

## MERTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual General Meeting of Merton Parish Council was held in the Clinton Hall on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at 7.30pm

**Apologies:** Apologies were received from Councillors R Down and P Scantlebury.

**Present:** Councillors Tim Horner (chair) Mark Phillips (vice chair) Brian Nancekivell Chris Laughton, Philip Collins, Jan Sharpe and Mrs Wendy Askew (clerk)

**Minutes:** The minutes of the last AGM were read and signed as a true record.

**Matters Arising:** There were no matters arising.

### **Election of Officers:**

Chairman: Councillor Tim Horner proposed by Councillor Laughton and seconded by Councillor Sharpe all agreed.

Vice Chair: Councillor Laughton, proposed by Councillor Sharpe and seconded by Councillor Horner all agreed.

Hall Committee Rep: Councillor Jan Sharpe proposed Councillor Horner and seconded Councillor Laughton all agreed.

Churchyard Committee: All agreed to committee Councillors Nancekivell, Collins and Down being re-elected.

Advisory Group Rep; Councillor Collins proposed by Councillor Laughton seconded by Councillor Phillips all agreed. Cllr Collins gave a short report on the Advisory Group meetings and it was agreed to put on agenda when next meeting is due.

**Presentation and Adoption Accounts for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.** The clerk presented the accounts and explained the payments made. There was a transfer of £800 to the deposit account from the current account during the year which is a fund accruing for the repairs to the square. This year a total of £600 was awarded to local organisations including Churchyard Fund, Merton Football Club, Friends of the Clinton School, Rainbow Pre-school, Friendship Club and the Clinton Hall. The balance in the current account is £499.33 and in the deposit account is £2841.02. Councillor Collins proposed adopting the accounts, Councillor Laughton seconded and all agreed. Mrs Jill Letheren will be asked to do the internal audit and then the accounts will be sent to the Audit Commission for final auditing. The accounts can be viewed by prior appointment with the clerk.

**Chairman's Report:** Councillor Horner reported that although it did not appear that many things had happened during the year there were many projects happening behind the scenes including repairs to the square, a new website, more talks about the Tarka Trail link and the celebrations for General Monck 400<sup>th</sup> birthday. Councillor Horner thanked Councillor Collins for his work with the Monck 400 committee in organising the events during the year with more to come. The Committee and helpers of the Clinton Hall were thanked for their work during the year keeping up the wonderful standard of the hall. Councillor Horner also thanked John Luxton, Wendy and Cedric Askew for their voluntary work keeping the flower beds tidy.

**Clinton Hall Report:** Councillor Sharpe gave a report on the Clinton Hall at the Parish Council representative. She reported that the Ground Source Heat Pump and Solar hot water system have been installed and are up and running which is saving money and carbon emissions. It did however cost more to install than was at first thought so despite large grants

the hall account had to find extra money to complete the project. It has been a very busy year with lots of bars, weddings and fundraising events including the Vintage Car Rally which was a joint venture with the Clinton School and proved very popular. This event will be repeated again this year in July. It is essential to raise further funds this year to maintain the hall to its high standard and continued support is vital.

**Church Yard Fund Report.** Councillor Collins reported that the church yard is continuing to be cut regularly. The hedge by Grange Lane has been cut at a cost of £1200. The last accounts show annual income of £834.74 and a balance of £2102.13 at 14<sup>th</sup> April 2009. If the churchyard is to continue to be cut into the future the continued support of the Parish Council is extremely important. Funds are always needed to maintain the area. Thanks were given to Mrs Jill Letheren for auditing the Church Yard Fund accounts free of charge.

**Vote of Thanks:** Councillor Collins proposed a vote of thanks to the clerk.

**AOB:**

There was no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8.30pm.