

**Parish Council 11.5.11.** Councillors Saunders, Graham, Davis, Milner-Williams, Bradbury and Windsor being the post-election Council, it was necessary to elect Chairman etc. Charles Milner-Williams was re-elected Chairman, as was John Davis to the Vice-Chair. Mike Windsor agreed to special responsibility for The Green and related matters, while Ray Bradbury would see to anything of an engineering nature. Judy Saunders and Janet Graham accepted "Youth" matters.

Contrary to our report last month, the Council has decided to stay at the **40p per mile** allowance, although the Revenue now allows 45p. The TVBC anti-litter campaign under the banner **Love Where You Live** brought the comment from Ray Bradbury that it was the most exciting thing he'd seen on an agenda for many a day ( unseemly laughter) but it was decided not to participate.

On **Planning** John Davis confirmed that there was still no decision on the Travelling Showman site.....6 months since the hearing !!

And TVBC themselves had reported that the controversial works at 24 Stanbury Rd. were " still under consideration "

The **Sports Trust** had requested a grant towards continuing improvement of their facilities; there are now combination locks on the gates; but concern was expressed that the promised **height restriction barriers** were still not in place. It was agreed to make a Grant of £450. It was anticipated that the Hall would also seek help, but no request had arrived yet. There was some interest in the **Village of the Year** competition, which covers Hampshire & the Isle of Wight, but it was decided this was not for us. "We have other things to be proud of", said the Chairman.

On that happy note, the Council meeting ended and soon re-constituted as **The Annual Parish Assembly**, for which there was a good turnout of Villagers, and those invited to give specific reports. Charles, in his 10<sup>th</sup> year as Chairman reviewed the year with warm appreciation of the work of Heather Bourner, the Clerk, and the support and help of his fellow-councillors.

There were thanks to Mr. Henry Pelham, to Rich Head for all his work on the **web-site**, to Sue King, Luke Bourner, Jason & Clive Bailey, and a general thanks to many others who all helped to make this such a good place to live. There was an appreciative word, too, for the Thruxton Times ( thanks very much, Mr. Chairman ).

John Davis said there had been **20 planning applications** in the year, including 6 for tree work. He noted that new legislation had eased some of the more rigorous and onerous rules.

He also mentioned the new **phone-box "library "**; where someone had made a mess by smashing an egg on a shelf ! The exterior of the Box is soon to be painted, and there is a brand new "Library " sign.

Mike Windsor spoke about care of **The Green** where Mr. Welch had done a splendid job. There was soon to be a working party to clear rubbish.

**Mrs. Pat West**, our County Cllr., congratulated Charles on his decade, and said that Thruxton could be very proud of its Council. From the floor, John Kelly, demanded that something be done about the speed of **traffic** on Stanbury Rd. Pat promised to discuss with him afterwards.

**Mr. Henry Pelham** talked about the Circuit and the Airfield...an ok year; keeping our heads above water.....and plans to create a **modern skid-pan**.

**Canon Tomlinson** reviewed the Church's relations with its members and the wider community. The Parish Church is there for everyone. He was particularly pleased with the close links now established with the School under its new head.....this led neatly on to....

**Mrs. Pam Simpson** who spoke so enthusiastically of her "nearly a year" as Head, at a "happy school". She looked ahead to **a new classroom** to be built soon. " It's really exciting ! "

**Mr. Chris Rome** referred to Garden Club "where Gill Bally does all the work" and to the Hall. He and Ross Mallock had intended to put on a little show with the new screen etc, but *sod's law* operated and the equipment refused to perform ! **Dr. Elizabeth Whittington** reported for the Village Assocn which had given grants to 9 Village organisations, and to certain charities. They had run highly successful events for Royal Wedding weekend. **Lt. Col Bally** reported on the 12 allotments, of which 3 are shared. No Thruxtonians on the waiting list. The Chairman welcomed **Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Atkinson**. Ernie had had a distinguished career as an army musician, later becoming a brilliant postman to this Village for over 20 years. A multi-signed card was presented together with £640, the result of the recent collection.

The meeting ended with drinks and nibbles !

**Red Cross collection**.....raised £234.

Organiser Sue King thanks all who donated.

**The Fête**...Sun. 5<sup>th</sup> June, opening at 2pm. Please help by running a stall, clearing up, buying raffle tickets, come along, have fun. Need bric-à-brac, bottles, cakes. Hall open Sat 4<sup>th</sup> to receive these. Offers of help please to Charles 773546, or Elizabeth 771622.