## Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly Held Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023, the Village Hall, Sixpenny Handley.

Item	
27	Attendance – 16 members of public present plus Parish Councillors and Guests listed below 29 in total.
	Parish Councillors:
	Cllr James Reed (Chairman of the Parish Council) Cllr Simon Meaden (Vice Chairman of the Parish Council) Cllr Colin Taylor Cllr David Adams Cllr Stuart McLean Cllr Andy Turner Cllr David Chick Cllr Rosalie Adams
	Guests: Cllr Piers Brown Dorset Council Cranborne Chase Mr Stewart Milbourne - RSPB PC Andy Flanagan & PC Sam Berry - Rural East Dorset Police
	Also in Attendance: Mrs Ciona Nicholson (Clerk)
	Apologies received from: Sixpenny Surgery
28	Welcome & Introduction
	The Chairman welcomed those present and explained the Annual Parish Assembly is not a Parish Council Meeting, the Parish Council reports to its electorate on what it has accomplished within the year.
29	Confirm the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2022.
	It was proposed by S McLean and seconded by C Taylor that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the last Annual Meeting held 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2022. Resolved that the minutes be signed by the Chairman.
30	Matters arising from the last Annual Parish Meeting.
	No matters.
31	Annual Report of the Parish Council presented by Cllr Stuart McLean.
	This is the annual Parish Report of the Sixpenny Handley and Pentridge Parish Council for the past 12 months. The last time that I presented such a report was in March of last year when, you may recall, there had been an interregnum of its delivery for some three years, caused by the dreadful Covid Pandemic. This was a period

when this Parish and its Council and community pulled together magnificently, with the support of many willing volunteers, to offer selfless assistance to those who were unable to help themselves. It may also be recalled that at that time we had been just been through the political turmoil of BREXIT and the change in the governance of the County of Dorset from 9 District and Borough Councils to that of the single Unitary Dorset Council authority that we know today.

At that time, we were looking forward to what we hoped were going to be happier times such as the Platinum Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth following the sad death of Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh the previous year and which was itself followed by the death of The Queen herself. We now look forward, however, to the Carolean age of the reign of His Majesty King Charles III and his coronation on the 6<sup>th</sup> May, the first such an event of its kind for over 70 years.

Howeve,r we must now account for the events of this Parish Council over the past twelve months, during which time your indefatigable Parish Council has continued to fulfil its primary function which is: *"to make decisions on behalf of the people in the Parish having an overall responsibility for the well-being of its local community"*. Parish Councils are the level of government closest to the community, with the County authority of Dorset Council set over us in the National hierarchy. There are over 9,000 Parish Councils in England. Your Parish Council is financed through the grant of a "precept" from Dorset Council, which is an amount of money calculated as an estimate of expenditure for the forthcoming financial year, which is collected as part of your Council Tax contribution. You may wish to know that your Parish Council has recently submitted an application to Dorset Council for an annual precept of £64,700 for the forthcoming financial year, the apportioning of which is determined by the ten volunteer Councillors who together form the Sixpenny Handley and Pentridge Parish Council.

So accordingly on behalf of your Parish Council Chairman, Councillor James Reed and if I may say further on your behalf as members of this Parish, we must thank your Parish Councillors who continue to meet each month for the continued development and benefit of Sixpenny Handley and Pentridge. However, it should be noted that next year, 2024 marks the end of this Parish Council's 5 year tenure of office. Most of the Councillors at this time will have completed 8, 10 or even 12 years of service and over half of whom intend to stand down at that time. It is essential that we now identify replacement Councillors to fill those gaps. We currently have two vacancies that have been publicised locally and so new Councillors can be co-opted immediately or at the start of the new year. If you want to have a say in the future development of the Parish, or how we spend the £64,700 Precept that we are granted for our work, do come and join us at one of our monthly meetings to see what it is that we do on your behalf. Sixpenny Handley is a vibrant village and a desirable place to live where neighbour supports neighbour and residents volunteer to support events for the good of the village and its inhabitants. Please do now seriously consider standing as a Parish Councillor – It is not an onerous duty which I have been proud to carry out for 8 years and is for the good and benefit of your community.

However not-withstanding all of that, your Parish Council, supported most strongly I may say by our Ward Councillor, Mr Piers Brown, has continued to manage and robustly represent the views of Parishioners in a number of matters of local concern which have included: oversight of planning applications; the continued intention of the Community Land Trust in its plans to construct affordable housing for local people along Common Road; the completion of the major refurbishment of the Village Hall; improvements to the Sports and Recreation grounds and the maintenance of a Speed Indicator Device to reduce the incidence of cars speeding in the High Street and along Back Lane.

