

# **QUEEN CAMEL PARISH**

**Draft MINUTES of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
(also known as the Annual Village Meeting)  
of QUEEN CAMEL PARISH  
held in The Memorial Hall on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 7.00pm**

**In attendance:** 109 electors, residents and friends of Queen Camel

1. The start was delayed until 7.10 pm as there were some late arrivals.
2. Welcome: John Brendon, Chairman of the meeting and Chairman of the Queen Camel Parish Council, opened proceedings by welcoming the residents and visitors present.
3. Minutes:
  - The minutes of the Annual Village Meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017 were approved as correct by the meeting, nem.con., and were subsequently signed.
  - The minutes of the Parish Meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018 were approved as correct by the meeting, nem.con., and were subsequently signed.
4. John Brendon - Chairman of the Parish Council:
  - Explained the material items in the Parish Accounts and highlighted the Solar Farm money which was being held for a significant future purpose.
  - He gave a brief outline of the Dualling of the A303 and explained that nothing was definite until the Development Consent Order had been issued.
  - He outlined the purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan but devolved the provision of any further information to Rosemary Heath-Coleman.
  - He explained that the Parish Council had decided to re-introduce Council Committees and that accordingly the main Council would only meet bimonthly.
  - He said that efforts were being made to maximise the use of the Playing Field.
  - He touched on the Old Medical Centre and explained that the Parish Council was trying to resolve the eyesore but that SSDC found its hands to be tied.
  - Finally he mentioned that John Carnegie had resigned from the Parish Council and that accordingly there was now a vacancy for a ninth Councillor.
5. Mike Lewis – District and County Councillor:
  - He started by advising those present that Dr Hart was retiring and he extolled the virtues of the New Medical Centre.
  - He referred to the A303 and its associated problems.
  - He highlighted the village attributes – in particular the village shop.
  - He explained that Somerset Council must save £2.5M next year; that the Rate Support Grant will cease; that SSDC is borrowing lots of money; and he went into

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detail as to whether this was a correct way to proceed rather than finding alternative ways for the Council to manage its finances.

- He advised that Adult Social Care and Children Services cost 70% of the Rates at SCC level.
- And he reminded those present that 2019 was a year of Parish Council elections.

6. There was then an interval

7. John Brendon then read out a short note on behalf of the Tuesday Group.

8. Chris Bennett as Chairman of the New Football Club made a short speech.

9. Sue Cole intimated that she was looking for Area Representatives for the Neighbourhood Watch scheme.

10. Rosemary Heath-Coleman explained the intricacies of the Neighbourhood Plan in some detail for all those who were unaware of its importance to the village and to future planning applications. She also covered the Community Land Trust and touched upon developments regarding the Old School Site.

11. Paul Davis and Morwenna Ford spoke from the heart about the state of the roof of the St Barnabas Church and lodged a Roof Appeal. Pamphlets were later distributed and a request for contributions from villagers was made.

12. Paul Worton updated us on news from the Cricket Club.

13. John Brendon concluded the meeting and issued a general thank you.

14. That concluded the 2018 Village Meeting whereupon many villagers stayed on chatting and enjoying the hospitality provided until the hall closed just after 9.00 p.m.