

THE GREEN CHARITY BARRINGTON

Minutes of the Annual Meeting held in the Village Hall on May 9 2012

Present:

Cllrs Fletcher (Chairman), Cooper, Day, Hardman, Potter, Rhodes-Kemp, Van de Weyer, Whybrow
Curator of the Green Brian Northrop
14 Members of the public

The Meeting opened at 8.55 pm.

1 Apologies for absence: Cllr Glover and 2 residents.

2 Chairman of the Trustee: Review of the year

The Trustee held 14 formal meetings during the year, often taking place after Parish Council Meetings. Most of its activities are related to the maintenance, appearance and preservation of the Green. The Green had been used for a fair, vintage car displays and of course football and cricket.

Parking of vehicles on the Village Green remained a continuing problem and the Trustee had investigated reinforcing media to prevent damage where parking is essential. Installation costs appeared to be quite high. It was only by written concession from the Charity that parking can be permitted on the Village Green.

Building work to houses around the Green often required contractors' vehicles, skips and materials to be placed on the Village Green and a small charge per day would continue to be made with damage repair at the cost of the user.

Major repair works on many of the Permitted Way roadways had been carried out as part of a rolling schedule and would continue as required. The repair work in the year under review amounted to £19,768.00 + VAT. This work had been funded by the Permitted Way Licence scheme, together with donations for the use of the Green. The Green Charity thanked John Cobb & Sons Ltd for the high standard of their work for us.

Maintenance of the trees planted on the Green had become very expensive, and was of great concern to the Trustee. In addition several chestnut and oak trees were being carefully monitored for disease.

Following the Parish Council elections in May 2011, the new Trustee offered similar Licences for the period 2011 – 2015. As from 1st September 2011, the newly-elected Trustee issued Permitted Way Licences for either one year 2011 – 2012 at a cost of £47.50, renewable annually, or for four years 2011 – 2015 at a cost of £180.00, with payment by cheque. The previous Standing Order payment system had proved to be too onerous to administer.

In order to facilitate the housing development at Challis Green, the Trustee had sold 0.4 acres of the deregistered land on Challis Green to CEMEX in January 2012 and had received substantial adjacent land in exchange. Following the valuation of the District Auditor, the sum of £128,500 was paid by CEMEX to the Green Charity.

On completion of the development at Heselton Way, the central grass area had been transferred to the Green Charity, to become part of the Village Green. Hundred Houses Society remained responsible for its maintenance for one year, until the grass was established. The present condition was poor and this was being monitored and remedied.

Attached to this report was a copy of the Audited Accounts for the year 2010-2011 and of the draft accounts for the year 2011-2012. The Trustee was grateful to Simon Lake for auditing the Accounts. Thanks to Margaret Goding for her administration of the Charity and to Brian Northrop for his support and advice in his role as Curator of the Green.

3 Financial Report

The Annual Accounts 01.04.10 - 31.03.11 as accepted by the Charity Commission had been circulated to all households in advance of the Meeting, together with the Draft Accounts 01.04.10 – 31.03.11. The Trustee was grateful to Simon Lake for auditing the Accounts.

4 Attendance record for 2011-2012 Trustee Meetings (14)

Laura Cooper (10), Anne Day (13), Tony Fletcher (14), Judy Hardman (10), Sheila Potter (13), Aidan Van de Weyer (14), David Whybrow (12). Beverley Glover (9) had been co-opted in August 2011. Michael Monk (5) resigned September 2011. Rosamund Rhodes-Kemp had been co-opted April 2012.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

In the general discussion which followed, Monty Goding asked if there were any Green residents who had declined to take up the Permitted Way Licence at renewal last year. The Clerk responded that there was currently one resident who had not responded. The Clerk thanked all the residents who had taken out a Licence and paid their fees on time, which was much appreciated.