity that there has been this much crime but we are in fact very fortunate to live in such a quiet and relatively trouble free place as Badby.

We normally attend The Staverton Beat Community Panel where we meet others from surrounding parishes and our PCSOs to discuss relevant topics and set policing priorities.

At the moment, the priority is speeding on the A361... so be warned.

The next meeting will be held at The Cross Tree in Byfield on the 12<sup>th</sup> July at 6.30. Any parishioner is welcome to come and perhaps the PC might consider sending a representative.

Our membership remains stable but we are always looking for new members – it costs nothing, includes reduced cost for Smartwater kits and you receive crime information by email. Please contact me or Viv Harris on 704521 if you would like to join us.

Denis Wilson

### **d. BADBY WEBSITE**

Report read out by Sue Wilson

I / Denis thought that this would be a good time to give an update on the Parish Council's website [www.badby.org.uk](http://www.badby.org.uk). This has been operating in its present form since 2008.

The number of hits or visitors to the site is constantly recorded and appears to be growing.

Last autumn we were getting around 800 hits a month. In the last 90 days however we have had well over 3k (3285 including 1088 in April alone). The favourite page in April (200+ hits) was the History of the Woods, and over the Bluebell Sunday weekend alone there were more than 90 visitors. Village and Local Events (132), In and Around Badby (121), Parish Council (95) and Local Services (71) also attract interest in that order.

This all goes to show how much attention the site is actually receiving.

Perhaps some local societies could use the Events page more and local businesses could use The Local Services page to a greater extent. It will cost them absolutely nothing as it is all for free.

Interestingly I have been contacted over the last 6 months by several people trying to trace their ancestors and in particular one from Germany and two from America tracing their family from a person named Roote who lived in Badby in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century. A family descendant actually visited Badby last month and another is planning to come later this year.

This web site serves as a showcase for the Parish. The more information about us the better so I would particularly ask that village groups let me have up to date material about their activities and events. Perhaps PCllrs could help please by prodding their any friends involved in groups to do so.

e. **HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

Our first event of this year was the Wine and Cheese evening at Newnham Village Hall in February, at which our speaker was Hilary Mensah on Sandpits and Floating Gardens: Growing Food in Bangladesh. This was an excellent presentation enjoyed by all who attended. The excellent spread of home cooked food was, as always, very well received.

Our next event was the Spring Plant Sale in Badby Village Hall on Sunday 13 May, there were stalls from local nurseries as well as donated plants, a sale of second-hand gardening books and homemade cakes and refreshments.

Other events for the year include an evening visit to Johnnie Amos' garden in Flore on Thursday 21 June, a coach trip being jointly organised with Boddington Garden Club to Ashwood Nurseries in Staffordshire on July 15<sup>th</sup>, our annual Show on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, a further joint coach trip to RHS Gardens at Wisley on September 16<sup>th</sup>, our AGM and Quiz Night on October 19<sup>th</sup> and finally the Christmas Crafts Evening on December 6<sup>th</sup>.

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)  
Zelda Shapter

f. **BADBY CRICKET CLUB**

No report.

David MacIntyre

g. **MOUNTAIN BIKE AREA**

A member of the public asked whether it would be possible to work with the Parish Council to do repair and maintenance work to the BMX track at the playing field. It was agreed that further discussion needs to take place.

h. **BADBY ALLOTMENT SOCIETY**

Pauline Hartshorn asked for it to be reported that all the allotments are currently taken and there is a waiting. Ian Bromwich, as secretary to the Allotment Society, will always add names to it.

i. **BADBY JUBILEE COMMITTEE**

Report attached.

j. **BADBY & DISTRICT FILM SOCIETY**

Report attached.

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

**OPEN FORUM FOR PARISHIONERS**

- a) Zelda Shapter reported that a resident of Neneside Close would like to make a sign for the village. She had bought along an example. It was agreed that it would be put on the agenda for the June meeting of the Parish Council as well as an article put into the June newsletter.

