

Hamstead Marshall Parish Council

Minutes of the annual assembly of the Parish Council held on Tuesday, 20th May, 2014 in the village hall

Present:

Cllr Stuart Morton
Cllr John Handy
Cllr Peter Benest
Cllr John Phillips
Sarah Bosley, parish clerk
5 members of the public

1. Welcome

Chairman Cllr John Handy welcomed everyone and introduced the councillors.

2. Parish council report

Cllr Handy thanked the previous chairman Gordon Fisher for his dedication to the parish council for more than 40 years. Mr Fisher moved out of the area and so retired from the council earlier in the year.

He also reported on planning issues, most notably Rickety Gate Farm and Enborne Equestrian Centre.

He updated parishioners on the Superfast Broadband Project, which the parish council has not contributed any money to because there has been no evidence that Hamstead Marshall will benefit a great deal.

Roads – Rain has had an adverse effect on the roads. Hamstead Marshall does appear to have got away quite lightly however. Although Ash Tree Grove has experienced flooding, West Berkshire Council has been carrying out remedial works and it is hoped things will improve.

Crime – There have been a number of break ins in the area, where a great deal of high value kit has been stolen. There has been a lot of support from the police for all concerned.

Elm Farm is also working on a biomass heating scheme, which could be used by local residents.

Cllr Handy's full report is attached to these minutes.

3. Thames Valley Police report

TVP offered apologies that none of its officers could attend, due to operational duties. A report was sent to the clerk by PCSO Joanna King and was read out to councillors. A copy is attached to these minutes.

4. Flooding at Ash Tree Grove

Cllr Budd reported that on Easter Sunday there had been flooding in Ash Tree Grove that is believed to have been due to over capacity of drains. She noted that residents were able to stem the flood but two days later there were two other flooding incidents in the same day. West Berkshire Council was contacted and responded quickly, agreeing to carry out works. Cllr Budd voiced her appreciation of all the WBC and Volker did. There are still bits of work to be completed however. Sovereign Housing also acted quickly, providing sandbags. At the height of the flooding there was 12cm of water in the affected homes. Work has been carried out since then to divert flood water from Holtwood Road coming into Ash Tree Grove. She also thanked the parish council for all its support.

5. Open Forum

There were no comments or questions from the floor.

6. Close of meeting

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

Date:

Signed:

Print name: