

MINUTES OF FIVEHEAD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
Held on Tuesday 30 April 2019 at 2000 at The Village Hall, Stowey Road Fivehead

Present: K Beacham (Chair); J Wardle (Clerk/RFO); 19 parishioners
The Chair welcomed everyone and introduced Parish Council Members and the Clerk.
1. Apologies for absence Apologies were received from P Brett, K Male, J Mahoney, E Balmer, A Barrett, D Allen, B Harvey.
2. Minutes The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 1 May 2018 were agreed and signed. Proposed: O Howard and seconded N Cameron. Carried unan.
3. Matters arising from the minutes None.
4. Reports from village organisations a) Introduction by the Chair KB welcomed everyone and introduced those Parish Council (PC) members who were present: Kate Beacham (Chair), Laura Howard (Vice Chair), and members Nina Cameron and Rob Wyn, and the Clerk Jill Wardle. She advised that the PC updates information and decisions from monthly meetings via the email list, noticeboard, website and the Community Matters Newsletter published bi-monthly. She confirmed that it would be helpful if anyone not signed up to the village e mail list could do so; the Clerk has a sign-up sheet available; any correspondence comes BCC (Blind Carbon Copy) and personal details remain private. If you visit the website and sign up to the notification system, you receive an email every time a new article is placed on the site. She then thanked PC members and the Clerk for their hard work and diligence during the past year. b) Reports (attached to minutes) were received and read by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Parish Council - Chair's report• Playing Field Management Committee• Village Hall Management Committee• Drama Group• Fellowship & Leisure Club• Garden Club• Golf Society• Rights of Way Volunteer Group• Litter Collection• St Martins Church• Baptist Church• Village Website• Tree Warden The Chair thanked committee members and parishioners for the reports and their continued hard work during the year. The Chair made a presentation to retiring District Councillor Sue Steele thanking her for years of dedicated service to the parish and the surrounding area.

The meeting closed at 2100. Refreshments were then served.

Chairman..... Dated.....

Annex - reports

Name of organisation: Parish Council

Report by: Kate Beacham (Chair)

The PC updates information and decisions from our monthly meetings via the email list, noticeboard, website and our Community Matters Newsletter published bi-monthly. As all our activities are in the public domain, I will make my report succinct.

1. Langford Corner new design by Greenshutters is underway, ground has been cleared for action, trees have been planted and later this week the turf should be laid. The PC thanks everyone involved in helping to make this a pretty area of the village.
2. Repainting of the Cemetery Railings and New Signs – it certainly looks smart now it has had a ‘makeover’ and we hope to keep it that way.
3. Cold Calling - digital plan sent to Avon and Somerset Police to make Fivehead a ‘No Cold Calling Zone’ awaiting police response. Unfortunately, we have had to abandon plans to resurrect Speedwatch as we could not get sufficient volunteers.
4. We have a WW1 memorial seat awaiting erection on the Village Green thanks to a very kind donation from The Stable Coffee Shop.

Plans for the year ahead:

1. We now have 2 co-ordinators for Neighbourhood Watch, the latest being part of Ganges Close, there is also coverage around Millers Orchard and The Glebe. We hope to build on this in the near future, anyone wanting to be involved in any capacity please contact Kate Beacham.
2. PC is hopeful that the Pound will be repaired/restored this year. We are also looking to Register the land for the village.
3. Emergency Plan – 3 Grit bins have been purchased as part of the Emergency Plan; these will be filled by Somerset County Council. If anyone has not yet volunteered but wishes to be involved in the plan, please contact Oliver Howard.

Name of organisation: Fivehead Playing Fields

Report by: Frank Doggett (Chair)

I am pleased to report that the committee has had a successful year of innovation and improvement.

‘What’s’ New

- * New Safety Surfacing on the children’s playground
- * Entrance gates refurbished
- * Security post installed
- * Adult exercise equipment provided

Thanks to all our committee members for their hard work in making these projects possible. Thanks also to the Parish Council, organisations and individuals who have helped raise the necessary funds.

What’s Next

Together with the Village Hall Committee and possibly the Parish Council, we will be buying a new marquee, hopefully in time for the Summer Fete on 13 July 2019.

Name of organisation: Fivehead Village Hall

Report by: Margaret Knox (Secretary)

The financial situation is secure with redecorating work undertaken at no cost to our funds thanks to a grant from the National Lottery. Western Painting was the firm chosen to undertake repainting the building internally. This was done over the February school half term to minimise disruption to lettings which continue at a high level. A second grant sourced from Somerset Community Foundation will be put towards the cost of sanding and resealing the main hall floor, hopefully during the summer holiday period. We thank Pip Brett for all her work in applying, so successfully, for these grants on our behalf.

