

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF MOULTON held at MOULTON VILLAGE HALL (Main Hall) on FRIDAY 2 MAY 2014 at 7pm**

**Parish Councillors Present:**

Cllr. A Rigby – Chair

Cllrs. A. Aston, A. Burgess, J. Kershaw, P. Vernon and A. Wood.

**Also In Attendance:**

Rt. Hon. Stephen O'Brien MP, Mrs S O'Brien, Parish Clerk and 16 Members of the public (names recorded).

**1. Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Cllr. Rigby welcomed all those present and thanked everyone for their attendance.

**2. Address from Rt. Hon. S O'Brien, MP for Eddisbury, followed by a Question and Answer Session**

After thanking the Parish Council for the invitation to attend, Mr O'Brien briefly covered what he believes are the current key issues for Moulton Residents – Planning Issues; poor local services, particularly roads; the economy; his role as a voice for the community.

Mr O'Brien then took a range of questions from the public present. These covered the following issues – the erosion of clear green field borders between Moulton and neighbouring settlements; a feeling that the local population is not listened to when Planning Applications are decided; the lack of protection for the community in the absence of a Unitary Authority Local Plan; the apparent diversion of s.106 monies from the communities where new properties are being built to fund CWAC Capital Expenditure Projects; a lack of trust in the Planning System and Local Planning Officers; not clear why there was ever a need for the old Local Authority Structure to be abandoned; concerns over future schooling arrangements for local children; concerns over safety at the junction of Jack Lane and the A533 (by-pass).

Mr O'Brien expressed agreement with, and sympathy for, many of the points made and offered practical support where possible. This will be taken forward as appropriate.

Cllr. Rigby gave a vote of thanks to Mr O'Brien for his visit and support.

**3. Apologies for Absence**

**Resolved:** that the apologies for absence received from Cllr. Watkinson.

**4. Minutes**

**Resolved:** that the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 22 May 2013 be agreed.

**5. Matters Arising**

CWAC Planning made no specific comment on Roof Tile Colouring when approving plans for the renovated farmhouse on Jack Lane, Moulton. As a result there has been no breach of planning permission terms and conditions.

The Parish Clerk confirmed that CWAC are currently undertaking a Community Governance Review for Moulton Parish. This will address any possible Boundary Changes and Parish Council representation.

Parish Council, and Resident, concerns over the Planning Process are currently being addressed by CWAC's Scrutiny Committee. A full response is promised in the near future.

**6. Parish Council Chair's Annual Report for 2013/14**

Cllr. Rigby presented the Report which outlined the Parish Council's activities in 2013/14 and made mention of Projects earmarked for completion/launch in 2014/15. A copy of the Report, which will be included in the next Village Newsletter, is held on file.

**Resolved:** that the Annual Report be received.

**7. Open Forum - General Matters Raised by Electors Present**

Graham Scott thanked the Parish Council for its' hard work over the last year, particularly in its' role as Trustees of Moulton Children's Playing Field Trust. He felt that the facilities on offer, following recent equipment additions, are excellent.

Mr Scott also enquired whether the Parish Council had given any consideration to the creation of a Community Building/Facility within the village. Cllr. Rigby, and the Parish Clerk, confirmed that this is a long term aim of the Parish Council's and that various options will be considered.

Cllr. Burgess commented on the untidy state of Regent Street Backs. It was agreed to monitor the situation, referring to CWAC Streetscene as and when appropriate.

Cllr. Vernon commented that the empty Shop Building adjacent to 1 Regent Street appears to have been sold. Future plans for the unit have not been made public.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 9.28pm.