

## Arnside Parish Assembly 28 April 2016

**Minutes: of the Annual Parish meeting (known as the Parish Assembly) for the Civil Parish of Arnside held in the WI Hall Orchard Rd, Arnside at 7pm on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2015.**

**Present:** Chair, Cllr George Taylor, Arnside Parish Council Clerk, Anne- Marie Cade, 20 members of the public including members of the Council, PCO Martin Boak and guest speakers from several local organisations.

- 1. Welcome and Introduction:** The Chair thanked all for attending and introduced the speakers.
- 2. Minutes of the Previous Annual Parish Meeting:** The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in the WI Hall, Orchard Road, Arnside on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2015 were circulated, approved and signed by the Chair.
- 3. Annual Report of the Parish Council:** Cllr George Taylor, The Chair of Arnside Parish Council presented a summary of council activity and achievements over the last year which covered the following: a) changes in Council membership and a request for further members of the public to apply to join the Council, b) changes to staffing with the appointment of Jonathan Cartmel as Responsible Finance Officer/ Deputy Clerk and the resignation of the Cemetery Custodian, David Brockbank due to ill health. Thanks given to the custodian and Brenda Brockbank for her continued voluntary work as Cemetery Administrator c) Finance - The amount paid by each household to the Parish Council precept has been kept the same for three years and the Council's accounts for 2014-15 were found to be in accordance with regulations by the Auditors. d) Council Activities including support for the campaign to retain the fire station, members attending regional and local meetings, allotments - fitting of a new tap and gate, the workshop on the playing field has been let, e) the Cemetery now has a ten year development plan and a tree management plan a coffee morning organised by Brenda and David Brockbank raised money for new chapel chairs and equipment and are thanked for their work on this. f) next year the Council plans to prioritise highways repair/ traffic management needs, carry out repairs to the stonework and and repaint the promenade railings, consider new benches and equipment for the playground assess street lighting needs and survey the condition of memorial benches and street furniture h) thanks are given to local groups that arrang the fire work display and the Christmas tree including people attending the sailing club and the managers of "community fund" set up by David Willacy i) thanks also given to all volunteers that have helped the Parish Council over the last year including those providing the refreshments this evening.
- 4. Statement on the Parish Council Accounts:** The Clerk to the Council presented a statement by the RFO on the Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2016.
- 5. Policing Report:** PCO Martin Boak reported on crime in the area over the last year and informed the meeting that library drop-in sessions are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month.
- 6. Speakers from local organisations:** - brief reports were given by representatives of local organisations as follows;

- **Lucy Baron, AONB Manager** - the AONB partnership liaises with all stakeholders and has produced a management plan and carries out work to preserve heritage and landscape caring for wildlife and encouraging tourism. A Countryside officer and volunteers undertake a number of projects and the organisation advises landowners and has worked with local councils on their development plans. The Landscape Trust is a charitable arm of the AONB and offers small grants for projects. The office is located at the railway station and information leaflets are available from there or on the AONB website.
- **Ann Kitchen, Barnes Charitable Trust** – The history and purpose of the Barnes Trust to manage the grounds of Ashmeadow House, including a meadow and woodland, the provision of allotments and small grants available for education and environmental projects. Recent projects have included an information board on a historic numbered fingerboard and bird and bat boxes being erected. The public are asked not to go in the woods in windy conditions. Website is available for further details.
- **Ian Service, St James' Parish Church** – the church works closely with the catholic and Methodist churches and have joint celebrations over Easter. Leaflets have been sent to all households to celebrate the 150 years of the church and there are a number of events taking place including a boundary walk with children from Arnside and Storth.
- **Alan Beaumont, the Royal British Legion** – was set up after WW1 to provide comradeship and support for servicemen and their families. It has a royal charter and since 1922 the Arnside Branch has carried out various activities including selling poppies, commemorating the fallen at the War Memorial on remembrance Sunday and holding candlelit vigils.
- **Guy Crossman – Arnside Fire Station** – Arnside Fire and Rescue Service thank the people of Arnside for their support in saving the fire station. It is now shared with Bay Search and Rescue and negotiating with the Ambulance service. They are currently recruiting and need people who are in the village during the day.
- **Peter Moreton - Natural History Society and Swifts in the Community** - the Natural History Society formed in the 60s and holds lectures and field trips for over 200 members on flora and fauna. Volunteers also carry out surveys of plants and wildlife. A group has been working with property owners in Arnside, and the surrounding area to preserve Swifts and their nesting places. With the help of local grants they also hold workshops with pupils from the school.

#### 7. Matters raised by the public:

- A member of the public asked if verges could be planted with wildflowers, Lucy Baron of the AONB offered to advise the Parish Council if they wished to consider this.
- Bushes by the old toilets by the Fighting Cocks Public House are blocking obscuring the highway – to be reported

8. **Presentation of the Arnside Young Citizen Award by the Chair:-** Cllr George Taylor presented Mia Crossman with a plaque and a gift voucher in recognition of the work she has carried out in the Parish

9. **Close.** There being no further questions the meeting closed at 8:20 pm