Various essential policies, in line with government dictates have been prepared and adopted, to name but a few, GDPR, Safeguarding and, the latest, a Legionella Risk Assessment, thank you Rob Wynn for all your work on this one. Historical papers held with Battens, solicitors in Yeovil, have been studied and it is confirmed that our Charity Deed dated 7 December 1971 is our Constitution. The Community Council for Somerset (CCS) Community Buildings Advisor, having studied the document, does not recommend making any changes. It is fit for purpose. Our security was upgraded during the year but we are currently experiencing some problems which are under investigation.

Fund raising events have been well attended. They include two quizzes, one being Christmas themed, Open Gardens, the Summer Fete and two village walks. Support at these social events has been good, draws the village together and is much appreciated.

Looking even further ahead than refurbishing the floor we want to simplify the main hall internal lighting system. We are aware that lights are on at inappropriate times, users complain about the

quality of the light and it seems impossible to find an electrician able to rectify the problem. A new system, once in place, will be cheaper to run. Other plans are for improved external lighting, improving the locking mechanism of the fire doors and replacing aged white goods in the kitchen. All in good time.

We would like to thank the Parish Council for their generous grant which covers the mortgage interest payments and goes towards a selected project, all the committee members for their work in many spheres and everyone who has given time and financial assistance to the day to day running of the hall. Generous donations have been received from Matravers Engineering and Bruce Whittle. The Committee have been pleased to house, in the committee room, the commemorative memorabilia, painstaking co-ordinated by Mr Howard, relating to the Fivehead Friendly Society and those villagers lost in warfare whilst fighting for their country. New Trustees are always wanted and needed to keep the hall and its facilities moving forward, supplying a safe, social space for us all to enjoy.

Name of organisation: Fivehead Drama Group

Report by: Harry Price (Chair)

The Drama Group had an excellent year concluding with the Pantomime *Snow White* in January with increased numbers in the audience up by 40% with a record number at the matinee.

In July a full house were entertained at our Summer revue when the audience seated at round tables are treated to an evening of Music, Drama and comedy with a ploughman's supper served during the interval.

Notable points of year.

1. Encouraging increase in younger members.
2. Audiences up for the revue and pantomime 60% increase since 2017
3. Financially sound enabling us to consider increased donations to local groups

Aims for 2019

1. Retain and increase members both young and old.
2. Invest in new sound equipment or lighting
3. Increase audiences again.

Name of organisation: Fivehead Fellowship & Leisure Club

Report by: Mr Chris Jackson (Chair)

Highlights of the year:

1. Coach Trips. The June trip was to Swanage in Dorset. We travelled to Norden where after a coffee break we caught the steam train to Swanage. We arrived there in time for lunch and then had the afternoon to wander at leisure around the town. The September Mystery Trip was a coach ride to Burnham-on-Sea where we stopped for a walk along the sea front before making our way to Cheddar travelling up the gorge and onto Wells and Shepton Mallet. We then went on to Lydford on Fosse for a very nice evening meal in the local pub.
2. Our Spring and Christmas lunches were well attended again with everyone enjoying a four-course meal on both occasions.
3. During the year we had six talks with a wide range of topics. We had the author Sue Medcalf talking about her character Itchybald Scratchett, and two people who had been contestants on the BBC's Bargain Hunt. A talk by Daphne Atkinson about her mother's experiences of life below stairs and Sally Nex telling us what is like behind the scenes at Chelsea Flower Show and finally Lucy Hooper told us about the work of the Dogs' Trust. There was something for just about everybody.

Plans for the year ahead:

1. We will be having our day outing this year on the 4 June when we will be taking the coach to West Bay for a coffee stop and a chance to stretch our legs before getting back on the coach for the short trip to the sub-tropical garden at Abbotsbury. We will spend the afternoon in these gardens before we pick the coach up for our journey home. On the 3 September we will be having our evening mystery outing by coach. You will have to come on the trip to find out where we are going on this trip.
2. We have not had a spring lunch this year, instead as a change we had some games of beetle drive followed by a cream tea. Our Christmas lunch will be on the 3 December and

again will be held in the village hall. This meal will consist of a four-course meal with sherry or orange juice before the meal and tea or coffee afterwards.

3. We will again have six varied talks during the year, all of which will be in the village hall. We have already had a sing song with Catherine Mowat. The second talk was about hidden Somerset. This was a talk by Mike Bolton about the lesser known places and land marks in Somerset. The next talk is by Ray Budd who will be giving his reminiscences of the BBC's 'Black & White Minstrels' programme. Future talks will be about Guitars – made and played, Flying with Style and food for free - foraging.

