

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

PRESENT

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

01/15	<p>WELCOME</p> <p>The Chair welcomed the parishioners to the meeting and thanked those who had agreed to present. Apologies were accepted and noted.</p>
02/15	<p>CHAIRMAN’S ROUND-UP</p> <p>The Chair gave a brief presentation on the Parish, its history and the work of the Parish Council. The new Parish website was demonstrated and it was revealed that public notices, meeting minutes and other parish news would be published on the site.</p>
03/15	<p>COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT</p> <p>PC Tippetts & WPCSO Ritchie provided the council and parishioners a policing and local crime update. Crime in the locality consisted of petty thefts and drugs offences. On top of this the problem of illegal Red Diesel was discovered as part of a speed check campaign. The campaign resulted in 20 fixed penalty notices and 4 prosecutions.</p> <p>PC Tippetts updated the parish in with the progress being made with communicating with local people via community messaging, SMS and emails. These methods were being used to provide targeted messages about specific issues, such as farm and horse watch.</p> <p>Road safety remains a priority along with theft from vehicles.</p> <p>PC Tippetts answered questions about litter and the CCTV on Marlborough High Street. He responded by informing the meeting that the litter problem should be raised with the county council via letter or email. Marlborough Town Council were responsible for the CCTV.</p>
03/15	<p>FORESTRY COMMISSION</p> <p>Tom Blythe provided an informative and well received presentation on the plans for ensuring 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. The impact on the forest floor has been minimised by the laying of branches for the lorries to run over, whilst this was not particularly pleasant to look at it did lessen the damage caused by heavy lorries and machinery.</p> <p>Almost half of the wood removed was Larch, a non native tree. Work to clear and improve the arboretum was ongoing.</p>

	<p>Nicky, the community and recreation ranger, provided an update on the educational and community projects being carried out.</p> <p>Tom and Nicky answered questions about the plant life cataloguing and wildlife in the forest. It is estimated that there are approximately 400 deer in the forest with a large number of Monk Jack deer too. There were some foxes but not a huge number. The chair thanked the commission for their time and presentation asked that council be kept updated on the progress and plans.</p>
04/15	<p>PROSPECT HOSPICE</p> <p>Kim provided a brief history of the Prospect Hospice and its work with terminally ill patients in the local area. Their work involves providing care support and help for patients at the end of the lives as well as their families. The Hospice had a list of 900 volunteers helping to provide care through 2 lodges. A care at home service is also provided for those wishing to see out their days at home.</p> <p>Kim introduced the plans to provide clinic space and a drop in centre at the Savernake Hospital.</p> <p>Kim answered questions from the floor about the number of patients expected, the impact on car parking and the planned opening hours of the new centre. In response Kim thought that around 600 patients would use the centre each year, initially the centre would be open 1 day per week and the car park plans were shared.</p>
05/15	<p>THE YEAR THAT WAS</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>AS provided the parishioners an update on the Salisbury Road development and encouraged people to share their opinions with the local council.</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 as well as a newsletter.</p>
06/15	<p>FINANCES</p> <p>PM presented the finance report, 2014/15 saw a deficit of £448 and cash reserves totalling £4,020. The draft figures for the year ended 31 March 2015 showed a further deficit of £909 and a decrease in reserves to £3,111. This is due to the repayment of funds collected over the years in respect of monies collected for forestry maps. The funds have been repatriated to the Forestry Commission for projects to improve the forest for its visitors. He revealed that the precept has been kept at the previous year's level.</p>
07/15	<p>CLOSE</p> <p>The Chair closed the meeting by thanking all those who have attended and invited all to remain for refreshments.</p>