

Trull Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting

Minutes of a Meeting held in the Pearce Suite, Memorial Hall, Trull,
on Monday 18th April 2016 at 7.15pm.

- 1.0 Welcome by the Chairman of Trull Parish Council
- 1.1 Mr Mark Hughes, Chairman of Trull Parish Council, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- 2.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting
- 2.1 The minutes of the Meeting held on 20th April 2015 were approved and signed.

- 3.0 Chairman's Report
- 3.1 The Chairman gave a report of events and achievements in the Parish over the past year. He also thanked former members of the Parish Council who had not retained their posts following the elections in May 2015 for their sterling work over the years; Parish Paths Liaison Officer John White who was retiring from the post, and the outgoing Chairman of the Memorial Hall Committee Paul Leeder.

- 4.0 Financial Report for 2015/16
- 4.1 Trull Parish Council started the year with a carry-over of £14,013.31. It received a precept of £22,000 and a Council Tax Support Grant of £453 from Taunton Deane Borough Council.

Further income was generated through:-

- 1) A TDBC grant of £1,285 for open spaces.
- 2) Allotment rents which totalled £696.
- 3) Community Infrastructure Levy Payments of £2,100 to be spent on "the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure; or anything else that is concerned with addressing the demands that development places on an area".
- 4) A Section106 payment of £4,000 which had been held by TDBC.
- 5) A donation from the Memorial Hall Committee of £593.75 from their annual Bring and Buy Sale. This money is to be used for the provision of recreation equipment – possibly a boules facility.

There were some large payments made by the Parish Council:-

- 1) The Parish Council elections in May - £1,430 and the election of a parish Councillor in October - £2,274
- 2) The footpath diversion Order to re-route the footpath via the front of the Pavilion allowing the land behind to be fenced off for use by Trull Primary School - £1,848. Half of this cost will be passed on to the developer.
- 3) A late bill of £1,200 was paid for repairs to Staplehay Weir which had been carried out in 2013.
- 4) Two pieces of outdoor gym equipment - £4,800 (using the S106 funds).

Under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 Parish Councils can spend a fixed sum per elector for the benefit of people in the area on activities or projects not specifically authorised by other powers.

This year the Parish Council used the S137 to make a payment of £29.43 to All Saints Church towards the cost of floodlighting.

In addition the Parish Council gave grants to:-

- All Saints Church Trull Burial Grant - £335.
- Trull Parish Archives Group - £100.
- Citizens Advice Taunton - £100.

Trull Parish Council saw increased fees in 2015/16 for maintenance of the enlarged KGV field. Grass cutting for the year was £2,525 compared to £1,500 in 14/15. There was a charge of £318 for the emptying of dog waste bins on the KGV field and Trull Green.

The large Eucalyptus tree on the Trull allotments was felled at a cost of £420

Spending on the Trull Neighbourhood Plan slowed down in 2015/16 as the draft plan neared completion. A total of £167.18 was spent which now needs to be retrieved from TDBC.

The sum of £2,509.15 deposited for safe keeping by the Party in the Park Committee was retained but will be paid back in April 2016 to fund this year's event.

A Playing Field Management Committee was established to oversee the running of the Geoff Hewett Pavilion and KGV Playing Field. The Parish Council agreed to continue paying for grass cutting and dog waste bin emptying on the playing field but all utility bills and running costs are to be borne by the PFMC. The Council agreed to consider funding towards large items of expenditure as and when requests are made.

The pavilion and playing field form the KGV Trust which is a non-for-profit charity. As such a separate bank account is in now in operation. Yearly accounts will be presented to Parish Councillors meeting as the Board of Trustees.

Regular income is generated through hire fees and the collection of feed-in-tariff payments from the solar panels.

In December the Parish Council set a budget for 2016/17 and decided to ask for a precept of £27,000 from TDBC – an increase of £5,000 which translates to roughly £5 per elector in the council tax bill.

The increase is to allow for £15,000 to be set aside for the cost of play equipment, sport and recreation facilities. It is hoped that this sum will build up through the years and help to attract funding from other bodies.

5.0a Annual Report from Trull Parish Lands Charity

The Rev Adrian Youings submitted a report.

In accordance with the terms of the Charity, the income of the Parish Lands Charity is applied in three ways:-Trull School and All Saints Church both receive 25% of the annual income. The remaining 50% is to be used for the relief of need amongst people in the Trull and Comeytrove area, "by making grants of money or providing or paying for items, services or facilities calculated to reduce the need, hardship or distress". This year, the Trustees have been able to offer financial assistance to a wide variety of people across the catchment area of Trull and Comeytrove. While it would not be appropriate to disclose the full details of awards as this might identify the beneficiaries, the trustees have made approximately 18 grants this year, ranging from £1000 down to £300. We have supported a number of single parent families in need with help towards pre-school fees, furniture and carpets for a new affordable home, household maintenance, beds and mattresses, school uniform and other essential clothing items, and food vouchers. We have supported some university students with small grants towards books etc. We have enabled a talented young musician be involved with the National Children's Orchestra. We have helped families with building maintenance bills. We have provided tools and equipment for someone who was until recently homeless and was seeking to start a gardening business. The Trustees are always seeking and would very much welcome more applications from people in need within the catchment area. This year we have transferred brokers from Brewin and Dolphin to Hawksmoor Investment – but are dealing with the same person as he has moved between the firms.

5.0b Annual Report from Trull Scout Group

Scout Leader Steve Walker said the Group had enjoyed a successful year with the two main fund raising events being the firework display and jumble sale. All sections continue to thrive with waiting lists for Beavers and Cubs. The Group is always keen to recruit new leaders.

The Group is enjoying use of the Geoff Hewett Pavilion with the extra space and storage facilities. It is looking forward to a variety of activities throughout the year including lighting a beacon in honour of HM The Queen's 90th birthday and hosting an exchange visit from a group in Germany.

5.0c Paul Leeder – Trull Memorial Hall

Outgoing Chairman Paul Leeder had been involved in the Memorial Hall since September 2000 and would remain as a member of the Committee. He thanked the Parish Council for its help and co-operation over the years. The Secretary Caroline Van-Canning had offered to stand in as Chairman for the foreseeable future with support from Mick Clarke. A new booking secretary Michelle Weaver had also been appointed. There had been a few incidents of trespass and minor damage throughout the year. Improvements had been made to the hall and new iron railings were being installed beside the gates to give more security outside. Fundraising events including the annual quiz and jumble sale had been a great success.

6.0 Questions for Members of the Public

The Chairman took questions on the following points:

1) What is happening regarding plans for the KGV playing field?

The Playing Field Management Committee oversees the proposals and is holding its next meeting at the end of April. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 7.52 pm.

Signed.....
Chairman of Trull Parish Council

Date.....