

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Electors**  
**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 6:45pm**  
**Horton & Chalbury Village Hall**

	<p><b>Attendance</b></p> <p>Cllr Jerry Laker (Chairman of the Parish Council)  Cllr Morgan Antell (Vice Chairman of the Parish Council)  Cllr Trevor Brown  Cllr John Hayes  Cllr Tim Sherman  Cllr Linda Stocks  Lisa Goodwin (Clerk)  Cllr Steve Butler (County Councillor Crane Ward)  0 Members of Public</p>
<b>1</b>	<p><b>Welcome &amp; Introduction by the Parish Council Chairman</b></p> <p>Cllr Jerry Laker welcomed those present.</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Apologies for absence</b></p> <p>Anthony (Sam) Keet  Tony Keet</p>
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Minutes of the last Parish Meeting</b></p> <p>The minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held 16<sup>th</sup> May 2015 were amended on Page 01 item (2); confirmed as correct and signed by the Chairman.</p>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Matters Arising from the minutes of the last Parish Meeting</b></p> <p>None.</p>
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Chairman's Report to the Electors for the Municipal Year 2015-2016</b></p> <p><b>Constitutional Matters</b></p> <p>Knowlton Parish Council is a group council representing the electors of the newly-reunited Horton East and Horton West, Chalbury, Woodlands and Wimborne St Giles.  The Council has an electorate of around 1200 in 685 households, represented collectively by up to 10 councillors.  Councillors are elected or appointed by co-option. At present, 8 out of the 10 positions are filled, one by co-option. We are always keen to encourage members of the community to serve on the Council and would like to fill the 2 vacancies.</p> <p><b>Precept</b></p> <p>In past years, we have enjoyed the provision of funds towards parish-directed activities through the allocation of central government funds under the Rates Support Grant. In the autumn of 2015, the government announced the reduction and removal of this funding country-wide, cutting the amount due to the East Dorset area to zero for 2016-17. This, along with a re-adjustment of our tax base of chargeable households, meant that we were faced with a need to raise the parish precept just to stand still.  To achieve a working budget, we have set the Knowlton annual precept for 2016-17 at £28.42p per taxable household per year, a rise of 70p per household.</p>

	<p><b>Community Benefit</b></p> <p>The Community Benefit Committee has been active this year with the disbursement of funds from the solar farms. A separate report is available on request.</p> <p><b>Devolution</b></p> <p>The central government has made it clear that the costs of local government must be reduced where practicable as central funding is withdrawn. Dorset is considering a number of potential models where, like Wiltshire and Cornwall, we might lose the district councils. Both town and parish councils are likely to find themselves more closely involved in the delivery of those services which need to find a home in the new structure. We can expect to see more of the 'non-statutory' services currently provided at County level disappear – like the rural bus subsidies lost this year – and have to be provided locally by volunteers and charities.</p> <p><b>Planning</b></p> <p>Knowlton Parish Council are 'statutory consultees' on planning matters within the parish. Your council tries to assess each application for planning permission put to it for consultation in the light of the individual and community needs, as well as the needs of those likely to be affected. Where necessary, we have supported applications by public speaking at Planning Committee meetings.</p> <p><b>Recycling and Waste Collections</b></p> <p>Dorset Waste Partnership are currently considering a re-jig of the waste collections in order to save another £200K.</p> <p>We still have a significant problem with fly-tipping at a number of sites within the joint parish and the response from DWP to requests for intervention has not always been timely, even when there is evidence to link the waste with its previous owner.</p> <p><b>Roads</b></p> <p>Dorset Highways have published their Highways Capital Plan for 2016/17 and there appears to be little planned activity in the joint parishes. Many of our rural roads are only inspected once yearly, and we rely on members of the public to report defects online.</p> <p>The C2 road from Thickthorn junction with the A354 to Three Cross continues to concern us. It seems to carry a frequency and size of traffic which is beyond its capacity. Along with Vale of Allen Parish Council, through which the western section runs, we will continue to press for safety and comfort improvements. Speeding is a concern for many residents in the joint parish. The Parish Council have, like a number of other parishes around which have speed limits, purchase a Speed Indicator Device (SID) to be operated in the locality. This device will not be able to identify individual drivers but will be capable of gathering general data on the speed of traffic as well as wagging an electronic finger at the perpetrators. Some parishes operate hand-held speed cameras and we may consider asking them to carry out monitoring for us on occasions.</p> <p><b>Thanks</b></p> <p>I would like to offer my personal thanks to my colleagues on the council for their participation and support during the past year. I have particular thanks for our parish clerk, Lisa, whose guidance as the council's 'proper officer', and her dedication to her work, have supported both us as a council, and you as a community, throughout.</p> <p>The new municipal year offers a lot of challenges. Electors may be assured that your council will continue to do its best to further the interests of our community in the future.</p> <p><b>J G S Laker Councillor Chairman, Knowlton Parish Council</b> <b>April 2016</b></p>
6	<p><b>County/District Councillor Reports</b></p> <p>No Annual Report.</p>

