

Cannock Wood Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting 2014

Thursday 15th May

Chairman's Report 2013 -2014

Once again welcome to our Annual Parish Meeting.

My report will sound very similar to last year's report.

Following its usual pattern the Parish Council has held 10 meetings during the past year with no meetings in August or December although one meeting was not quorate so although matters were discussed no official decisions were taken.

The Parish Council continues to implement a strict financial regime to enable its support of the Village Hall, Beaudesert Playing Fields Trust and other village organisations. The Council continues to put a sum of money aside annually to build up a reserve for future election costs. The Parish Council was able to keep the Annual Precept received from the District Council at the same level as last year so no increase in Council Tax was necessary.

Grant applications were dealt with as usual in November and a total of £1650 was allocated to several local organisations. Financial support was also given to the Village Hall and Beaudesert Playing Fields Trust. We continue to be members of the Staffordshire Parish Councils Association, Staffs Playing Fields Association and corporate members of the Cannock Chase AONB.

All of the parish council meetings are open to the public with the first 15 minutes set aside for visitors to raise any matters of concern.

The regular council business has been the consideration of planning applications, financial reports on income and expenditure, reports and discussion on matters such as electricity supply, water pressure, dog fouling, road safety and correspondence and other sundry items affecting village life.

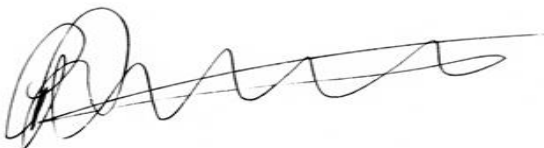
Following the grant of £800 which we received last year from County Councillor John Bernard towards the supply of forensic marking equipment to be made available to villagers a leaflet drop was organised inviting members of every household in the village to an open meeting in the Village Hall to hear about the benefits of forensic marking.

At this meeting which was attended by some 50 residents and our local PCSO, Liz Dale, representatives of 30 households signed up to buy a Smart Water marking kit at a subsidised price of £10.00. During the following few days a further 8 names were given so a total of 40 kits were ordered from the South Staffs Neighbourhood Watch Office at Wombourne. These have since been distributed and registered with Smart Water at Telford. Street signs are being erected to publicise the fact that we have Smart Water in the Village.

The Parish Council website continues to attract interest from around the world with hits from many diverse places. The annual maintenance cost for the website is £130.

The Parish Council also decided to replace the notice board outside Dickinson's Shop with a new hand-made oak one which should last a lot longer and not suffer from damp and rot as the present one is doing.

Signed



Gary W Powis
Chairman
Cannock Wood Parish Council.

15 May 2014