On other matters your Parish Council have been active in considering energy efficiency matters in a number of areas in particular in regard to the Sports Pavilion where, following a series of presentations by subject matter experts, your Council have agreed to fit a number of solar panels on the pavilion roof, work which is to take place next week, to reduce our reliance on electricity from the national grid, further supported by an update to lighting where we have replaced all light bulbs within the Pavilion with LED lighting.

The Parish Council would like to thank one of its longest serving Councillors, Mr David Adams, for his continued maintenance of our many footpaths and rights of way throughout the Parish.

Councillor Colin Taylor has been active on our behalf in dealing with the detailed regulations in ensuring that our Parish Council Bank Account can now be operated "on Line", which will make the job of the Parish Clerk a good deal easier.

Through this last year you may wish to know that your Parish Council has made financial donations to the continued existence of the Citizens Advice Bureau; the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils and the Sixpenny Handley First School among others.

Your Parish Council Planning Committee continues to scrutinise all planning applications within the boundaries of the village where your Parish Council is keen to see further appropriate housing development within the

village. Your Committee has agreed to support a development on land adjacent to Back Lane for the construction of 22 new homes subject to the provision of measures to counter the effects of flooding in that area and heard an outline plan from another developer for the construction of 70 homes on land adjacent to Dean Lane and Oakley Lane. However, perhaps more controversially, we await the public hearing by the Dorset Council Planning Committee of a variation plan from Nord Homes to site 7 single storey houses on land adjacent to Frogmore Lane and Back Lane, where despite our Parish Council's strong objections on the grounds of flooding, we were overruled by Dorset Council in the original plan in an area that is subject to serious and regular flooding on a three yearly basis.

In our previous report we mentioned the significant refurbishments that had taken place to improve the Village Hall thanks to funds raised from a variety of sources including the Parish Council and the magnificent fundraising efforts of the village hall committee. Since the completion of works to improve the facilities of the hall and the end of the pandemic the building has been put to good use by a wide range of events that the committee have initiated, including regular craft fairs; cinema showings and musical events, plus the generation of income by hiring out the venue to such groups as indoor bowls, among others.

Sixpenny Handley is particularly fortunate to benefit from its excellent Sports and Recreation grounds which your Parish Council has done much, over recent years, to improve and maintain by the provision of new fitness training equipment beside the playground; the renewal of the cricket ground artificial wicket and renovation of the practice nets, which we are delighted to be able to say has encouraged the start of a new village Cricket Club which has already held a number of matches; the replacement of the Pavilion oil tank; the purchase of a much needed ride-on grass mower as replacement for the existing old and worn out machine; and the provision of new signage for the Recreation ground. Work continues to maintain and control the hedgeline adjacent to the cricket and football pitches by the process of coppicing. Three instructional afternoons have been held along the hedgeline by our hedge managers, Anthony Brown and Pete Etheridge, which were open to all members of the Community to attend and in which to take part. A full page article was published in the February edition of the Downsman magazine which listed the dates and times of the instructional demonstrations which were also published in our on-line updates.

The Parish Council is particularly grateful for the continued support and financial assistance of the "Penny Tap" in the Pavilion which has continued to provide a much needed refreshment service at the many events that are held in the Pavilion.

An active committee, headed by Councillor Andrew Turner supported by the Community Fund are now raising funds to extend the Skateboard Park in support of which a number of open day demonstrations have been held. The Parish Council are supportive of this initiative and have agreed in principle to re-use the existing area along with some additional ground. On other sports matters the Sixpenny Handley football team continue in the higher league to which they were promoted at the end of last season by winning that league title. The Tennis Club continues from strength to strength with increased membership and usage of the courts. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said of the Bowls Club, which despite many improvements of their facilities and cleaning of the bowls ground surface, is down on membership and struggling to maintain their position in the local leagues. The Bowls Club have asked me to encourage anyone, young and old, who may have an interest in the sport to visit the ground and see what they have to offer.

The Community Land Trust continues to make progress to site affordable new houses for rent by local people on land purchased from the former East Dorset District Council on Common Road. An architect has been appointed and revised plans have been drawn up. The delay on progress of this worthwhile project has been due to restrictions in central government funding for such projects caused by the financial effects of other expenditure in countering the pandemic.

