

## **Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting for Deane held on April 12th 2018**

Present: Mrs. Blackman (Chairman), Mr. Bealing, Mr. Crafer, Mr. Ellison, Mr. Hewitt, Dr. Johnstone, Mr. Law, Mr. Startin and Ms. Tofts. 3 members of the public attended the meeting

**1) Apologies** were received from Mr. Bullions, Mr. Parry and from Mrs. Taylor (Borough Councillor.)

### **2) Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2017 had been confirmed and signed already, but had been re-distributed to all members prior to the meeting.

### **3) Parish Matters**

**General Matters:** The sub-station is still an eyesore, as the estate have done nothing further to improve the appearance other than what was reported last year. As the estate have been very positive in approving the permitted diversion to footpath 6, Mr. Law has been reluctant to raise this previously, but will follow up this year. The footpath that crosses Deane House paddock and goes to Ash and Overton has become a more popular walking area, which must be in part due to the kissing gates we installed some years ago.

The village suffered damage to the hedgerows when traffic was diverted in both directions through the village due the B3400 being closed with a fallen tree. We will be asking HCC to carry out remedial work when weather conditions permit this.

We still await the removal of the redundant phone box at the Deane Gate crossroad.

We have again had a flood free year, except for surface water flooding at the entrance to the church.

**Planning:** The work to convert the Deane Gate pub into a restaurant is progressing slowly. The extension at the rear is partly built and window frames are being installed. The extension has a slate roof while the original building is tiled. We have queried this with Planning.

The completion date is remains unknown.

Oakley Hall have completed the construction of the new Garden Pavilion, which will be opened in May. This will replace the aged marquee, improve noise control and rid the site of the ugly metal containers. The planning group have been supportive of this project.

**Highways:** The Highways Authority have confirmed that there will be no amendment to speed limits on the B3400 including the request for a 40mph limit at the Deane Gate crossroad. HCC consider the 50mph limit safe for this crossing in spite of the fact that many vehicles travel in excess of this speed limit. As an alternative, Mr. Law will apply for speed camera control at this junction. The most obvious disconnect relating to current speed limit control concerns minor roads (often single vehicle width) having 60mph limits, often leaving a 40mph main road. There should be a National limit of 30 or 40mph for all these roads.

The surface water problems mentioned above require a soakaway on the road opposite the church drive.

**Environment:** Mr. Law's comments last year concerning diverting footpaths where they pass through fields to alternative routes around the fields will not be possible. To apply for a footpath route change costs in excess of £6,000 and is unlikely to be approved.

We have had comments regarding dog mess through the village, but as the speed limit is 60mph there is no legal enforcement. We encourage walkers to move dog mess rather than bag it as there are no waste collection facilities and bags are worse than no bags if discarded.

The Malshanger estate keep all our hedgerows in good condition.

**Crime:** No significant crime has been reported this year.

**Questions:** Ms. Tofts asked how many residents there are in Deane – Mr. Law confirmed that 65 were shown on the Electoral Register. There are 14 houses and 3 Cottage, and Deane House and Oak Lodge.