7	<p><b>Community Benefit Fund</b></p> <p>The fund is administered by a representative of each the four Parishes within Knowlton Parish Council plus the Chairman who is appointed by the Parish Council.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the fund will run for the next 23 years and each year a sum in excess of £10,000 will be received which is to be used for community projects within the Parish.</p> <p>Details of the fund can be found on the Knowlton Parish Council web site and an application form is also available on the web site.</p> <p>To date the committee have awarded grants to the three Village Halls within the Parish and a grant was made to Wimborne St Giles School to enable the school to update the playground.</p> <p>At the present time the fund has just over £20,000 available for community projects.</p> <p><b>John Hayes</b> <b>Chairman KPCBF</b></p>
8	<p><b>Reports by Tree Officers</b></p> <p>None.</p>
9	<p><b>Reports by Rights of Way Officers</b></p> <p><b>Report to the Electors for the Municipal Year 2015-16 Rights Of Way Liaison Officer - Wimborne St Giles</b></p> <p>Winter 2014-15 was a little kinder than the last year and the amount of flooding was considerably less as a result. The windy spells have done some damage to trees which have come down to obstruct paths in a few places. The responsibility for these lies with the landowner.</p> <p>Restoration of ploughed-out paths within the legal time frame seems to be less of a problem at the moment, and I thank farmers for attending to this detail.</p> <p>As ever, the best way to keep a footpath or bridleway open is to use it. A steady procession of sturdy boots and bobble hats seems to be effective for a while, and I would encourage the occasional use of a pair of secateurs if absolutely necessary.</p> <p>If a favourite part of the system is becoming difficult to use for walking or horse or bike riding as appropriate, try reporting the matter to our local ranger, John Williamson, using the following link: <a href="https://www.dorsetforyou.com/413287">https://www.dorsetforyou.com/413287</a></p> <p>or call their office in the Avon Heath Country Park on 01425 483809.</p> <p>The other joyous harbinger of spring is the tick. Whilst an embedded tick is annoying and irritating, it can also be a route to Lyme Disease, or Bell's Palsy, which can be severely debilitating. Our local doctors are more aware of Lyme Disease these days, but it would help if walkers and riders took precautions in protecting themselves by wearing protective clothing and applying tick repellent. More information and advice is available from this website: <a href="http://www.lymediseaseaction.org.uk/">http://www.lymediseaseaction.org.uk/</a></p> <p><b>J G S Laker Councillor Rights of Way Liaison Officer Wimborne St Giles</b> <b>May 2016</b></p>
10	<p><b>Village Hall Annual Reports</b></p> <p><b>TRUSTEES REPORT 2015: WIMBORNE ST GILES VILLAGE HALL: Charity Number 292473</b></p> <p><b>Management committee:</b> <u>Elected members (From April 2015):</u> John Amos, Selina Kerr , Chrissie Olds, Margaret Selby, Carolyn Shepard, Eileen Sturmeay. <u>Representative members:</u> Lissie Ashton, Sarah Chandler, Averil Cubitt , Sandra Eyres, Elizabeth Ford, Nick Goodlife (Deputy Chair), Jenny Hanson, Sarah Rampton.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Secretary's report:</b> In 2015 the Hall Committee held four ordinary committee meetings and an AGM as required by the Trust Deed with a short special meeting following the AGM to elect officers for the new committee. Sarah Rampton replaced Averil Cubitt who stood down as hall secretary.</li> <li><b>Major works:</b> major works were undertaken during 2015, including renewal of the overhead heating. In addition some damp penetration had been identified and this was rectified by further roof works, which were also carried out during 2015. In addition, there was work undertaken to improve the plumbing in the ladies toilets, door and window repairs, septic tank emptying and drainage work.</li> </ol>

**3. Financial Report and Presentation of Accounts for 2015:** The accounts for 2015 were inspected and certified by Jan Reynolds.

**Income:** The total income for 2015 was £7,633. This was a slight decrease of £366 compared to 2014. This was due to a slight drop in lettings, takings from Sunday Teas and also fewer donations.

Income from the Sunday teas and also the coffee mornings were both down compared to 2014. We were also again grateful to receive matched funding from Barclays.

Book sales are low in 2015, as the takings for these are not always kept separate and are usually absorbed into the tea takings.