Your Parish Council continues to act in its efforts to reduce speeding in the village by the purchase and siting of a speed indicator device, which you may have seen in operation in the High Street and along Back Lane. We must thank the voluntary members of the Neighbourhood Speed Watch group led by Mr Colin Chambers, who asked me to say that they are currently short of additional volunteers to assist in this valuable work.

We continue to be very proud of our Community Website, developed by our IT Champion, Councillor Andrew Turner supported by Naomi and the Web Booth, which continues to operate with links to local groups, services and businesses. Andrew now regularly posts a "Community Information" update on line after each meeting of the Parish Council on our "Community Website". In addition to the Website we have both Next door and Facebook where the key messages from Parish Council meetings are published to keep everyone up to date. The Website is well supported by the production of the excellent Downsman magazine, for which we are grateful to Naomi Booth as Editor, and the many volunteers on the committee and from the Neighbourhood Watch Group who distribute the end product for the benefit of us all.

You will all, no doubt, remember the difficulties that we as a community had to contend with during the lockdown and the valiant efforts of Councillor Andrew Turner during that period who arranged and

	organised a whole team of volunteers to collect and deliver prescriptions; shopping and to take people to hospital appointments, for which he was nominated as a "Community Hero". It comes as no surprise that he has been active again during the recent winter months in arranging the "Warm Hub" that was made available in the Parish Office in the face of the cold weather and outrageous increases in gas, oil and electricity charges. Well done Andrew. The Parish Council initiated "Handley Hubs" working with the Community Fund, St Mary's Church and the Village Hall as a focal group with monthly meetings. The Hubs are enabled with over 25 volunteers who have extended the use of the Crossroads Café and Magnicafe Cafes. These cover Monday, Wednesday and Thursday with a trial run on Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April. The Community Fund has funded additional equipment for the Crossroads Café by the provision of a fridge, coffee machine and toaster. We must particularly thank all of the volunteers who made these initiatives happen, in particular one of our former Parish Councillors, Bea Boyland for making the Crossroads Café and library the success that they are.
	the pandemic - though the Big Picnic was arranged to mark the Queen's Jubilee. The Parish Council acknowledges the efforts of the volunteers who conduct those events in the past which have generated significant income to the fund that benefit a number of other well deserving causes around the village. We must thank the many willing volunteers and organisers who take so much time and trouble to organise and run these major events led by Paul Styles, Penny Mansergh and Naomi Booth supported by a strong team and we very much look forward to the return of the Big Session this year on 8 <sup>th</sup> July.
	It must be said that so much of the life of this village is maintained and enhanced by its volunteers who run the village hall; the sports pavilion; the Waistcoat & Big Session Festivals and the Sixpenny Session events; the annual rubbish and litter pick; hedge trimming; the Crossroads Café, which operates each week in the Parish Office as well as the Parish Library. We also thank, among others, Rob Jesse and Richard Dennett for their regular patrols around the village collecting litter, emptying bins and generally ensuring that the appearance of the village and its roadways are kept to a high standard. You may also have noticed the wild daffodils, spring bulbs, around the Village Hall pond that were recommended by Mrs Christine Reynolds and planted by the Creative Hub for which we are most grateful.
	We would also like to acknowledge the work of Sarah Jesse for her postal deliveries in and around the village in all weathers, under difficult circumstances following the closure of the local sorting office facility in the post office. Without all our selfless volunteers' village life would be significantly less worthwhile.
	We must further extend our gratitude to our Ward Councillor, Mr Piers Brown, for his continued attendance and support at our Parish Council meetings where he keeps us updated on what is happening at County level and for his advice and guidance on our deliberations. I should add here that we are represented each quarter at the meetings of the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils.
	Finally, we must commend the volunteers who, over recent years, have replaced damaged or rotten fingerpost signs for which the Dorset Council Highways department are no longer responsible. If we don't look after them, we will lose them.
	I must end however by repeating my warning of the impending end of your Parish Council's term of office where we are currently facing the loss of up to 6 Councillors this time next year, who must be replaced if we are to continue effectively. Each Councillor is an unpaid volunteer from the community who are only required to attend two meetings each month on your behalf to ensure the efficient running of the Parish and careful management of the precept awarded to us by Dorset Council. Please consider volunteering to play your part in the governance of the Parish of Sixpenny Handley and Pentridge.
	Comments From the electorate:
	It's important to thank the efforts of ClIr Andy Turner during recent floods – his communication and endeavour was very much appreciated by the community.
	It should be noted that the Rushmoor Estate's pre plan consultation (on land at the end of Dean Lane) was for 42 houses not 70.
	Dorset Council should be looking at infrastructure development with so many potential develoments.
	The Chairman of the PC Planning Committee Cllr David Chick noted frustration when representation is made on all planning applications and objections are not listened to.
32	Audited Accounts for year ending 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2022.

	The Audited Accounts for 2022 have been available for scrutiny on the Parish Council website and on th noticeboard at the Parish Office.
33	Dorset Council Cranborne Chase (Annual Review) - Cllr Piers Brown
	Good news items from Dorset Council & a reflection of accomplishments & achievements
	Road closure of the C2 Thickthorne Cross A354 to B3078 at Horton Inn connecting lane – Highway improvement works commenced on 13 <sup>th</sup> March and expected to end on 14 <sup>th</sup> April.
	Announced their partnership with Sign Video enabling the deaf community to communicate with DC using British Sign Language on-line or at a Customer Service point. Funding energy support claims for park homes accessible via phone option in addition to on-line method.
	Park home metered property inconsistencies are being addressed to ensure the most vulnerable in societ receive equal energy support.
	There are 400 Ukrainian families living in Dorset and there is a need for more host families. Any volunteers should reach out to Dorset Council.
	Dorset Council have been awarded the Armed Forces Gold Award by offering employees a high level of specifi dispensations within the workplace.
	DC received £1 million fund to improve/increase access to electric car charging points across the county.
	Cllr Brown spent time with Highways during the year understanding what qualifies as a road defect, size & depth of potholes and blocked drainage – the DC reporting portal is very easy to use.
	Thanks and acknowledgement of the good relationship between the members of the Sixpenny Handley & Pentridge PC and the County Councillor. It is a supportive relationship in which both parties have the same end goal to serve the local electorate.
34	Police Report by PCSO Andy Flanagan & PCSO Sam Berry – Notes taken by the Clerk
34	The PCSO's introduced themselves as part of the Police Neighbourhood Police Team covering east of th county. Based at Verwood Police Station (it remains a hub/station for teams rather than a Police Station). Th east of the county has received 80 reported crimes within the last 6 months. Sixpenny Handley remains a ver safe place to live with very few crimes reported. The result of which, means a limited police presence in th village.
	Q: Observations from the electorate suggested that more crimes are committed in Sixpenny Handley but failure (by police) to attend incidents has disillusioned locals. Crimes are not reported due to a 'what's th point?' attitude.
	Q: How do we get more police presence?
	A: Non reporting of crimes is a self-perpetuating problem. Recent funding cuts have resulted in PCSO's no being replaced until September 2023. It is essential to report all incidents however small. A contact shee listing 4 ways to contact the police to be publicised on social media platforms:
	• 999 call an emergency
	<ul> <li>101 reporting a non-emergency</li> <li>SMS text service for the hearing impaired</li> </ul>
	On-line reporting website.

35	
	We would like to provide you with an update on the latest developments and challenges faced by our local doctors at the surgery. Despite the ongoing difficulties, we are pleased to report that our doctors are continuing to work tirelessly to provide high-quality care to all of our patients.
	Under the current circumstances, our doctors and nurses are facing many challenges in balancing immediate care for short-term problems with the management of chronic long-term conditions. However, they have risen to the occasion and have been successful in providing exceptional care to our community.
	The Dorset Community nurses have significantly reduced numbers of staff since Covid. They too struggle to recruit and thus their services have been significantly reduced.
	Although there have been recruitment struggles in the NHS, our doctors are actively seeking new staff members to join their team. While the past few years have seen the loss of key staff members due to retirement or other opportunities, we remain hopeful that we can attract new talent to our practice. We are very sad to say goodbye to Dr Gallagher, who has chosen a partnership at his training practice in Mere instead of with us.
	Despite the difficulties, our doctors, Dr. Hawdon and Dr. Morgan and Dr. Macpherson remain committed to maintaining the level of care that was originally established by doctors Harris Geddes Pelly and Nodder. We are confident that our doctors will continue to work tirelessly to provide high-quality care to our community.
	We appreciate your ongoing support and understanding during these challenging times, and we look forward to keeping you updated on any new developments.
36	RSPB – Mr Stewart Milbourne
	Cllr Reed introduced a representative from the RSPB – explaining Mr Stewart Milbourne was invited to the Annual Parish Assembly to help educate local residents on how Garston Wood is managed.
	Garston Wood is an ancient wood that has been managed for centuries creating a special place for some magnificent wildlife, including a vast amount of bird species, colourful wildflowers and small mammals such as dormice. The area includes a large area of coppiced hazel and maple. Other habitats include oak woodland, scrub and mixed plantation. It is a place to enjoy a walk a long path that criss-cross the wood whilst looking out for fallow deer.
	RSPB have managed Garston Wood for 25 years including coppicing hazel on a 12-year cycle, thinning out taller trees, and the removal of non-native trees. The installation of protective fencing was essential to re-establish and restore to its former glory. The action of installing fencing was not communicated locally at the time which was regretful.
	There are many orchids and flowering plants and various species of butterflies which be devastated by the presence of 25 deer recently captured on night equipment.
	Recently, there has been a spate of deliberate damage to the fencing around Garston Wood which allows deer to once again dominate and damage the woodland.
	Questions & observations from the electorate:
	Q: Why do you think gates are propped open and fences are cut?
	A: Not known, it could be a lack of understanding and knowledge.
	Q: Why aren't there more signage or wildlife cameras?
	A: RSPB are unable to act on an individual basis at the various locations. What works at one site doesn't at