Name of organisation: Fivehead Garden Society

Report by: Mrs Phillipa Brett (Secretary)

We had a number of projects to concentrate on this year, but mainly finding a long-term solution to keep Langford Corner tidy and to bring some colour to our Village Green, which in days gone by used to attract visitors from far and wide due to its array of spring flowers.

We have made a good start on both projects which we hope has improved the appearance of the centre of our beautiful Village.

Our club members were again very generous in opening their gardens for us to have a nose around, and learn all about their planting schemes and other useful tips. The Wilsons at Red Post House were particularly accommodating as they also opened their beautiful gardens in support of the National Gardens Scheme, a most worthwhile charity.

In October we had the pleasure of a talk by Kath Crouch, BBC Garden Designer of the decade, which was most amusing. With all these events and activities and increased membership it is terribly sad that the Fivehead Gardening Club will be folding soon unless a replacement Secretary can be found. Please let us know if you would like to step in and lend a hand.

Name of organisation: Crown Fivehead Golf Society

Report by: Mr Harr Price (Chair)

In 2018 the Crown Fivehead Golf Society celebrated the 33rd Anniversary of its formation in 1985. The Somerset & Dorset Air Ambulance was our charity for year and at our AGM in January we presented a cheque for £1500.

Notable points of year

1. Full programme of events from March to October
2. 10 new members recruited
3. £800 raised on our Charity Day

Aims for 2019

1. Continue to recruit new members
2. Have a successful Charity Day this year for Love Musgrove
3. Seek new venues for our outings to add interest and encourage more attendees.

We thank Jacqui and Steve at the Crown as host of the Society and housing our Trophy cabinet and all the members and friends who support our fund raising.

Name of organisation: Rights of Way Volunteer Group

Report by: Jacquie Mahoney (Parish Paths Liaison Officer)

Highlights of the year:

Following the village survey evening last year when we recruited a number of new recruits. These new parish paths volunteers, and our existing stalwarts, are doing a great job of ensuring that paths are kept in good condition for us all to enjoy. Reported issues so far have been relatively minor and all resolved.

Thank you to the parish council for arranging and funding extra clearance in addition to that already being done by our volunteers as without it some routes would have had limited access.

Volunteers are always welcome so please speak to either Jacquie or Margaret Knox if you are interested.

Just a reminder that faults such as broken stiles or blocked paths can be reported through Jacquie – or through the Explore Somerset interactive map <https://roam.somerset.gov.uk/roam/map> which lets you log the issue on the map and also upload photos to help wardens easily locate the problem. You can also leave an email address to receive updates when the issue is resolved.

By email: rightsofway@somerset.gov.uk

By phone: 0300 123 2224

Plans for the year ahead: PPLO will be working with our webmaster and Clerk to get more information about the parish paths onto the Fivehead village website. This will include information about the PPLO and volunteer's roles and my contact details, our paths and a map of the current rights of way.

Name of organisation: Litter Collection

Report by: Viv Fouracre (Litter Champion)

A small group of volunteers have done an excellent job collecting litter from the roadside in the parish – 22 black bin bags were collected by Viv alone using her bicycle and trailer. Litter in ditches and hedgerows gets chopped-up by hedge-trimming leading to blocked ditches and damage to wildlife as well as being unsightly. The majority of 'historical' litter (including plastics over 20 years old) has now been removed but littering continues from passing vehicles so the job continues – new volunteers are always welcome.

Name of organisation: St Martin's Church

Report by: Ellen Balmer

Yet another busy and successful year at St Martins with our Rector Scott Patterson. Many thanks to all the support we receive from the village.

We have 4 or 5 services a month including Morning and Evening Prayer, two Holy Communions and a Friends and Family Service plus an occasional Benefice Service with St Andrews, Curry Rivel and St Catherine's, Swell.

Easter and the variety of Services over Christmas are always well attended. Everyone is always very welcome to come along; you can be assured of a warm welcome at any time of the year.

During the past year we have held our usual fund-raising events including Pig, Wig, Swig and a Jig, Annual Plant Sale, Teddy Bears Picnic with Cream Teas, Open Garden teas at Mervyn and Margaret Wilsons, Harvest Lunch, Soup and Pud and Christmas Fair.

This year we have managed to have the Church yard Wall rebuilt with help from Lottery Funding. The porch has been repaired, slipped tiles replaced, coping stones re bedded. All this could not be managed without the support we receive at our fund-raising events - thank you!

