**Langsett Parish Council**

**Minutes of the Annual Parishioners Meeting Held**

**Wednesday 11th May 2016**

Present: Cllr Adrian James (Chair), Cllr Lynn Hammond, Cllr Linda Taylor, Mrs Stephanie Tolson (Clerk & RFO).

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1. **Apologies**

 Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr John Key and Cllr Sally Howe.

**2. Minutes and Matters arising from the previous Annual Parishioners Meeting**

***Resolved that the minutes be approved.***

There were no matters arising.

1. **To receive the Chairman’s’ report for 2015/16**

The Chair gave the following report:

After all the activity resulting from the Tour de France coming through Langsett July 2014, this has been a relatively uneventful year for the Parish Council.

The Council’s web-site at [www.langsettparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.langsettparishcouncil.org.uk), the quality of which has been praised by the Internal Auditor, continues to provide the public with detailed information about the work of the Parish Council and events or news items of relevance to parishioners. The Clerk to the Council, Mrs. Steph Tolson, continues to maintain the site and has updated it during the course of the year in order that the Parish Council can meet the requirements of the new Transparency Code for local councils. This brings together all the changes to auditing requirements in recent years, placing a greater emphasis on Councils being able to provide evidence of robust financial procedures. In an effort to improve communications, a letter was sent to all parishioners asking those who are interested to provide the Clerk with their email addresses, so that they can be alerted to important news and events.

The Parish Council decided that the precept for 2016 – 17 should be kept at the same level as in the two previous financial years. A successful application was made for a grant from the Transparency Fund for the purchase of a lap-top computer and a printer/scanner for dedicated use by the Parish Council. As part of its routine business, the Council has continued to consider a number of planning applications during the year and to provide comments on these to the planning authority, BMBC.

The Council also approved some tree clearance at the Gilbert Hill picnic site in order to restore the views that could be seen when the site was originally established and to improve visibility and safety for motorists using Gilbert Hill. There has been a regrettable increase in the amount of fly-tipping in the area in recent years, particularly in the Hartcliffe Hill Road area, which has been reported to BMBC and subsequently been removed. The Ward Alliance has also set up a Clean and Green Team and the Parish Council has suggested a number of tasks for them to tackle, such as litter picking and roadside maintenance.

The work and procedures of the Council have again been carefully scrutinised in the annual internal audit. These were found to meet all of the Council’s statutory requirements, although it is recommended that it should publish an Internal Financial Controls Document, which will be added to the Council’s web-site in the coming year, as soon as it has been discussed and approved by the Council. Once again, the Parish Council is pleased to acknowledge the Auditor’s positive comments and record its appreciation of the continued hard work and diligence of our Clerk.

1. **To receive the Audited Accounts for 2014/15**

The Audited Accounts for the year ending 31st March 15 were circulated. No comments were received.

**5 To receive observations by members of the Parish**

 None

**6. The meeting closed at 7.20pm.**

Signed:

Chair \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Clerk \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_