

MOSTERTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Held on 8th May 2018 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

Present Cllrs J Cooper, N Hickman, A Bullock, R Fry.

In attendance District Cllr Alford, District Cllr Barrowcliff, County Cllr R Knox and 8 residents.
The meeting was led by Cllr Neil Hickman, outgoing chairman of the Parish Council.

Mosterton Art Group

No representative was present, but Cllr Hickman talked about the recent display of high quality art work, which took place in St Mary's Church.

St Mary's Church

Graham Fry explained that the church is part of Beaminster team, there are 14 churches in the team in total, with 2 fulltime clergy. There are usually about 12 people on the congregation on a regular basis, with more worshippers joining for Christmas and harvest services. The church community hopes to welcome more people to join services and hopes in time to improve facilities by the installation of a kitchen and toilet. The church holds a regular coffee morning every Friday.

Parrett & Axe School - No representative was present.

Village Hall – Caroline Chaffey explained that since the preschool have moved out, the hall has more opportunities for other users to book the hall. New yoga sessions are starting up, and the committee are engaging with new groups and people. Caroline reported that the finances fairly healthy, and the floor will be worked on this year, with toilet upgrading planned, and a new cooker in situ. The Post Office will be coming on Monday afternoons starting Monday 14th from 1.30 to 3.30pm, with tea and cake available. Future events include Italian supper night on 19th May, and a casino night in October.

Gardening Club

Sue Bernand reported that the gardening club is solvent, and meets the third Tuesday every month, with lots of interesting speakers. The group has 2 outings per year. At the next meeting there will be the annual plant swap and sale. The cost is £10 per year for membership, plus £1 per meeting, or £2 for visitors. New members are always welcome.

Ramblers

Dear councillors, I am writing on behalf of the Mosterton Ramblers.

Firstly to say thank you for the grant of £100 for a new plaque to show the footpaths around Mosterton. I have noted that the caretakers of the little garden have replaced the top but and we thank them for caring for it so very well. The new one will be able to be on view all the time mounted on a piece of black slate. I have it ready but waiting for it to be fixed to the top of the plinth.

Secondly and on not such a happy note the footpaths around Mosterton are in a dreadful state of maintenance. Yesterday I walked a circular path from the church to west farm on towards swilletts farm across the river Axe then on to Little Windsor and back via the roads to Mosterton. This was a walk fraught with difficulties I took a pair of secateurs with me cutting back stinging nettles and brambles at every stile. It then took all my courage to get down the overgrown river bank of the Axe and onto the stepping stones which I think may have moved with time having to jump (at 65yrs old!) The last one being a bit slippery and nearly ending up in the river. Then just before Little Windsor the footpath peters out at an impossible gate

so I had to go back a bit and go through someone's garden (luckily there was a gate) to reach the road there were very few waymarkers. I also attempted the walk up the bridle way from Mosterton bridge to buckham mill This was a total no go. In the past I have reported these problems to the council at Dorchester but have got nowhere not even replies. It would be lovely if the parish council could give its support to make the footpaths around Mosterton accessible as at present they are not. The council promotional website of Dorset boast over 2000miles of footpaths, I would like to add but only some are accessible (those near the coast) Thank you for allowing me to voice the Mosterton ramblers concerns we would love to walk more locally but this is so very difficult. Christine Howard

Fred Young Trust

The small charitable trust was set up in 1992 after 2 fields were left in trust to provide support for Mosterton residents aged over 70 in need, but the trust can consider requests from other applicants. The land has been leased to a tenant. Income is generated through the lease of the fields plus some donations from the Meat Raffle, with approximately £975 income per year generated. Enquiries may be directed to Rev David Baldwin, Graham Fry, Tony Eeles, Richard Burrough, or Dinah Brazendale.

Scouts No representative present.

Mosterton Preschool

We are a Charity Run Preschool. We currently run during the school term time from Monday to Friday 8.45am to 3.15pm. We opened our new building in January of this year and we currently offer 30 hours a week of childcare. Our aim in the future is to be able to expand this to include other services including Breakfast Clubs, Holiday Clubs and After School Clubs. We currently have over 40 children on our books at this time which is a record high! Mosterton Preschool subsidises our income by hosting lots of fundraising events in the local community and also within the village itself. We have just had a Village Easter Egg Hunt and our bi-annual Jumble Sale. We are looking to put on a quiz night and a Cream Tea event in the near future – more details to follow, along with an autumn Bingo in October and our End of Year Jumble Sale in November. We are always looking for volunteers to help us to put on our events and for fresh and interesting ideas of things to do. If you know anyone who would be interested in helping us with fundraising please let us know. We still have a few sessions available if you would be interested please contact Sarah Woods at Preschool on 01308 868578.

Mosterton Craft Group

Carol Foice reported that the group meets at 2.30pm on the first Wednesday of each month. There are currently 20 members, and the group recently supported the church in its art exhibition. The membership fees are £10 per year including tea and cake. New members are very welcome.

Speedwatch

Bill Benge reported that the aim of the group is to reduce the number of motorists speeding and provide statistics to support road safety initiatives. Motorists who are logged as driving at above 35 mph are reported to the police and they get a letter from the police. Motorists can get second letter, and after a third occasion, may receive a visit from the police. There are a higher percentage of speeding motorists through Mosterton than any other local villages, with some vehicles travelling at considerable speed. In 2 recent cases a cement mixer and a Lloyd Fraser lorry were both logged as travelling at 40+mph. The need for the speed watch grows with more development within the village. More volunteers would be welcomed, and anyone interested should get in touch with the parish council.

The meeting closed at 7.28 pm