

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of the Town Council held on Tuesday  
9<sup>th</sup> April 2013 April at 6.30pm at St Margaret's Church Centre, St Leonard's  
Road, St. Anne's on the Sea.

Present:	Councillors	A Jacques	Chairman
		G Goodman	
		K Henshaw	
		C Lanyon	
		C Little	
		E Nash	
		D Prestwich	
		V Settle	
	Officers	P Jackson	Town Clerk
		S Taylor	Town Clerk Designate
		S Dunn	Community Development Officer
	Members of the Public	3	

## **1. WELCOME**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from County Councillors Armitt, Chedd, H Henshaw and Town Councillors Akeroyd Mackenzie and Wilding.

## **3. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** That the minutes of the Council Meeting of the Parish Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2012 be approved and signed as a correct record.

## **4. COUNCIL ACTIVITY**

The Chairman advised how pleased she had been to have attended many events both locally and outside of the town as a representative of the Town Council and townspeople.

She reported on one of the highlights of the year was visiting Werne the Town Councils twin town in Germany whose 650<sup>th</sup> anniversary it had been. The hospitality and friendships experienced by all who went on the trip had left happy memories. The Chairman stated that they were proud to represent St Anne's as Mayor on the occasion and give fraternal greetings to the Mayor and inhabitants of Werne on the behalf of all the residents of St. Anne's on the Sea.

Councillor Jaques discussed the many other events that she had attended which included: the Carnival, musical concerts, fund raising activities, garden groups and young people's organisations. She advised what a pleasure it had been meeting so many people whom worked tirelessly in the community providing help, support or enjoyment for other people.

The Chairman thanked the Town Clerk Philip Jackson for his sterling work over the five years that he has been with the Council and wished him well in his future retirement.

## **4.1 Key Activities of the Town Council**

### **4.1 (a) Projects/Issues**

#### **Asset Transfer**

Philip Jackson reported that it had not been possible to arrange the transfer of the Open Space Assets and working discussions were continuing with the Borough Council.

#### **Public Offices**

The Town Council wished to move its headquarters to the original home of the first St Anne's Council in Clifton Drive. This listed building, part of the town's heritage, was part of land and other offices that was being sold by Fylde Borough Council. The Town Council was hopeful of securing use of the premises from the new owners.

#### **Blundell Road Allotments**

Councillor Ford reported that the development of the new allotment site had now been completed and all the plots had been let. He added that Town Council was successful in being the overall winner of the Best in Neighbourhood award from North West in Bloom.

#### **Neighbourhood Planning**

The meeting was informed that The Town Council had recently requested that the Borough Council declared the town a Neighbourhood Planning Area. It was anticipated that because of this initiative the Town Council would be influencing future development with St. Anne's on the Sea.

#### **Town Centre Management**

It was reported that Fylde Borough Council have received a grant of £100,000 for the regeneration of town centres. The Town Council was intending to bid for funds for the employment of a part time Town Centre Manager for a period of 3 years, which was to be discussed at the full Town Council meeting of the 9<sup>th</sup> April 2013.

#### **Land at Railway Station**

The meeting was advised that the Town Council had made an offer to purchase the unsightly land at the Railway Station but regrettably the offer had been rejected. The land remained an eyesore and the Town Council continued to put pressure on the owners to improve the site.

**Maintenance/Management Rights of Way**

It was noted that the Town Council had been in discussions with the County Council regarding the rights of way to the east of the town and it was intended to improve signage and maintenance.

**4.1(b) Community Activities****Easter Egg Rolling**

An event for children was held on Easter Monday in Ashton Gardens with Easter Egg prizes donated by Sainsbury's. There were separate competitions for Best Decorated Egg and Egg-Rolling and prizes had been awarded by Councillor Jacques.

**Music and Arts Festival**

In September 2012 the Town Council had staged its first Music and Arts Festival. Spearheaded by Cllr Mackenzie, and including a craft fair and an afternoon of live music in Ashton Gardens. It Festival was being held in 2013 and it was intended to build on the success of the previous year's event.

**Christmas Carol Concert**

Cllr Jacques had hosted a charity carol evening at St Thomas' Church in aid of Home-Start Fylde. The event was well-attended and very successful.

**St Anne's in Bloom**

The town equalled its success of 2011 when it again won Silver Gilt in its category of Large Coastal Town in 2012. The meeting was advised that there had been increased volunteer involvement, including support from local business that had resulted in the provision of additional planters across the town. It was intended to review 2012 assessments for improvement in 2013.

