

EYDON PARISH ASSEMBLY  
21<sup>st</sup> April 2009

1. **Present:** Councillors P. Broome, M. Hawes, J. Ellis, G. Denby, S. Russell, and R. Blanshard. Dr. K. Lodge, Mr. D. Kench, B. McRoberts, E. Shinton, County Councillor Ken Melling, District Councillor R. Herring, PC Gez Shillito, PCSO Scott Cochrane and the Clerk Mrs. J. M. Rowling.
2. **Apologies:** Councillor Russocki, Mr. R. Whitfield, PC Martyn Dearsley, and District Councillor M.A. Sergison Brooke.
3. The Chairman of Parish Council welcomed everyone.
4. Minutes of Annual Parish Assembly 2008 were confirmed as signed by the Chairman.
5. No matters arising
6. PC Gez Shillito read out PC Dearsley's (included in annual report). In addition, he stated that parking on the pavement is not an offence providing there is no obstruction for wheelchair or pushchair users. He agreed to give Neighbourwatch cards and the return box to Royal Oak for residents to complete.
7. SN Councillor R. Herring spoke on the reduction of interest income for the SNC. This could have a disastrous effect on the longterm. To reduce salaries, all posts are frozen. Interim Planning Policy document just going for consultation is an attempt to provide guidelines to preserve quality development in South Northants. Training sessions are arranged for Parish Councillors to participate on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2-4 at South Northamptonshire Offices. Councillor Herring is Chairman of Social and Community Committee, a member of the Health Scrutiny Committee at NCC, a Governor of . . . Young Persons Champion in which with SN Youth Council she is launching a campaign to reduce young deaths on the roads by increasing awareness of the hazards of speed, poor road conditions and drug and alcohol misuse. Rightracks- a government funded body, part of National Road Safety Campaign, has given Northamptonshire £1.5m for the Casualty Reduction Unit to review amongst others, A361 and B4525. Local villages will have access to mobile caravan which can attend local functions. She commended us all to visit [www.oxfordpct.nhs.uk](http://www.oxfordpct.nhs.uk) for minutes of meetings to support the continuation of services at the Horton. Problems of European Working Directive increase funding requirements. An Open Day at the Horton is planned in the style of the old fete. Consideration is being given to more recycling facilities for plastics and food waste.
8. County Councillor Ken Melling gave an overview of West Northants Development Corporation- a quango to plan both industrial and housing sites in Northampton, Daventry and Towcester to meet government targets. The Management Board of 13, appointed by Government, includes 5 councillors. Unfortunately, both the Chairman and Chief Executive have resigned. Each district has its own planning committee of four Board members and three councillors plus planning officers seconded from the Districts. Their remit is large applications, which, if unsuitable, cannot be refused but referred back to the applicant. 'Roof tax' of £20,000, in theory, pays for the quango. Present economic climate is unfavourable. West Northants Joint Planning Unit, setup by Government Office of the East Midlands (GOEM) has representatives from the Councils of Northampton Borough, South Northants, Daventry District

and Northamptonshire County to establish an outline plan, for example, for housing, industry. Planning staff is seconded from the local councils.

Partnership board of 12 councillors.

The proposals will be available for consultation after 27/05/2009.

The County Council is aware of the appalling state of the roads. There are Budget constraints plus a backlog of repairs. Please report problems to Street Doctor or if that fails to Helen Howard Community Manager or Mark Gatland Community Steward.

Each County Councillor has an Empowerment Fund of £10000 per annum.

Previously, Councillor Melling has used this resource to support major work in Middleton Cheney and Kings Sutton. He would be willing to support small applications from the smaller villages for useful projects where the Parish Council can match funding.

The Chairman complimented the NCC on this years' winter gritting programme. He welcomed the local use of grit bins and cooperation of farmers with snowploughs.

#### 9. Parish Council Chairman's Report.

A number of controversial applications have been discussed this year involving attendance at SNC Development Control and site meetings to give an added strength to the Council's views. Both the District Councillors have supported these.

#### **Eydon Community Sports Field**

The process has been completed for the PC becoming the Custodian Trustee for both of the new Charities (EVH & ECSF), which now operate totally independently from each other. The PC holds title to both premises and is registered as such at Land Registry. The Parish Council has made a valuable contribution by giving its support to the process and, in particular, by meeting all of the legal costs involved in recognition of the long-term benefit to the village as a whole. Under the terms of the new charities the PC has appointed a member to sit on both EVH & ECSF management committees in order to represent the interests of residents as a whole rather than any specific user organisation. Other than having a representative on the two committees, the Parish Council, as Custodian Trustee, has no official role in the day-to-day management of either of the two facilities.

David Kench is owed a large vote of thanks by the whole for his diligence in the successful completion of this task taking him many hours of work.

10. Website Councillor Denby gave the outline of the website and links in readiness for its launch in May 2009.

11. Finance Report Councillor Denby commented on the accounts 2007-8 already audited, the unaudited accounts for 2008-9, and the budget for 2009-10.

12. Eydon Educational Trust Fund Councillor Ellis presented the report attached to the Annual Report.

13. Village Springclean Councillor Hawes reported on the success of this on 14<sup>th</sup> March. Village cleanup is on August 22<sup>nd</sup> in readiness for fete.

14. Eydon Community Sports Field. Mr McRoberts reported that we are continuing to move forward with the Committee's aim which is to provide facilities and events in the Sports Field for the village.

There is a calendar of events which are held on the Sports Field. The field is used also by the Cricket Club, which has had a good season of cricket.

We now have a planning application in for the Multi use Games Area and are continuing to raise funds for this.

The Eydon Community Sports Field is now a Charity in its own right which is a great help in fundraising.

I would like to thank the Parish Council for their support of the Sports Field.

Mr McRoberts replied to the Chairman that the committee meetings were not open to members of the public. The area for the contractor to mow will be marked out.

Concern was raised that the blue roller is propped with a brick only.

15. Village Design Statement Councillor Hawes explained the statement of purpose.

16. Any other business

a. Culworth Road Burial Ground. Mr Kench congratulated the Parish Council on the well-maintained facility.

b. Welcome to Eydon Pack. Mr Kench offered to help with the updating for new residents.

17. Meeting closed 9.26pm