



## East Tisted Parish Council

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### Minutes of the Village Open Meeting held on Thursday, 24 May 2012 at 8pm in the Village Hall

**Attending:** David Bowtell (Chairman)  
Mary Jane Carter (Councillor)  
Ronnie Crumplin (Councillor)  
Emma Dillnutt (Clerk)  
Larry Johnson (Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinator)  
Mark Kemp Gee (County Councillor)  
Allan Read (Villager)

**Apologies:** Mary Buckle (Pond Monitor)  
Chris Graham (District Councillor)  
Basil Lansdale (Web Master)  
Kevin MacEntaggart (Councillor)  
Sir James Scott (Councillor)  
Louisa Whatmore (Hampshire Constabulary)

**All Villagers WELCOME!**

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#### David Bowtell – Chairman's Update

David welcomed Mark Kemp Gee, Larry Johnson and Allan Read to the meeting and explained that apologies had previously been received from Chris Graham and Sir James Scott. Unfortunately Kevin MacEntaggart was unable to attend due to illness and Louisa's attendance was in question as she may be detained in court.

David also explained that due to reduced attendance, legal advice had been sought to ensure that the previous annual general meeting was quorate and therefore able to make decisions. N.B. subsequent legal clarification confirmed that David was re-elected as Chairman for a further year following a seconded nomination by those Councillors present.

Before presenting his annual update, David asked Allan if he had any points to raise.

- Allan thanked the Council for saving the 75 year old pond bench and the marvellous job Jason had done to preserve it for the village.
- Allan also asked if, during the next pond clearing exercise, it would be possible to drill some holes in the concrete pipe that forms the central island. David agreed to do this when the pond next dries out enough to walk on. **Action: David**
- And lastly Allan asked if the historic telephone box on the A32, which is in a bad state of repair, could be spruced up? David explained that the box is still owned by British Telecom and that some years ago villager opinion was sought on whether to purchase the box for a nominal fee. At that time there was no appetite for doing so and the cost of maintaining and insuring it decided the issue. David asked Emma to look into the options. **Action: Emma**

David then presented his Annual Summary. This included:-



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- Annual accounts have been audited and are ready for inspection should anyone wish to see them. Highlights are a 5% reduction in staff costs (£640 to £610) and 12.5% reduction in precept (£4K to £3.5K).
- £120 to administer a non-contested election.
- Rotherfield Park Cricket Club further supported by awarding annual grounds maintenance contract and contributing towards pavilion renovations (£1,100 & £610).
- Secured a new insurance contract for similar premium but more comprehensive cover.
- Playground – insured and maintained according to ROSPA guidelines.
- Continued support of charitable organisations:- CPRE, Hampshire Playing Fields Association (who have awarded a grant to RPCC) and East Hampshire CAB.
- Continued contributions made to East Tisted Parochial Church Council for graveyard maintenance (£200) and a one-off contribution towards roof repairs following lead theft (£250).
- Two extra grit bins have been obtained at no cost to the village thanks to Hampshire County Council.
- Villagers helped last summer to clear improve the pond area and we hope to rely on their support again this year.
- Bench restored in honour of Diamond Jubilee (£250) – a job very well done by Jason.
- Village communications going apace with upgraded village website managed by Basil Lansdale supplemented by a Facebook page and now the Neighbourhood Watch initiative.
- A Neighbourhood Watch scheme has been successfully set up and managed by Larry Johnson with signage purchased and extensive communication channels opened. David invited Larry to update the meeting.

### Larry Johnson – Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinator Update

Following a village meeting on 30 January 2012, 22 villagers attended and agreed to set up a NW Scheme co-ordinated by Larry. 11 residents then registered to join the scheme and current membership stands at 33.

Signage has been approved, purchased and erected and the Scheme registered with the Police, Hampshire and the national Neighbourhood Watch scheme allowing greater benefits and access to information.

Weekly bulletins are currently circulated by email as well as useful crime prevention advice.

One of the issues currently faced by villagers is the increased speed of traffic using Station Road. Speed checks undertaken by the Police have ascertained that 12% of traffic is travelling above the maximum speed allowed (36mph in a 30mph zone) but that the signage is not currently enforceable. Having lodged a request with Hampshire Highways to upgrade it, the Police have asked the Parish Council support this request and Larry asked if Mark could help ascertain what is required. Mark agreed to investigate. **Action: Mark**

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Agreed as a correct record of events

David Bowtell – Chairman

Date