	another.
	Q: When will the fencing be removed that is blocking the southern end of the wood? It interferes with wild animal breeding? The deer have rutted and fawned in Garston Wood for centuries.
	Q: Local woodland craftsman highlighted successfully managed woodlands in other areas the county and working with forestry commission using similar methods would prove positive.
	A: The immediate aim is to work with neighbouring land owners – its key to have a good deer management strategy in order for fences to come down. The woodland is currently out of balance but RSPB are working towards new licenses & agreements.
	Chairman of the Parish Council encouraged the RSPB to share articles with local magazines and would welcome regular update notices in the future. Communication is key going forward.
37	Village Hall Update – Penny Mansergh Trustee
	Apologies for Chair's absence – first Cub meeting of the new term! As a fellow trustee, he has asked me to give this report on behalf of the Village Hall committee
	Charity status
	We are now a CIO (charity incorporated organisation)
	New lease with PC being drafted by CT
	We have some new Trustees on board
	Funds are looking reasonably healthy thanks to Covid grant and our fundraising activity
	Entertainment
	Since our last report to Parish Assembly Meeting, we have set up an Entertainments Team which has been very
	busy!
	Initiatives have included:
	re-establishing our relationship with Artsreach, the Dorset arts charity whose aim is to make a positive
	difference to the lives of people in Dorset. They have provided some top quality shows this season and we
	were lucky enough to have 2 sell-out shows – Moscow Drug Club and Hansel & Gretel. Next programme will
	be launched next month for the autumn season
	Setting up a <b>Community Cinema</b> in conjunction with St Marys Church on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month. We have
	enjoyed working together with the church team and, although not a high profit venture, we have attracted a
	core audience of around 30 people. We started in October 2022 and have our sixth and last film for this
	season is on Friday this week - The Lost King. We will then take a break for the summer and restart in
	September. We have purchased a DVD player for the hall users and will be sharing 50% of any remaining profit
	to St Mary's for their fabric fund.
	The free Family Cinema in conjunction with the Hub initiative has been slower to establish but enjoyed by
	those who have attended (and the volunteers!) We plan to restart these in September or October with the continued support of the CCIO and PC.
	Monthly Craft Fairs – on the last Saturday of the month from March to October and a Xmas fair on 9
	December. Regular crafters who attend pay just £5 for a table and enjoy the ambience we have created over
	the last year. Generally, we have around 12 – 15 stalls and the Xmas fair is very jolly with performances by St

Mary's choir and Verwood Brass Band. Entry is free of charge for the public and our homemade sandwiches, cakes and fresh coffee and tea have proved very popular.

## Relationship with other local organisations

We have worked hard to support other local organisations, including St Mary's and Handley Hubs, plus our regular users – The Creative Skills Hub, Happy Nappy, WI and CCF.

Other regulars include Yoga, Pilates and Bowls Club practice in the winter

Sixpenny Handley School recently used the hall for a very successful Bingo evening and the venue has been used for wedding receptions, birthday and retirement parties, wakes and by Sixpenny Sessions for some sellout gigs.

