

BROOME PARISH COUNCIL

**Chairman – Cllr A Allen
Clerk – Mrs Bev Drew**

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Broome Parish Council
held on Wednesday 8th May, 2024 at 7.00pm, Broome Village Hall.**

1. Welcome:- The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Present:- Cllr. Amanda Allen, Cllr. Don Billington, Cllr. Mark Billingham, Cllr. Sarah Riding, Cllr Michael Whitehouse.

Also, present were Mrs. Bev Drew (Clerk), District Cllr Ian Hardiman and 2 parishioners.

2. Minutes of the Meeting Held on 10th May 2023:-

These were agreed as a true and accurate record and will be signed with no amendments.

3. Chairman's Annual Report:-

This year sees my first as Chair of the Parish Council and I am pleased to present my Annual Report.

Following the uncontested elections in May 2023 the existing five Council members who stood for election were reappointed. Although George Brown resigned in June we welcomed three new Councillors to our ranks through co-option, Robert Clarke, Sarah Riding and Michael Whitehouse. Unfortunately Robert Clarke had to subsequently step down and long standing member, Sherida Breedon, announced in April that she was retiring.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sherida, Robert and George for the contributions they have each made to the Parish Council.

As a result of the resignations we now have 2 casual vacancies. As no election has been requested we are looking to fill these vacancies through co-option.

At our January meeting our Lengthsman, Bill Waldron, announced his decision to retire. On behalf of the Parish Council I would like to thank Bill for all the work he has done and support he has provided over the years as our Parish Lengthsman.

I am however pleased to announce that we have a new Lengthsman joining us, Russell Peach and we look forward to working with him as he settles into his role with us.

One of the main projects during the year was the setting up of the new Website. This went live in early 2024. The launch of the Website was announced to residents through Flyers and in the Parish Magazine. In addition to promoting the Parish Council, we hope the Website will provide a useful source of information to residents generally.

Fly tipping and litter continues to be a problem. The new signs which have been placed in the areas most affected may hopefully act to discourage those who seek to blight our Parish through their illegal dumping of rubbish and littering.

Following the activation of the vehicle activated sign (VAS) on the A450 in Hackmans Gate we are now able to monitor the speeding through this area which continues to be an issue. We are seeking to address this and Marcus Hart, in his role as County Councillor, has been lobbying both the WCC Highways department and the Police regarding enforcement.

On the Planning front, the Council has considered and commented on a number of planning applications during the year. In addition members of the Wyre Forest Planning team provided a very helpful training session for Councillors, giving welcome guidance not just on the planning process but planning enforcement and biodiversity.

Lastly, a few acknowledgements

- to our three District Councillors who have supported us over the year
- to my fellow Council members for their service to the Parish and the time and support they have given to the community
- to Bev Drew, our clerk, for her guidance and invaluable contribution to both the Council and its members and in particular for her time and dedication in getting our Website up and running

4. Reports to Annual Parish Meeting

a) Broome United Charities –

Mrs Pheysey advised that the Broome United Charities was set up in January 1972 from money left from people in the village. There are 3 trustees, the Vicar, Diana Pheysey and Nicola Speakman. The interest from the money is used every year for Christmas parcels which are delivered to the poorer people who have lived, or still do live in the Parish.

Income and Expenditure accounts for the year ending 28th February 2024

Income		Expenditure	
COIF Interest	£167.68	December 2023 parcels	£156.85
COIF Deposit Interest	£10.37		
		Excess income over expenditure	£21.20
Total Income	<u>£178.05</u>		<u>£178.05</u>

Balance Sheet as at 28th February 24

28 th Feb 23 COIF	£201.82	28 th Feb 24 COIF	£199.87
28 th Feb 23 Lloyds	£1.73	28 th Feb 24 Lloyds	£24.88
Excess Income over expenditure	£21.20	Excess Income over expenditure	£0.00
	<u>£224.75</u>		<u>£224.75</u>

The trustees met this year to make arrangements for the Christmas parcels for 2023 and gifts were distributed by the Trustees on 16th December to 10 recipients.

The gifts consist of food hampers, and smaller Christmas hampers containing store cupboard items. Also for those in care or hospital, they received plants and biscuits.

Trustees;

Vicar vacant as currently no vicar in Broome

Nicola Speakman appointed September 2016, re-appointed September 2020

Diana Pheysey appointed May 2012, re-appointed May 2016, May 2020

Both Diana and Nicola need re-appointing again for 4 years. (This is on the Parish Council agenda)

b) Chaddesley Education Foundation -

Educational Bursaries

The Foundation aims to provide bursaries for those individuals under 25 and normally resident within the Ancient Parish of Chaddesley Corbett for financial assistance to participate in activities at any school, university or other place of learning. Also for financial assistance with the costs of preparing for entry to any trade, profession or calling. Support for beneficiaries in pursuing music and the performing arts is particularly encouraged. The Trust is also able to provide assistance with the cost of travel associated with educational activities.

In 2023, approximately 66 properties in the Parish of Broome fell within the Ancient Parish of Chaddesley Corbett, mostly at Yieldingtree and on the far side of Belbroughton Road and Hackmans Gate Lane. These properties were included in a mail shot inviting applications from qualifying individuals for the bursaries.

£14,000 was set aside for the purpose throughout Chaddesley Corbett Ancient Parish, with most applicants receiving £500 each; there were two successful applicants from Broome Parish.

General

During the Financial Year (2023), the Foundation provided grants to Chaddesley Corbett Endowed Primary School amounting to just over £42,000, as well as the individual bursaries mentioned above.

The Foundation, through its elected committee, continues to effectively manage a portfolio of properties as well as to maintain sound investments to ensure that the aims of the Charity are fulfilled.

c) No other reports

5. Residents Open Forum

Mrs Pheysey commented on an increased number of Police incidents in Broome. The Chairman advised that one of the three Parish Council police priorities is increased patrols around the Parish.

Meeting closed at 7.19pm.

Signed.....(Chairman)

Dated.....