

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF THE SAVERNAKE PARISH COUNCIL 8 APRIL 2014 HELD AT  
THE JUBILEE CENTRE, MARLBOROUGH**

**PRESENT**

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| Neil Twentyman  | Chairman   |
| Paul March      | Councillor |
| Guy Singleton   | Councillor |
| Rupert Boyd     | Councillor |
| Shanne Boyd     | Councillor |
| Andrew Smithson | Councillor |

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| <b>01/14</b> | <b>WELCOME</b><br><br>The Chair welcomed the parishioners to the meeting and thanked those who had agreed to present. Apologies were accepted and noted.   |
| <b>02/14</b> | <b>TESCO'S</b><br><br>Chris, the community champion, introduced himself and his role and confirmed that he would be looking forward to working with the local community. He announced that he had started the process of organising a soap box race in the forest.   |
| <b>03/14</b> | <b>COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT</b><br><br>PC Tippetts & WPC Ritchie provided the council and parishioners a policing and local crime update. The key focus for the Marlborough area was the fight on anti-social behaviour, recent operations have seen reported cases fall by 30%. Though pleasing the police will continue to work with the community.<br>During the year the police have piloted early interventions to stop children involved in petty incidents going on to commit more serious crime. None of the children they have been working with have gone on to re-commit.<br>Rural crime remains a concern with illegal red diesel and un-road worthy vehicles providing much of the focus. Theft from vehicles in the forest makes up a good proportion of the reported crime, admitting it was difficult to deal the police committed to continue targeting this area.<br>PC Tippetts answered questions about illegal raves and speed checks through the parish. He responded by informing the meeting that the police employ intelligence officers on line to intercept rave organisers and he suggested that the parish council takes up issues over speed limits with the local council. He concluded by reminding the parish of the new personal security website, <a href="http://cyberstreet.com">cyberstreet.com</a> , was available for advice. |
| <b>04/14</b> | <b>NEW COUNCIL</b><br><br>The new councillors introduced themselves to the parish.   |
| <b>05/14</b> | <b>OUR PARISH</b><br><br>The chair provided an informative presentation about the parish and its boundaries.   |

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| <b>06/14</b> | <p><b>FORESTRY COMMISSION</b></p> <p>Tom Blythe provided a fascinating presentation and the plans that the commission has for the sustainability and economy of the forest. The talk was set in the context of the forest's history and the need to keep conservation a priority. The rangers are working hard to preserve the natural habitat of all the forest's residents including the numerous species of invertebrates. He revealed that Savernake is the most important site in Europe for Oak trees and that much work is planned to ensure these trees thrive for many years to come. The commission plan to fell 2,000 tonnes of wood per annum through sensitive harvesting and this clearing will be balanced with coppicing and planting. Fly tipping and litter remain the commissions biggest problem.</p> <p>Tom fielded questions about why the commission were based in Bristol and how many trees were lost in the recent storms. Tom replied that the commission has many sites and Bristol is the local office and that around a dozen or so large trees were lost. He suggested that these trees would be left in situ, where they weren't obstructing paths, to provide a useful habitat for wildlife and plantlife. The chair asked that council be kept updated on the progress and plans.</p> |
| <b>07/14</b> | <p><b>WEBSITE</b></p> <p>AS introduced the latest news on the under construction website – <a href="http://www.savernake-pc.org">www.savernake-pc.org</a>. It is hoped that the site will be fully operational by the end of the summer. The site will be used to provide useful information about the parish and its council.</p>  |
| <b>08/14</b> | <p><b>THE YEAR THAT WAS</b></p> <p>The Chair shared with the parish the activities of the parish council with the meeting. He confirmed that the council remains committed to improving road safety, citing the repair of pot holes in the parish as evidence. The closer involvement with Marlborough Town Council and the Mayor was also highlighted as the council sought to influence the plans being made to change the town that effect the parish.</p> <p>The issues with the right of way in Cadley were briefly discussed.</p> <p>The chair shared with the meeting the plans for the forthcoming year including footpaths, road safety and the plans for the development of sites bordering the parish.</p>   |
| <b>09/14</b> | <p><b>FINANCES</b></p> <p>PM presented the finance report, 2012/13 saw a deficit of £311 and cash reserves totalling £3810. The draft figures for the year ended 31 March 2014 showed a return to surplus of £658 and an increase in reserves to £4468. This has been achieved through no longer accepting responsibility for the cutting of grass Crown Estates land. PM then shared the proposals to invest in a website presence for the parish council and ways in which the council would increase non central funding. He revealed that the precept has been kept at the previous years level.</p>  |
| <b>10/14</b> | <p><b>CLOSE</b></p> <p>The Chair closed the meeting by thanking all those who have attended and invited all to remain for refreshments.</p>   |