

THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD AT THE COUNCIL OFFICES, FRANKLIN AVENUE, TADLEY ON MONDAY 12 APRIL 2010 AT 7.00pm

Present: Town Councillors Ballard, Burdett, Broad, Faulkner, Flahive, Frost, Leeks, Lovegrove, Hankinson, Keeling, Quelch and Slimin (Chairman)
County Councillor Tucker, Borough Councilor Bound, Sgt Swallow (8.00pm), PCSO May (8.00pm), Hannah Mintram (Greening Campaign), 2 residents and Deputy Clerk

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Cllr West and the Clerk

3. MINUTES

It was **RESOLVED** to receive and approve the minutes of the Town Meeting held on 8 April 2009.

4. GREENING TADLEY

Hannah Mintram, Hampshire Co-ordinator for the Greening Campaign, gave a presentation on setting up a Greening Campaign for Tadley. Following an introductory video attendees worked in groups to identify the most suitable small action energy saving ideas for Tadley. The top 8 ideas were chosen to be included on the reverse of the community pledge cards to be used at the launch of the Greening Tadley campaign. The Chairman explained that the campaign was being funded by the Hampshire Greening Campaign and local groups, schools, etc would be invited to take part in the launch to be held in the summer.

5. TOWN COUNCIL REPORT

A detailed report of the Council's activities over the past year was given by the Chairman of the Council.

Cllr Leeks reported that a Public Inquiry regarding the planning application for the Boundary Hall site would take place in October. It was estimated that the inquiry would last for 8 days. Cllr Leeks also reported that the Health and Safety Executive have indicated that one for one planning applications in the 3km zone could now go ahead.

There was a break at 7.40pm and the meeting resumed at 8.00pm.

6. POLICE REPORT

Sgt Swallow reported that crime in Tadley had dropped by 20% and that detection rates had increased. No cold calling zones had been set up and dispersion orders are in place but this year would be challenging for resources and financially. However, resources in Tadley will shortly be increased to a full complement of 5 officers – 2 beat officers and 3PSCOs. Cllr Flahive asked what the biggest problems were in Tadley. Sgt Swallow said they were antisocial behaviour and a noticeable increase in burglaries from sheds and garages. The targeted use of automatic number recognition equipment has been successful in apprehending uninsured motorists etc but so far no stolen goods from thefts have been discovered this way.

Friday and Saturday patrols are continuing to crack down on underage drinkers with alcohol being confiscated and parents informed. This type of offence is now down to 5-10 per weekend. Thefts of copper and other metals is on the increase again due to a rise in metal prices.

A resident asked about speed limits in Tadley and the Chairman replied that all roads in Tadley now have a 30mph limit even if signs were not in place on all roads. A resident asked why the stretch of Silchester Road between Tadley Common Road and Pamber Heath Road was not a 30pmh limit. Cllr Tucker said that this had been requested previously but refused, however, following the recent fatality in the area she has asked for a traffic calming report.

A resident reported dangers of speeding cars by Heather Drive. Sgt Swallow agreed to ask patrols to keep a watch on this area. A resident asked why there was no footpath on Tadley Common Road near the skateboard park the Chairman replied that this request was already listed by Hampshire County Council.

Mrs Fowler reported that she and 3 other members of the Jake'n' Lee Fund are going on a Too Young To Die course organised by BRAKE later this month. Following training they will be able to go to youth groups, schools etc to speak to young people about the dangers of speeding and dangerous driving. Sgt Swallow agreed to offer police support at such events if possible.

Sgt Swallow reported that AWE police are now able to assist local police more especially with details of speeding. In addition Hampshire and Thames Valley forces should have an integrated intelligence system by the end of the year.

Cllr Flahive asked if drugs were a big problem in Tadley. Sgt Swallow said it was not a specific problem but during normal policing patrols possession of drugs would be found approximately every 2 weeks. Sgt Swallow reported that Pub Watch had been set up and representatives from local pubs meet every month to discuss problems.

Sgt Swallow advised that the Hants Constabulary web site has details of crime statistics for Tadley. Cllr Quelch asked questions about setting up volunteer snow patrols for helping clear roads and keep traffic moving during severe weather. The main problem is the liability factor. The Chairman said that work was already in progress on an Emergency Plan which could cover this suggestion. Cllr Tucker reported that Hampshire County Council and Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council were carrying out an investigation into the snow problems last winter. The Chairman reported that a list of requests for grit bins has been submitted.

PCSO May distributed Safer Neighbourhood questionnaires and leaflets giving crime prevention advice on shed and garage thefts.

The Chairman thanked all those present for attending and the meeting closed at 8.58pm.

Signed

Date.....

Chairman