

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting Held on Tuesday 6th April 2004 7.30pm the Shop Front, Blackbird Leys Road. Blackbird Leys.

Present:

Parish Councillors: B Avery, C Martin, S Cole, L Cole, R Humberstone, G Roper and B Lester (chair) Also Present: H Shayler (Parish Council Clerk), G Sheldrick (Oxford Mail) and for part of the meeting PC P Morris and Sgt G Williams

Apologies for absence were received from C Hatton and V Smith (Councillor)

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 1st April 2003 were circulated at the meeting (due to local post not arriving) and were signed as a true record.

2. Report from the Blackbird Leys Parish Council: The Chair to the Parish Council Mr B Lester put submitted a report which was read and taken to be minuted .

3. Statement of the Parish Council accounts for the year ending 31 March 2004

L Cole circulated copies of the Income and Expenditure for the period 01.04.003- 31.03.04 and gave a short report. Most of the expenses had remained the same except for a reduction in Grants which was due to delays in grants being claimed after being agreed. The increase of precept had allowed Parish Council to allocated £10,000. to a 'Community Safety Fund' for larger projects on the estate.

No questions were raised on the accounts and they were accepted as a true record of the Parish Council funds.

4/5. Report from the City Council and County Council.

A report from S Craft was given and minuted at the meeting. L Cote announced that he was intending to stand for the IWCA in the forthcoming elections.

6 Report from Blackbird Leys Local Police

Sgt. G Williams introduced himself to the meeting; he would be replacing Sgt S Redding who was not located at Oxford. A new crime stoppers numbers was now being publicised for the public to report any crime in total confidence.

It was reported that there had been a recent increase in car thefts recently, but with local hot spots being watched the activity had again started to decrease. It was also reported that there had been an increase in violent crime, but the comment was made that more crimes of this type are also being reported. The area of Blackbird Leys was generally one of the quietest around Oxford at present, but unfortunately the local media still targets the estate giving an incorrect image to those outside the area. The police were thanked for all their work on the estate and hoped that the next year would see the police and residents working together more helping to reduce the crime levels.

7 Any Other Business

G Roper stated that there was to be a Street Wardens meeting on 20th April. The meetings are generally well supported with good liaison between those in attendance. G Roper would be happy to take up any issues that residents have at the meeting.

A notice of the Leys Residents Meeting to be held on 27th April at the clock house was given out

The Parish Council Chair thanked all those for attending this annual meeting and commented that it was sad to see such a poor turn out of people. This meeting gives the chance for so many people to give reports, gather resources and work together that it should be better represented.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm