

MOSTERTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
Held on 10th May 2016 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

*Present Cllrs J Cooper & Cllr N Hickman, J Cooper, A Bullock, D Shoemark, R Fry
In attendance District Cllr A Alford, and P Barrowcliff., County Cllr R Knox and 9 residents.
The meeting was led by Cllr Neil Hickman, outgoing chairman of the Parish Council.*

Mosterton Art Group

The group has been meeting now for 25 years. It meets in the Village Hall most Tuesdays, between 2 and 4pm, for painting activities – not ceramics or sculpture. There is a modest annual subscription and a weekly charge for each session. Members can bring guests for an increased charge. The current members range from absolute beginners to professional painters.

We have a small team of visiting tutors who give individual instruction to encourage progress, and occasionally members take the lead, to pass on personal experience and to share peculiar interests. We have occasional full-day workshops, held usually at Comrades Hall in Broadwindsor, and replacing that week's Tuesday meeting.

Members are drawn widely from Dorset and Somerset - and even from Devon and Wiltshire.

Each year the group holds its Annual Exhibition in Beaminster, and awards are made, in several categories of entry, by invited judges.

Members reach very high standards, but new members are always welcome and anyone interested may drop in any Tuesday for full information.

Youth Club

This has now been disbanded mainly for lack of volunteer helpers.

St Mary's Church

Work on the church tower has now been completed, at an approximate cost of £93,000. The next major project is the roof which is in disrepair. This was added to the church in approximately 1940. The church has applied for a government grant towards the cost of this but been unsuccessful.

Village support for the church is very good, especially fundraising events. The church has close links with the school, which is a Voluntary Aided Church of England school. School events regularly take place in the church. An organ marathon took place on St George's Day. It lasted for 12 hours and raised £1000 for the church funds.

In the past year church has been joined by curate Reverend Daniel Ingles, who is training for priesthood. His ordination is due to take place on 27th June at Salisbury cathedral, and the following Sunday there will be a team service, and get together in village hall to celebrate. On Thursday 14th May there will be a coffee morning in aid of Christian Aid from 10-12.30. The church is always open.

Village Hall

The village hall is an ongoing project, which has had a great year due to support from all the various groups who use the hall. The wonderful frieze has been completed around the stage by the craft group and the committee has concentrated on upgrading the hall. The future plans include decorating the hall and the committee would like to extend the hall's kitchen. The floor has been renovated. Events held over the last year have been well attended and more are planned. The hall has a very high level of usage. The hall committee did apply for a Lottery funding bid, but were unsuccessful on this occasion. The possibility of a Post Office counter visiting the Hall is being considered.

Gardening Club

The group meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. They have speakers on a wide variety of subjects. They have 2 trips out per year, with lots of very interesting speakers. There are approximately 21 members. The gardening club will shortly be taking over the garden to the front of the village hall, and are having design

plans drawn up to provide year round interest. . The Meat Raffle is helping with funding the garden, in conjunction with the craft group. The club holds an annual sunflower competition in conjunction with the local school, and a competition with the youth club shield. There is a Spring Show for members; and a Summer Show open to all.

Fred Young Trust

The trust was set up in 1992 after 2 fields were left in trust to provide support for Mosterton residents aged over 70 in need. The trustees met twice last year to discuss the distribution of funds. The land has been leased to a tenant. During the past year approximately £1,276 in income has been generated, through the lease of the fields plus some donations from the Meat Raffle, with approximately £250 being paid put. Enquiries may be directed to Rev David Baldwin, Graham Fry, Richard Burrough, Dinah Brazendale or Chris Banyard. Assistance usually takes the form of help with winter fuel or coal supplies.

Mosterton Pre School – Preschool now takes children from 2 years old, through to school age. The Preschool is very busy, currently full with 33 children on the roll. The preschool having been granted planning permission for a building within the grounds of the local primary school, fundraising is ongoing. Details of financing and arrangements for car flow are in discussion.

Parrett & Axe School -

The Headteacher reported 121 pupils on roll, half being local and the rest choosing to come from other parishes. There were two inspections this year: the Church school inspection rating the school 'good'; and the ofsted inspection rating it 'good' nearly 'outstanding'.

After-school clubs include: art, football, drama, fencing (sport version), and many diverse sports. There is no swimming at present.

The school has been on the present site for 40 years and there will be celebrations in the summer.

Mosterton Craft Group – The group meets at 2.30pm on the first Wednesday of each month. There are currently 15 members. The fees are £10 per year. The group tries lots of different crafts, with the members teaching each other different crafts. New members are very welcome. The group thanked the parish council for their recent letter of appreciation for the frieze around the stage in the village hall.

After this joint effort members will concentrate on individual projects, mainly quilts for children's charities. Each child is given a quilt which is then 'theirs' and they can keep it with them.

Allotments

There are 13 and a half allotment plots available to villagers in a fenced and gated enclosure in the field behind Windsor Close. At the lower end of the field, outside the enclosure, is a covered well, from which water can be pumped to three tanks. The plots are equal in size and separated by grass paths 1m wide, with a 2m wide boundary round all the plots inside the main fence.

Rental is currently £10 a year and tenure (through the Parish Council) is ongoing on payment of the rent and the maintenance of required standards of use. Sheds and greenhouses can be erected as required, but as temporary structures.

Anyone wishing to take on a plot can apply to the PC but expect to wait for a year. The ideal must be for 13 (or 14) villagers each to have a plot, though some now enjoy the benefits of more than one. It is considered that there is no need at present to establish another set of plots.

There is a link with the Mosterton Garden Club by way of an allotment shield. This is likely to be awarded in the summer this year for what an external judge deems to be the best kept plot. All allotment users can enter produce in the Garden Club's annual Spring and Summer shows.

The allotments are now in the fifth year of a five year lease.

Meat raffles

All benefit from these although some groups said they did not need donations – more for the others. Thanks were expressed to Dave for his organization.

*There were no reports from: **Ramblers, Madlot, Scouts, Homewatch***

The meeting closed at 7.25 pm

DRAFT