

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting, held on Tuesday 17th May 2005 at the Parish Office.

PRESENT: Cllr Morsley (Chair), Cllr Allum, Cllr Byfield, Cllr Figg, Cllr Hobson, Cllr Tripp, Cllr A Williams, Cllr S Williams, Cllr Williamson, Cllr Stabler, Cllr Perrott.

1. APOLOGIES: Cllr Russell, Cllr Wright, Cllr Pugh.

2. CHAIRMANS REPORT (Cllr Morsley): I begin by thanking my fellow Councillors for their support during the last year, everyone has done their bit to make Great Linford Parish Council an organisation that works for the people who we serve. I signal out for special praise Cllr Charles Allum and Cllr David Stabler, both of whom have devoted much time and effort to making their respective Committees work. People often do not realise the amount of time that is given up in meeting officers of Milton Keynes Council, to present our points of view (which all too often do not coincide with theirs). Cllr Byfields award of the MBE, was an honour both for himself (one that was richly deserved), and also for the Parish. Our Clerk and Finance Officer, Jenny Sharp deserves a special thank you from me, for her help in keeping me, like one of my gun dogs, pointed in the right direction. Her health has not been of the best recently, but that has not stopped her getting the best deal for the Parish whenever she can. Not everything in the garden, however is rosy, we do have some areas for concern and I refer to the problems we are having with youths at one of our local centres at Giffard Park. The off licence has had problems with troublemakers stealing alcohol, and generally causing mayhem. This has been reported to the police and hopefully this situation will be remedied in the very near future. Great Linford does not need behaviour like this, and the Council will do everything in its power to see it does not happen, at least within our boundaries. It may be necessary to consider making any area of concern within the Parish, an alcohol free zone. Sadly the Gyosei School is being demolished as this is being written, a sad end to one of Milton Keynes most attractive buildings.

3. MINUTES OF MEETING 2004:

The minutes of this meeting were approved as a true record on 15th June 2004.

4. REPORT FROM THAMES VALLEY POLICE:

Inspector Tim Davis attended and advised that due to re-organisation Milton Keynes had become the smallest of five new sectors (previously one of the biggest of ten). The new Neighbourhood Policing divides the northern sector into four parishes, with Great Linford being the largest. Inspector Davis hopeful of obtaining one more officer in the near future. It is accepted by the police that Conniburrow has the largest number of offences in the sector, with 201 Criminal Damage offences reported during the last period. Last year the emphasis was on Burglary and Robbery, Criminal Damage and Violent Crime are now to be included. Inspector Davis stated that he was aware of the Giffard Park problems, but that he felt it was also the problem of all stakeholders. He will be arranging a meeting which will include off licence, property owners, parish council, neighbourhood watch etc. The CCTV system will also be examined to make sure that it is of the highest quality.

Neighbourhood Watch is also a large part of the new strategy, the aim being to form many more groups, victims of crime will also be given security advice. Inspector Davis asked the Council to maybe consider an "alcohol dry area" within with Parish. Offences of Graffiti are now being recorded and the detection rate of offenders is quite high. We now have a Police Community Safety Officer working in the Parish. Funding for the first year will be totally by the government, who will then provide 25% in second year, after that no funding. Parish Council will then need to decide whether they wish to provide funding to retain the officer. Sgt Chris Geen will be joining the area squad on 6th June 2005. Inspector Davis closed by advising the Council that an officer will be attending the majority of their meetings, he then answered questions from the Councillors.

5. REPORTS FROM PARISH GROUPS & ORGANISATIONS:

There were no representatives present.

6. RESIDENTS QUESTIONS:

There were no residents present.

The Meeting closed at 7.45pm