There being no further questions the Chairman closed the meeting at 7.48pm.

# BADBY VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Registered Charity No: 304158

## Report to Badby Annual Parish Meeting, 14 May 2012

It has been an eventful year for both the Village Hall and the Management Committee. The Village Hall has a new floor and the committee a new Secretary but no longer has a Chairman.

In January, the committee appointed John Collins as its Secretary when Ian Bromwich stood down from the role. John has already shown that he is well up to the task and a welcome addition to the Management Committee. Unfortunately, the following month our Chairman, David Pearce, retired for personal reasons. Ian and David were not what I would term a natural pairing, but over the last 10 years and more have been a driving force for development of the Village Hall. It is thanks to them, with support from the other committee members, that Badby now has a Village Hall of which to be proud.

Thanks to a number of successful fund raising events organised by the Village Hall Management Committee, some generous personal donations and grants from Daventry and District Housing, Northamptonshire Community Foundation and Daventry District Council, the main hall floor was replaced last August and a few sections of modular staging purchased.

Use of the hall continues to increase and we now have a popular “Zumba” class each Tuesday evening. However, day to day running costs have also increased and the committee found it necessary to put up hire prices at the start of last winter.

Looking ahead, the committee is planning redecoration of the main hall later this summer (a joint venture with the Cummins Community Support team) and are progressing a subsidence claim for the 1974 extension with our insurers.

The Village Hall Management Committee’s Annual General Meeting is being held on 18<sup>th</sup> June at 7:30pm when the committee will present their report and accounts for the 2011/12. At present we have several vacancies on the Management Committee for representatives from regular Hall user groups and need to appoint a new Chairman – its your Village Hall come and get involved.

**Dick Earley**

## **Badby Jubilee Committee**

The committee was formed in February this year, and features broad representation from different groups and individuals in Badby. We felt that this was important to make sure that we give the Village the best celebration possible, especially for the benefit of our children.

The programme for the day will start with a shared lunchtime picnic for all villagers. The Windmill Inn has offered to run a bar on the Green and we hope to have an ice-cream van in attendance. A marquee will be provided in the event of inclement weather, and Main Street will be closed to through traffic.

There will be a Bouncy Castle provided free to all children aged 11 and under. A Tug-of-War will be held between The Windmill and The Maltsters (best of three men's and women's teams), also three-legged and egg & spoon races. There will be a children's fancy dress parade – with judging in 3 different categories – and a children's tea party on the Green for which all Badby village children under 11 have been invited. We will also have musicians playing at times during the day, and film footage of the 1953 Coronation will be screened at various times in the Village Hall.

Daventry District Council has graciously provided a grant of £275.00 which is to be used to purchase Jubilee tableware, some food for the children's tea party and bunting, the Bouncy Castle and prizes for the various races we have planned. It will also fund printed programmes for the day which will be delivered shortly to every household in the Village.

When you receive your programme, you will note that the proceedings start at 12 midday, finishing with a Family Barn Dance from 6 pm, with a fish- or sausage-and-chips supper for which there is a charge of £8.00 per adult, £4.00 for children. Please see *The Link* for further details.

*Sarah Hartland-Swann  
Badby Jubilee Committee  
May 2012*

# Badby & District Film Society

Statement for Badby Parish Council Annual Meeting 14<sup>th</sup> May 21012

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 4½ years, we have shown 86 different films and now have nearly 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 140 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 (in 2011) films about modern jazz. 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. We received £3,500 of grant aid for this project, thanks to the generous support of Northamptonshire Community Foundation (NCF), Daventry District Council (DDC) and others. This year we're about to launch another project for local young people to teach themselves about film-making, using an on-line training course on a specially-created website. NCF, DDC and others have helped fund the creation of the website by a local media skills organisation, Threshold Studios. The project is budgeted at £3,500, and includes some funding from the Film Society itself. The short films made by participants are to be screened at a special event later this year. 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 this Village Hall has proved to be a well-used and muchappreciated amenity.

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

