

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF THE SAVERNAKE PARISH COUNCIL 15 MAY 2019
MARLBOROUGH TOWN HALL**

COUNCILLORS PRESENT

Guy Singleton (Chairman) (GS)	Councillor
Andrew Smithson (AS)	Councillor
Neil Twentyman (NT)	Councillor
Nigel Eayrs (NE)	Councillor
Martin Phipps (MP)	Councillor
 Suzie Singleton	 Parishioner & interim Clerk

ITEM		ACTION
1	<p>WELCOME</p> <p>GS welcomed those present to the meeting.</p>	
2	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>Nikki Boutal Helen Vass from SSE</p>	
3	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting on 17th May 2018 were approved and signed off.</p>	
4	<p>UPDATE ON PARISH ACTIVITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>• HOSPITAL HILL GS reported that although not much happens in a small parish the Council's main achievement in the past year was that when Hospital Hill on the A4 was resurfaced recently they were instrumental in persuading Highways to change the road markings so that there is only one lane up and down</p> <p>As yet it had not been possible to convince the Highways Department to reduce the speed limit on the hill but the council do not intend to let the matter drop and will keep pushing for it. GS noted that various other small Wiltshire parishes are also pushing for similar speed reductions and that it was hoped that before long Wiltshire Council would start to take notice of them and promised to keep raising it at the Marlborough Area CATG meetings to keep it high visibility.</p> <p>• PARISH PROJECTS GS spoke to the meeting about the CIL payment the Parish has received. This money is to be spent for the benefit of the parish and this needs to be done within 5 years so parishioners were asked to consider items this could be used for and put forward any suggestions to the Council.</p> 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joan Davies asked whether the Savernake Forest Maps that the council had previously funded could be updated and reprinted. It was thought that Peter Noble might be doing one. • Joan also noted that any improvements to the footpath at Chipping knife Lane would be welcome. It was noted that 2 steps had been rebuilt and that a request would be made for more to be built. • Rosemary Davies mentioned the problem of the speed limit though Cadley and asked whether it would be possible to get one of the flashing signs showing the speed traffic was going. <p>GS noted that unfortunately it was only possible to have those sited in areas where the limit was 40 or below, and that as Cadley still have a 50mph limit such a sign could not be applied for, the speed limit would need to be lowered first, which is another ongoing project. He also mentioned that the council had considered the white gates at both ends of the village such as at Burbage but that the cost of these was prohibitive, in the thousands so, even with the CIL monies were too expensive. This will be kept under review.</p>	
5	<p>FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT</p> <p>NT, gave an overview SPC's finances for the year 2018/19. He noted that the parish's precept from Wiltshire Council of £1,250 is used to cover the ongoing costs incurred by the council such as the £107 subscription to the Association of Local Councils, the Council's contribution to the Marlborough Neighbourhood Plan of £208, website costs, and room hire for meetings.</p> <p>There are also occasional one off costs and repairs to the bus shelters at the hospital this year cost £100.</p> <p>The council had also now received the CIL monies, which relate back to the development of Seymour House and amount to £2,794.80.</p> <p>The balances are as follows:</p> <p>15th May 2019 Current a/c: £496.90 Deposit a/c: £6,824.78</p> <p>The accounts were formally approved and the Parish Councillors agreed there is no risk that the Parish Council will not fulfil its financial commitments for 2019/2020.</p>	
6	<p>PRESENTATION</p> <p>Unfortunately Helen Vass from SSE was unable to join the meeting so Martin Phipps gave a short talk on the influx of the Asian Hornet and the problems it can cause our native bees and other insects.</p> <p>He noted that they have been seen in a couple of places in Southern England</p>	

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	<p>and that it would be helpful for everyone to be aware of the problem and, should they see one, it should be reported to the GB Non-Native Species Secretariat (www.nonnativespecies.org). If anyone was unsure if what they had seen were in fact Asian Hornets, they could contact the Kennet Beekeepers Association (www.kennet-beekeepers.co.uk) or the Wiltshire Beekeepers Association (www.wiltshirebeekeepers.org.uk) and someone would look into it.</p> <p>He had a picture which was a bit small for the meeting, as he had not prepared ahead of time for the talk, but would arrange for the information to be included on the Savernake Parish Council website. He told the meeting that the Asian Hornet was larger than native species, about 25mm long, and was mostly black or dark brown with one yellow-orange band on the body. He said that one person who had spotted one flying away from him at night described it as looking like a lit cigarette end, with its orange ring.</p>	
7	<p>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diana Faux would like to see the old Hanger at Culleys and Browns farms listed by English Heritage. • The number of potholes in the parish was noted. The council will keep pressure on Highways to repair/resurface those areas. • It had not been possible to get a speaker from the Forestry Commission to attend the meeting but they had provide an update that maintenance of the first roads was to be done and that some would be closed while this took place, from 20th May. Also, Postern Hill car park was going to be resurfaced. • There was also a reminder about the Savernake Forest Volunteer Group which meets at Eight Walks on the 4th Thursday of the month at 10am, all are very welcome to join them. • Joan Davies said that according to the Wiltshire Botanical Society ticks were getting worse. • Tony Ashpitel asked who was responsible for cutting the grass at the A4 entrance to the Grand Avenue, as someone had destroyed all the wild flowers which had been there. It was thought that the Forestry Commission might be responsible for that area of ground. • Joan Davies spoke to thank everyone for their support while she kept the SPC going. She noted that it would probably be the last meeting she would be able to attend as she was going to be moving out of the area. • GS thanked Joan for all the work she, and other ex SPC councillors there, had done and brought the meeting to a close. 	