Name of organisation: Fivehead Baptist Church

Report by: Rev Laurie Burn

Fivehead Baptist Church is a community of Christian people gathered from Fivehead village and surrounding area who meet to worship in our building which has been the church's home since 1861. Situated as we are in the centre of the village, right next to St Martin's Church, we try to work together to provide a united Christian witness and to serve the village. The best-attended joint service was the 2018 Remembrance Day service, which started at St Martins, moved to the War Memorial, then concluded in the Baptist Church. Extra chairs had to be brought in! The annual Christmas Carols in the Crown was another jointly run event, well supported.

During the past year we have welcomed a number of new attenders at church, some of whom have recently moved into Fivehead, and our membership has grown by 12 members.

The main service we provide to the village is The Stable Community Café which is managed and maintained by the Baptist Church but is run by a team of volunteers which includes people from St Martin's Church and the wider community. We open every week from 2.00pm Wednesday to Saturday 1.00pm and provide a meeting place for the community. The Stable is not-for-profit and any surplus funds above our agreed reserve level are periodically donated to local and international causes. During the past year, £500 has been donated towards the new exercise equipment on the playing field, and a further £500 towards the memorial bench planned for the green by the war memorial. On Thursday evenings we run a Youth Café - an informal drop-in for young people aged 11-19, which is well attended.

On Monday mornings we run Stepping Stones – a group for babies, toddlers and carers, with free play, crafts, music, "messy worship", Bible story and snacks. Normally about 20 children attend with mums, dads, grandparents and child-minders.

Monthly on the second Monday we hold an informal service for residents of St Martins Close. We enjoy a cup of coffee and cake, then sing well-known songs of praise, with a thought for the day and prayers.

During the year Karen Burn started a monthly Contact Lunch for people who live alone. On the third Tuesday of each month about 15 people come for a two-course meal and good conversation. One of our guests, who is 95, often reads one of her poems to the guests!

In November we held a TEAR Fund Big Quiz Night which was very popular and raised several hundred pounds for TEAR Fund. We also collect food items for the Taunton Food Bank and several of our members are volunteers at the Langport branch, which opens every Wednesday afternoon.

In March this year we held a Wildlife Photography Exhibition in The Stable and Church Hall, which was very successful and attracted large numbers of local people as well as wildlife enthusiasts from Somerset and further afield. Over 300 people signed the Visitors' Book, The Stable opened for six days and the volunteers were run off their feet, as well as nearly running out of cake!

On 2 April we are host to the Oddments Theatre Company for a dramatic performance of Pilgrim's Progress, aimed at families and children. We are also sponsoring an afternoon performance in Curry Rivel School.

Name of organisation: Website and Social Media Report

Report by: Andrew Barrett (Webmaster)

Website – www.fivehead-village.org.uk

Twitter - [@fiveheadvillage](https://twitter.com/fiveheadvillage)

Facebook – [Fivehead Village](https://www.facebook.com/fiveheadvillage)

Actions from Last Year's Meeting/Highlights

1. Make Website GDPR Compliant

Website now includes our Data Protection policy which is GDPR compliant.

2. Increase hits by Search Engines

Exact number of referrals from search engines is not known, but the total number of views since 2014 is 56,000, up from 31,000 last year or an 83% increase. This follows an 100% increase the previous year and reflects the importance of the internet to all, individuals, social groups and commercial organisations.

3. Greater Involvement from Community Groups

Failed! Can I remind everyone that the website and social media accounts are open for the community at large to make use of? Very few social groups do so although some individuals do make use of both. Remember, all Posts on the website are posted also on:

- Facebook (www.facebook.com/fiveheadvillage); and
- Twitter (www.twitter.com/fiveheadvillage)

In addition, many are also circulated via the village email alert system.

Action for coming year.

1. Accessibility

There is a requirement to make the website accessible to all, including the blind. In most respects our website is compliant, but some work is still required, especially with regard to font styles and colours as well as to the posting of PDF files which are used extensively for the circulation of documents such as the Parish Council minutes.

In order to meet all requirements, it may be easier to create a new website using different colour and layout schemes. Clearly this a large undertaking, but it would at least result in a more modern looking website, or at least it should! Before taking on such an undertaking I welcome views of the present website as well as any future one.

Name of organisation: Tree Warden

Report by: Rob Leighton

Ash disease still prevails but there is optimism that some resistance is now being demonstrated. There have been no recent communications from the RSPB. The online link to the SSDC Tree Warden is not working (this will be reported by District Councillor S Steele). Various saplings are available from R Leighton.