**Youth Council**

Councillor Ford with assistance from Councillors Lanyon and Goodman had instigated a Youth Council. The Youth Council met monthly at West Lodge on Sunday evenings. They were involved in the Carnival parade in July 2012 and were scheduled to visit the House of Parliament in May 2013, hosted by MP Mark Menzies. The Youth Council had robust views and opinions and was a voice for the young people of the town.

**Kite Festival**

Councillor Settle advised that the Town Council had supported the return of the Kite Festival by giving a grant of £500 towards the costs of the Festival which was held on the beach on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> July 2012. In 2013 the Town Council were providing £1000 towards the event on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> July. It was reported that 2013 Kite Festival would have far more activities and would be a larger event than last year.

**Carnival**

The Carnival was to take place on Saturday and Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> July 2013 starting with the traditional parade on Saturday morning.

### **Christmas Lights Switch on**

In 2012 the Town Council had joined forces with Lowther Pavilion who staged a full day of entertainment on 24<sup>th</sup> November and brought their pantomime cast of Dick Whittington to join the celebrations.

### **4.1(c) Community Involvement**

The following successes were reported to the meeting:

- The development of street representatives' following the success of the initial pilot scheme
- Promotion of the Town Team to promote the town centre as a place to visit and shop
- The success of the allotments at Shepherd Road and Blundell Road

### **4.1(d) Publicity**

#### **Town App**

The meeting was advised that the Town Council working with a local Company, Legacy3Innovations, had developed an App for the iPhone which gave visitors and residents' access to information about local services and what was going on in and about the town. Later in 2013 this App would be available on Android phones.

#### **Newsletters**

It was reported that last year the Town Council had produced three Newsletters.

#### **Town Crier**

The meeting discussed the success of Colin Ballard as the official Town Crier. Mr Ballard had performed his "cries" before events in the town.

#### **Town Flag**

Councillor Settle reported that working with a local vexillologist (flag designer) and the Civic Society, the Town Council had adopted a flag for the town which was registered with the Flag Institute. The flag belonged to the town and local residents and businesses were free to use the design. He added that the Town Council were in negotiations with the Borough Council as to siting of two flagpoles, in prominent locations within the town centre.

#### **Noticeboard**

It was reported that a new Town Council Noticeboard had been erected at Hope Street Park for the use of the Town Council and the Friends of Hope Street Park. It was noted that it was anticipated that residents and community groups would have the use of the Noticeboard.

## 4.2 Budget for year

It was reported by the Town Clerk the Town Council's budget for 2013/2014 summarised below.

<b>Staffing</b>	<b>£71,327</b>
<b>Premises</b>	<b>£12,685</b>
<b>Administration</b>	<b>£3,360</b>
<b>Democracy</b>	<b>£4,000</b>
<b>Civic</b>	<b>£3,170</b>
<b>Community</b>	<b>£47,425</b>
<b>Publicity</b>	<b>£14,750</b>
<b>Environment</b>	<b>£9,188</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£166,205</b>

Philip Jackson reported that the increased budget increased the availability of funding for the benefit of the local community.

## 4.3 Grants and Donations

The Town Clerk highlighted the availability of the additional funding for grants and donations and welcomed applications from local organisations. He added that during the year the Council had allocated the following grants:

£500	St Anne's Carnival
£500	HALSA – Band Concert support
£500	St Annes Parochial Church Council
£500	Victoria Hotel Community Association
£500	Veterans for Fylde
£500	Home Start Fylde
£500	Kite Festival
£9,500	Christmas Lighting
£500	Christmas Lights Switch-on event
£1,500	St Annes in Bloom
£1000	Provision of Blue Plaques
£750	Donation new War Memorial Plaque

The Town Clerk reported that the Council had acted as an Accountable Body for an Arts Project at St Anne's Library for the Friends of St Anne's Library. This involved the Council paying over £6,500 for the work carried out with repayment to the Council being made from the grant funds the Friends had secured, once the work had been completed.

## 5. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

David Wood thanked the Town Council for all their support and advised that they could continue to build on their hard work. He stated that it was encouraging to see people working together for the benefit of residents, businesses and visitors.

## **6. FINAL REMARKS**

It was noted that the next meeting would be at 6.30pm on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2014. The meeting was closed at 6.55pm.

Signed

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Chairman  
8<sup>th</sup> April 2014