**Expenditure:** The total expenditure for 2015 was £11,977 compared to £3,600 in 2014. This is an increase of £8,377. The major increases are under Equipment (£611) which included £562.85 for new heater guards for the storage heaters in the main hall. Colour coded chopping boards were also purchased (£47.91).

Maintenance and property repairs totalled £3,404. This included plumbing costs for supply and fitting of a new booster pump (£198); sorting out the hot water supply in the ladies' toilets (£225.30); roofing works (£1,380); emptying septic tank (£145); initial work on the drains (£404); replacing front windows and repairing the front door and repainting (£696.57 + £312).

The works figure of £4,740 was for the supply and installation of the new overhead heating system, which had been needed and planned for some time.

**Forecast:** At the end of 2015, expenditure exceeded income by £4,344. This was due to carrying out considerable repairs to the building and the new heating system.

At the end of the year, the total funds in hand were £10,923 which is down on last year's figure. However, we have managed to pay for the repairs and works this year out of funds raised and the amount in our current account. The reserve account still remains untouched.

Looking forward into early 2016, we do have major works to be carried out in the drainage system and the back kitchen, but these will be covered in full by a grant from the Knowlton Parish Benefit Fund.

**J. Hanson, Treasurer**

**4. Report on lettings for 2015:**

Income from lettings in 2015 was £91 less than in 2014 although the hall was well used and as usual, various charities and local organisations held fund raising teas in the hall from March to early November. Regular bookings were again yoga, flower arranging and keep fit. The Hall also hosted a pop up fish restaurant on a number of occasions as well as a few social evenings.

**E Sturmeay, Bookings Secretary.**

**Sarah Rampton**

**12/4/2016**

**Woodlands Village Hall Report to 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

The Village Hall has produced a steady income from regular lettings (Art classes, Dog training, Yoga, Fold dancing, Keep Fit) and family parties. The Parish Church hold monthly Coffee Mornings, a Fete in May, an event in September with stalls and refreshments and a skittles evening in November. Cycling events, riders stop for refreshments. The once a year Bluebell walkers come back to the Hall for refreshments and a Gog Class. The World Peace Daytime Dancing is a regular event. 2 x Charity Coffee Mornings, Woofability Trustee Meetings. The Hall is used for Elections as usual.

**Maintenance & Improvements Report**

The hall roof was resurfaced in Sept/Oct 2015 by Rollalong. (It is a Lessors/Rollalong building). Also the outside walls have been power washed and new seals fitted around the windows and doors. The wooden floor surface has been sanded and resealed. A new vinyl floor surface was installed in the kitchen, also a new sink. The hall has been redecorated. Groundwork, mowing, hedge cutting etc is done regularly. We have new better quality curtains in the Hall and cushions on the bench now.

	<p>The property is fully insured and covered for Personal Injury. The Fire Extinguishers are serviced annually. Music Licence is paid annually.</p> <p>We have chairs (stored in the shed) also Gazebos, both are available for hiring out, also various crockery if needed for 'Open Garden' Events.</p> <p>We are very grateful to the various organisations for the generous grants which we have received, enabling the improvements to take place also to Marian, our Hall Secretary who has worked so hard obtaining the finance.</p> <p><b>Winnie Stevens – Letting Manager</b></p>
11	<p><b>Wimborne St Giles Church of England VA First School &amp; Nursery Report 2015-2016</b></p> <p>It hardly seems possible that we are nearly at the end of a school year and my first one at Wimborne St Giles! The time really has flown and we have seen lots of changes.</p> <p>I have summarised these in key 'sections' which I hope you find useful. As a small village first school we are always looking for opportunities to make links with our wider community and we will continue to look for opportunities to do so in the coming months. On behalf of the school I would like to thank you for your support with some of the initiatives that we have completed this year. We are incredibly grateful.</p> <p><b><u>General information</u></b></p> <p>As you may already know, in January we took over the existing pre-school on the school site. Our new school name is 'Wimborne St Giles Church of England VA First School and Nursery'. In doing so, we have secured pupil numbers for next year, (12 in September 2016 compared to 5 in September 2015), and have grown from 61 pupils on roll to 74. The pre-school and Reception class are currently merged and this is working extremely well. We recently held a 'Saplings' planting to welcome the new Saplings class into the school and parents came too, which was lovely.</p> <p><b><u>School Development Plan Key Foci</u></b></p> <p>This year we have really looked at raising expectations and standards in all areas. This has included improving the quality of learning and teaching and the standards of written work across the curriculum. We have also worked hard to develop the learning environments in the school, including the outdoor learning and play areas.</p> <p>Parental involvement in children's learning has been key and we have run parent workshops on assessment, progress, Maths and Phonics. Our 'Fly on the Wall' session, in which parents are invited to come into the school and observe learning, have been very popular and we now aim to run these on a half termly basis.</p> <p><b><u>Visits and Visitors</u></b></p> <p>We really wanted to open the doors and invite people in this year. To that end we now hold a weekly Celebration Worship to which families are invited to help celebrate our children's successes. We have found these a really lovely way to end our week together. We have also been visited by representatives of Salisbury Diocese who are working closely with the Headteacher to help implement the School Development Plan. There have also been visits from Lloyds Banks as part of their 'Financial Literacy' outreach programme, local artists and musicians, Wessex Water and even a World Darts Champion. The children continue to thoroughly enjoy and look forward to our weekly visits from the 'Open the Book' team. It really is a highlight of our week!</p> <p><b><u>Community, Communication and Christian Distinctiveness</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We had a Whole School Blessing on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January. Led by Canon Simon Tong, this was a great opportunity to pray over the school and its work in the coming year</li> <li>• Open the Book began again on Weds 20<sup>th</sup> January</li> <li>• Children were invited to attend Family service at St Giles church on 31<sup>st</sup> January and help lead the prayers</li> <li>• A Parent Prayer Group has been established which meets on the last Friday of every month to pray for the school.</li> <li>• We now have a School definition of Spirituality – agreed by staff during INSET as 'Spirituality is the wonder and appreciation of ourselves, others, our world and life's difficult questions.'</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Premises and Learning Environments</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our new school playground, with the generous support of the Knowlton Community fund was finished on the 22<sup>nd</sup> .To say the children love it would be an understatement!</li> </ul>

