

BROADWAY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES
of ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
held at 5 Russell Square, High Street, Broadway,
on Thursday, 26th March 2009, at 8.00 pm

Present: District Councillor D. W. Folkes, Councillors T. L. Greig,
R. Haslam, L. D. Keane, F. L. Penny, N. Robinson, G. Shaw,
Mrs. S. Stephenson, J. Williams, Mrs. C. C. B. Wilson

In Attendance: County Councillor Mrs. E. Eyre
Five members of the public

(1) **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Councillors Mrs. A. Locker, Mrs. J. M. Stock,
C. E. G. Toye

(2) **MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 20:03:08:**
Following a proposal from Councillor Mrs. Wilson, seconded by Councillor
Shaw, the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 20th March 2008 were signed
and dated as a true record.

(3) **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:**

The Chairman welcomed all present, and reported that the last twelve months had seen several changes to the face of Broadway, the most significant being the development of Broadway Village Activity Park which was nearing completion. On behalf of the Parish Council the Chairman wished to thank the Activity Park committee, comprising John Hankinson, Pamela Street, Gordon Paul and Councillor Mrs. Connie Wilson, for their commitment to the project. The long hours and hard work put in by them, including the processing of the grant applications which provided the major part of the fund raising, were most appreciated by the Parish Council. The Park would provide much pleasure and enjoyment for local residents, with the facilities provided being among the best in the country, and with Broadway being a major tourist attraction it would serve to further enhance its pulling power.

The removal of the old bus shelter outside Trinity Fine Art, and the reinstatement of the railings, had improved the appearance of the High Street and, acting upon the views of residents, the Parish Council had installed a seat on the grass verge next to where the old shelter originally stood. An additional seat was donated in memory of an old resident, Mrs. Seaton-Morris, and was positioned outside the doctors' surgery.

The two gateway stones indicating that Broadway was within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty caused much debate among villagers regarding the gravelled areas at their base. The Parish Council, acting on these concerns, raised the matter with the relevant authority with the result that the bases were grassed over.

Two presentations were made at Parish Council meetings regarding future developments within the village. The GWSR showed plans of the extension of the railway track from Toddington to Broadway, together with details of a new station building at Broadway, and Rooftop Housing Group presented their plans showing the redevelopment of Shear House to incorporate a number of affordable housing units within the car park area. The Chairman wished to stress that this would not mean the car park would be closed, but the toilets were to be knocked down and the District Council had agreed to build a new toilet block in the Activity Park.

The Parish Council became aware that residents were concerned about the state of the trees in the High Street and had set up a Tree Committee to investigate the future development of trees throughout the village.

Two important road shows were held at the Lifford Hall during the year. The first was to introduce the new waste collection scheme, giving the opportunity to see the bins and obtain information on how to gain assistance or exemption with this new scheme. The bins had now been delivered and the new collection began at the start of the month.

The second road show was organised by the Environment Agency in order to obtain the views of the public on their proposals to reduce flood risk within the village. Since that road show the Environment Agency had released news that the flood risk management projects for Broadway had been granted funding to commence during 2009/10.

The Parish Council joined forces with the Police and the local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme to introduce 'Smartwater', a revolutionary product to help combat crime and make the area an even safer place in which to live, work and visit. Over fifty households took advantage of this product and five signs had been placed on the approach roads to the village advising that Broadway was a 'Smartwater' area. The Parish Council appreciated the work throughout the year of WPC Gail Greenhouse and CSO Phil Schoenrock, which resulted in a significant decline in the crime figures. Instructions were given to the Police to enforce road traffic legislation throughout the village in an attempt to alleviate parking problems, especially those in Station Road. This year the PACT meetings had taken a different format with meetings taking place every three months, and a survey was now complete using a questionnaire to make a priority list for each village which was then acted upon. The Chairman thanked the Parish Council's PACT representative, Councillor Tim Greig, for his input into these meetings.

The heavy snowfalls during the winter had highlighted the fact that grit bins were in short supply throughout the village. It was decided, therefore, to contact Highways with a view to obtaining more bins, with the result that after their assessment of a number of streets several new grit bins would be installed to ensure that the village would be more prepared for such weather conditions in the future.

Last year it was proudly announced that Broadway was the winner of Worcestershire Calor Village of the Year 2007. As a result of winning this award,

Broadway progressed in the competition and went on to win the 2008 Communications Category for the Western England area, together with a cheque for £500 which was distributed to a number of village organisations.

The annual village Community Award attracted a good number of nominations, and congratulations went to the overall winner, Dave Smith, who was presented with a cheque for £50 to donate to his chosen charity.

The Parish Council continued to make financial contributions to assist in the work of the Tourist Information Centre, the Vale of Evesham Volunteers, Signpost, Evesham Citizens' Advice Bureau, North Cotswold Volunteer Help Centre, St. Michael's and All Angels Church for the upkeep of the Churchyard, and Evesham and Pershore Neighbourhood Watch. Contributions were also made to the Broadway Newsletter, and to Broadway United Football Club Youth Section who carried out the annual litterpick.

In conclusion, I would like to thank my fellow councillors who put in so much work over the year on our various committees. My thanks must also go to our Clerk, Kevin, and to our Assistant Clerk, Gwen, for all their hard work throughout the year.

(4) REPORT ON AUDIT OF COUNCIL ACCOUNTS TO 31:03:08:

The Clerk reported that the accounts to 31st March 2008 had been approved by the Parish Council on 15:05:08 (page 743 item 19 of the Minutes) and audited. Clement Keys, the auditors, had indicated their approval on 25:07:08 (page 755 item 6 of the Minutes) and the Clerk had displayed the customary statement on the noticeboard. A copy of the audited accounts was available for inspection at the Parish Council office.

(5) ANY OTHER MATTERS RAISED BY ELECTORS:

Mr. Colin Brant, representing Broadway Trust, stated that the Trust was keen to keep in close contact with the Parish Council and would be willing to assist as and when required.

Mr. Eddie Vickers enquired about signage for the CCTV, and the Clerk replied that he had reported this to Nigel Jancey at the District Council who would arrange signs to be displayed. As no signs had appeared to date, the Clerk would chase this matter up. Concerns were also raised about the cameras since it was reported by Peter Riley that during a recent incident when a vehicle was damaged during the night the car owner was asked the precise time the incident occurred because the Police were not able to view the whole night's footage. The Clerk stated that having spoken to the Police he was assured that each case was taken on merit.

There being no other business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40 pm