

PARISH OF ODCOMBE

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 16th APRIL 2018 AT THE VILLAGE HALL, ODCOMBE (8.10 P.M. – 8.15 P.M.)

Present:

Mrs D Rennie, Chairman, Odcombe Parish Council
Mrs E James, Clerk, Odcombe Parish Council
County Councillor Mark Keating
District Councillor Mrs Seaton
13 members of the public

1. Apologies for absence

An apology for absence was received from Rev A Gurney

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 24th April 2017

The minutes of the meeting held on 24th April 2017 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. Annual Report of the Parish Council

Mrs Rennie gave the annual report of the Parish Council, which is attached to the minutes.

4. Open Session

There were no questions raised in the open session.

5. Date of next Annual Parish Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 15th April 2019

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

Report - Odcombe Parish Council 2018

Odcombe Parish Council have met every month over the past year. There is a full quota of councillors who have attended various committees, training and forums to represent the village over the past year and we are grateful for their commitment.

A village working party led by Rob Parr pruned the plantings in recreation field and tidied the area up. A penguin litter bin has been purchased and placed in the play area and littering has been reduced here.

The traffic calming measures in Old Road between Ham Hill Road and the Village Hall entrance have been completed. Street lighting has been provided at the site of each hump. County Highways have also increased and upgraded signage in an effort to reduce the speed of traffic as it enters the village in several locations.

The Parish Council have had the finger signposts at the Ham Hill Road and Chinnock Road crossroads repainted and they now look very smart.

The precept has been increased to cover the reduction in the grant which SSDC have given us in the past. This grant is being reduced year on year until its removal next year. A village ranger is employed to undertake minor maintenance around the village. The new ranger works extremely hard to keep hedges trimmed around road signs and the play area and provides some extra cuts for visibility splays. She tries to keep gullies and drains clear, pavements and car parks weed free and removes as much of the litter as she is able in her hours.

The Parish Council gives grants towards the maintenance of the village hall, the Churchyard and to support the Citizen's Advice Bureau.

South Somerset Play and Youth support put on a play day at Odcombe playing fields where the Parish Council made a small grant and Parish Councillors supported the event by manning the refreshments. A large number of youngsters enjoyed birds of prey, a bouncy castle, roller-skating, face painting, go carts, soft play and arts and crafts. The police were also in attendance and we were blessed with glorious weather.

Thanks must be made to our District Councillors – Mark Keating and Gina Seaton who have offered much support at district and county level and kept the Parish Council up to date on what is occurring at their council meetings by both regular reports and attending our meetings.

Special thanks must be made to the Parish Clerk Mrs Elizabeth James for her hard work over the past year. Her comprehensive knowledge of the rules and procedures that govern Parish Councils has proved as invaluable as ever.