We have improved our waste facilities and expanded collections to include mixed recycling and glass in partnership with the Penny Tap

We supported the Repair Café by offering the hall free of charge while they got up and running and now offer them a discounted rate in line with other local organisations

We will again be holding a fundraising tea at Wimborne St Giles village hall, which has proved a good little earner in the past! This will be on Sunday 18 June, starting at 2.30. If you plan to come, do get there early as we have known people to turn up an hour early to ensure they get a bit of Ros's chocolate cake!!

## Improvements

In addition to the general ongoing M&E management, we also have a continuous programme of improvements to the hall, which in this reporting period have included:

Transforming the **committee room** to make it a more pleasant space and more appropriate as a "green room" for visiting musicians, etc. We would like to record our thanks to the Village Hall Secretary, Janice Bicker, for making the new curtains!

The stage loo has been redecorated and made more fit for purpose

Simon Marsh has kindly replaced the **hot water system**, which has solved the low pressure problem we had with the hot water and removed the risk of legionnaires disease.

We have replaced all the central heating floor vents

We will shortly be replacing the hinges on the inner doors in the **foyer** and renewing the noticeboards and making the foyer more welcoming. Creative Skills have promised some artwork to brighten up the space.

We are also planning some improvements for the outside space which will be kicked off on the **BIG Help Out Day on Monday 8 May (9am – 1pm)** when we will be erecting a storage shed and some outdoor benches, including the commemorative bench for Rob Jesse in recognition of all he has done for the hall over the years, and painting the fence. In the summer, we also hope to increase the size of the patio at the back of the hall and put in a safe space for children to play plus a pergola and raised beds for our users to enjoy. We are looking at grant funding help for this with Dorset Council.

We have replaced all the **chairs** in the hall, including a number of chairs with supporting arms which were purchased following consultation with CCF.

With the Parish Council, we are investigating **solar panels** and improved security (**CCTV** following the break-in). Finally, with my Sixpenny Sessions hat on, can I just remind everyone about The BIG Session on Saturday 8 July from 2 - 10 pm.

	Cllr James Reed has been involved with the CLT since its inception 8 years ago. There have been multiple set- backs along the way but the CLT Team continue to work towards submitting plans to Dorset Planning with the support of an appropriate housing association.
	Cllr Reed recommended anyone locally who is interested in affordable housing should renew their interest and ensure that they are on the social housing list.
	Questions and observations from the electorate:
	Q: Locals have registered on the social housing list before? Why the need to do it again?
	A: Applicants with local connection must reapply to join the list – there seems to have been removal of registers and the reasons why are unknown.
	Q: There is a lack of understanding of housing allocation, who is eligible to join the register? How can house swaps be arranged? Are single people allowed to join?
	A: The CLT would encourage anyone who requires individual help to contact the Parish Council who will help support applications.
	The CLT are creating affordable housing to be available to people with a strong local connection working with a housing association with integrity with a less corporate attitude.
	Q: Did Aster purchase their properties from Dorset Council?
	A: No, the houses were given to Housing Associations? Unfortunately, the focus is not on rural settings and our social properties are left to run down to a point where it's not viable to renovate and we lose social housing back to private sales.
	The CLT team are due to meet shortly.
39	Questions from the electorate
	Cllr Reed acknowledge the number of questions that had been asked throughout the meeting but invited electors to pose any final questions before closure of the meeting.
	Q: Speeding traffic in the High Street specifically – it's becoming a significant problem. What is the PC doing to help the situation?
	A: The speeding problem was acknowledged and the PC. Members have considered purchasing a second SID to work alongside the first one. It has been proven that a SID system need two devices to optimise the effectiveness. Unfortunately, there are not enough volunteers to support a second SID. There are currently only 2 volunteers that operate the SID. The PC confirmed that secondary SID would be investigated again if more volunteers could be found.
	Q: Why can't there be traffic police van located at other hot spots rather than at the top of the hill going out of the village?
	A: There are very few legal places in the village to locate a speed watch.
	Q: There will shortly be a change to the BT exchange technology. Concerns are for those without broadband and rely on landline only.
	A: Cllr Turner to investigate this item further.
40	Closing Remarks
	The Chairman, Cllr James Reed thanked everyone for attending, and to all those who had spoken.

Cllr Meaden & Cllr Turner were both presented with a gift in recognition of the best attendance record over the past year. The Clerk was also presented with a gift in recognition of her contribution.
 Meeting closed at 8.55pm.

These minutes are to be signed by the Chairman after approval at the next Annual Parish Meeting