

**Parish Council 3.11.10** Charles Milner - Williams in the Chair; Councillors Foynes, Windsor, Bradbury and Davis in attendance.

A full Council is becoming a rarity it seems. No Borough or County Councillors present. The meeting was attended by, and addressed by **P.C. Roger Kitson** who explained that he is taking over, as beat officer for our area, from P.C Bill Williams, who will be retiring next year. He has been 14 years in the Force all served in Hampshire, most recently in the Hurstbourne Tarrant area. He grew up in Quarley, and actually *applied to come here*. He is very supportive of the Neighbourhood Watch concept, would hope to attend more Council meetings, but with **Ten** Parish Councils in his beat that may not be possible. He spoke about about the **Police Van** coming to Villages and Schools ( see item later in this ) and is anxious to be told about problems. There will be a "period of adjustment" as he takes up the reins from P.C.Williams. Please allow for. He agreed with the Chairman that **101** was the number to use for less-than-urgent worries.

Julia Ward had come along on behalf of **the W.I.** to talk about £90, the residue of a Grant, which the W.I were entitled to use for a good local purpose. The Council felt that a good use would be in the refurbishment of the **phone box**. She was thanked for the offer.

Three residents of **St.John's Lane**, Gary, Jenny, and Gary, had come along to discuss with Councillors how to proceed with the re-surfacing of that area ; presently prone to mud and deep puddles. Councillors were anxious to establish that residents were willing to get behind this with financial and physical input. Promises of help have already been got from Testway Housing and from Southern Electric. The Council is now satisfied as to residents' support , and Ray Bradbury will liaise with them to move things forward. The Clerk has applied for a Grant.

The Chairman reported that the official opening of **the new Car Park** would take place either on Wed.10 Nov. or Mon.15 Nov. at 10am in either case, depending on peoples' availability. The Andover Advertiser would be asked to attend.

The problem of the "right paint" for the **Box** had been solved, without undue expense, by The Clerk, Heather, having gone to Homebase and, after taking their advice, purchasing paint labelled **pillar-box red**! John Davis and Debi Foynes have volunteered to see to the application thereof.

Charles reported on **The Thruxton Down Appeal Hearing** on 19 Oct. where he had

spoken for the Council. There had been a substantial turn-out of residents, who had conducted themselves well ; but the performance of the TVBC officers was less than impressive, and a letter had been sent in expressing this view. The decision is due in "5 weeks" from the hearing i.e. 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov. or thereabouts. Charles said that he found it impossible to predict the verdict.

On **Planning** there was discussion of the retrospective application from 24 Stanbury Rd Council were unanimous that the development there was "not in keeping" with the area and hence conflicted with the Village Design Statement. Objection will be entered.

The draft **Budget** generated considerable debate, and will be finalised next month, but it has already been agreed in principle that **the Precept** will be contained at the present level in view of the general national belt tightening.

Debi Foynes again commented favourably on the behaviour of local children during the **Hallowe'en** celebrations.

Charles mentioned a County survey re **Library Services** which Councillors were asked to answer. He would collate the responses.

Next meeting 1<sup>st</sup> Dec. with seasonal cheer.

**Ugandan Visitors** As previewed last month, two members of the party were hosted, part of the time, in this Village. Revd. Dennis, a young priest, and Elly of the Laity were welcomed to The School, had lunch, sat in on 3 of the classes; marvelled at the small class numbers. Apparently classes of 100 are quite normal in Uganda where there is a chronic shortage of teachers. They discussed with Pam Simpson, the Head, the possibility of a link between our school and one in their country. There is such mutual enthusiasm for this that surely it will happen. I think it is fair to say that all who met Dennis and Elly found them to be delightful company.

**Police Van** This is due to be in Thruxton on Wed .10<sup>th</sup> Nov. parked at the Hall from 3.30-4 pm, and available to anyone who wants to discuss any issues. There will also be a School visit, before that, at about 2.30 pm.

**Project Workshops** at Quarley are having one of their highly popular open weekends. Billed as "Christmas Shopping Days", they are open from 10am-4pm on both Sat. 11<sup>th</sup> and Sun. 12<sup>th</sup> Dec. Free entry & parking.

**SAVE THE W.I. May I use the Editorial Chair to echo the appeal on side 1. Loss of the W.I. would be a disaster for us all.**