

**Parish Council 3.2.10** Charles Milner - Williams in the Chair ; Councillors Davis, Bradbury, Foynes and Saunders in attendance ; County Councillor Mrs. Pat West also present. She assured the meeting that our Borough Cllr. Phil Lashbrook is recovering well from recent illness.

The Chairman announced that Ron Pennells had tendered his **resignation** as of 1<sup>st</sup> Feb.

Mr. Pennells had given years of service, dating back to 1966, as a Councillor in one place or another. He was warmly thanked, with good wishes for the future.

Charles referred to "**the sad saga of the Stream Bank**", now "entering its 6<sup>th</sup> year". He related having seen workmen at the site in January, but, on questioning them, quickly realised that they were ill-informed as to what had been agreed. They then ceased work, departed, and have not been seen since.

This will be followed up, with the backing of Mrs. West, to ensure we get the agreed job.

TVBC are floating the idea of a **Parish Plan**.

On examination, this appears to be an exercise that would add nothing to what we already have in The Village Appraisal combined with The Village Design Statement.

So we will leave it alone ! The nascent **Children's Activities Group** ( which includes Cllrs. Foynes & Saunders) asked if Council would consider a grant for them. This backing would help them in seeking other avenues of funding. It was agreed in principle that £100 could be taken from the contingency fund. There was discussion about the recently planted **Hornbeam Tree**, on the Green. It appears that, due to a complete and genuine misunderstanding, it had been planted where the Parish Council had doubts about its being in "the right place". The Council feels it may be necessary to re-plant it in a safer and more appropriate position.

There was satisfaction that the new **grit bins** had arrived in just the right time. They had been well used. The support of Hampshire County Council was noted and commended. The case for two or three more such bins in the Village is now being considered.

John Davis spoke about an initiative concerning the **Village Hand-bells**. This information had come from Mrs. Sylvia French. ( **please see separate paragraph after this report** )

Mr. Neil Harvey, owner of the Weyhill Garden Centre and Post Office had reassured the Council (following doubts expressed at the December meeting ) that the **Sub-Post Office** service there would continue in its usual location, unaffected by the projected improvement works on the site.

Both Charles Milner-Williams and John Davis reported on **planning matters**. There was no objection to the felling of an ash tree behind Manor Cottages. The tree was clearly in a dangerous condition. The **Showman's Site** application, which the Council had opposed, was comprehensively rejected at the TVBC planning cttee meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January. The vote was 14-0, with 2 abstentions. Richard Munday of the Thruyton Down Action Group has expressed thanks to Phil Lashbrook ; and to Charles Milner-Williams who spoke so effectively at the meeting. Charles, in turn, has thanked John Davis for " invaluable help with my script ". At the same meeting the Co-op "megashed" scheme was passed 12-7. This will be subject to precisely the same restrictions as were applied when Tesco were to be the users. Next Meeting is on 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

**The Hampshire Learning Forum** is holding a county-wide *Festival of Learning*. The Test Valley contribution is to be a *Festival of Performing Arts*. The basis of the Festival is to showcase opportunities for areas of **adult learning**. The intention is to hold music and performing art workshops at various venues, for various activities, culminating in a Festival of those activities at The Museum of Army Flying at Wallop on the afternoon of March 28<sup>th</sup>. That event will be open to the public, and visitors will be encouraged to try the different skills on offer.

**Thruyton's** contribution to the festival is to provide the opportunity to try **Handbell Ringing**. There will be sessions each Monday afternoon from 2.30 – 3.30 in the Hall, starting from **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February**. Sue McPartlan and her Appleshaw ringing group will be available to give tuition.

It would be good for new members to join, so why not go along to the Village Hall and have a try. Dates are 15<sup>th</sup> Feb.; 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb; 1<sup>st</sup> March 15<sup>th</sup> March : 22<sup>nd</sup> March. It should be noted that these handbells are the **property of the Thruyton Parish Council**, so it will be most appropriate to have Thruyton ringing them.

**Crime Prevention** On Sat. Mar. 13 and Thurs Mar. 18, between 10am and 4pm, a crime prevention event will take place at **Wickes** in Andover, where any questions may be asked. On both these days Wickes will be offering a 10% discount on all security products.

**Coincidence !!** At the February Council meeting **exactly 20 years ago** in 1990 Sue McPartlan had brought the handbells along for Councillors to see, and ask questions.