	<p>We are just adding the finishing touches and then we hope to invite Lord Shaftesbury and a representative from Knowlton Community to officially reopen it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Pre-school building was vacated on February 11<sup>th</sup> and redecorated over half term – we are now waiting for replacement door and railings before we officially reopen the building</li> <li>• We were incredibly fortunate to have a Radio Station installed in November the children really enjoy creating their own radio broadcasts</li> <li>• We had another Cleaning audit week beginning 14<sup>th</sup> March: we have moved from 53% to 84% which was fantastic!</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Wider Opportunities</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The school is now a member of the Global Learning Programme (GLP) – part of a wider network of schools with aim to increase children’s awareness of other countries and cultures</li> <li>• We took part in Cranborne Cluster schools Netball Tournament (and won for the first time in the school’s history!) and came second in a recent Tag Rugby tournament.</li> <li>• Year 3 and 4 have completed a term of flute lessons with Dorset Music Service (culminating in a flute recital)</li> <li>• Years 1 and 2 took part in a local Samba Festival in February</li> <li>• There is a wide range of after school clubs led by teachers and external sports coaches up and running</li> <li>• Art club is to be led by a Professional Artist in the Summer Term</li> </ul> <p><b><u>What next for Wimborne St Giles?</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Further collaboration with other schools</u></b></p> <p>One of the strengths of the school lies in its desire to collaborate closely with other schools in the local area. We have already joined up with other First Schools to look at assessment and moderation and are now exploring other ways that we might work closely together and share resources in the future.</p> <p><b><u>Christian Distinctiveness</u></b></p> <p>We are ever mindful of our status as a church school. Next year we will be continuing to develop this Christian distinctiveness and look for opportunities for children to reflect and explore their own spirituality. We are now beginning to work with governors, parents and children to set our school values and link these with the promotion of fundamental British Values.</p> <p><b><u>Wider opportunities</u></b></p> <p>Perhaps one of our greatest challenges in giving our children a global perspective in the world around them. To that end, we are looking to develop the children’s wider cultural opportunities with a global perspective. We are now part of DEED, which aims to develop global learning in primary education and we are very excited about the opportunities that this will bring next year.</p> <p><b><u>Continuing to develop the Early Years and Nursery Departments</u></b></p> <p>As Michael Wilshaw, lead HMI for Ofsted recently said ‘Smart schools put all their funding into the Early Years.’</p> <p>As of June, we will lower our intake age and take two year olds. We will continue to look at ways of developing the Early Years department, including work on the premises, redecoration and training of key staff.</p> <p><b>Philippa Hattersley – Headteacher</b> 27/04/16</p>
12	<p><b>Statement of the Parish Council Accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015</b></p> <p>The audited accounts for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 were available to view.</p>
13	<p><b>Public Open Question Time</b></p> <p>No public questions.</p>

The Meeting closed at 8:58pm

These minutes are to be signed by the Chairman at the Annual Parish Meeting 2017.

Signed;.....