

## **ACOMB PARISH COUNCIL**

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 1st June 2005 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall, Acomb.

### **Present**

Councillor J Wilkinson (Chairman of the Council in the chair)  
Councillors Mrs J Wrigley, Mrs A Earnshaw, W Rutherford, K Laidlow, C Enderby

### **Also Present**

County Councillor T Flaws  
Bill Grigg, Clerk to the Council  
2 local residents

### **Apologies**

Councillor G Scorer

### **The late Mrs C Nixon**

The Chairman of the Council, Councillor J Wilkinson, paid great tribute to Mrs C Nixon, former Clerk to the Council for many years, who died recently. The Council's sympathy and thoughts are with Bill Nixon, former Chairman of the Council for many years, and District and County Councillor, and also the Nixon family.

The Council observed a minute's silence for Mrs C Nixon.

#### **1. Opening Remarks**

The Council Chairman Councillor J Wilkinson opened the meeting and welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. He extended a warm welcome to the newly elected County Councillor T Flaws (Hexham Central with Acomb) to the meeting and congratulated him on his recent election to NCC.

#### **2. The Minutes of the APM held on the 5th May 2004**

The Clerk read the minutes of the APM held on the 5th May 2004.

#### **3. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the APM held on the 5th May 2004**

There were no matters arising.

#### **4. Chairman's Report**

Councillor J Wilkinson gave a full and comprehensive report of the Council's activities for 2004 - 2005 and expressing thanks to all Councillors, staff and residents. (The report is filed with these minutes.)

5. **Local Organisations' Reports**

Reports were presented from the following local organisations:-

St. John Lee Church  
Acomb Tennis Club  
Acomb Common Action Group  
Acomb Local History Society  
Acomb Footpath Group  
Acomb Pavilion  
Acomb Methodist Church

6. **School Governors' Report**

Councillor Mrs J Wrigley, as Chairman of Acomb County First School Governors, gave a full report of the past year.

It had been quite an eventful year; work had finally started on the new building programme in February 05. The present conditions are very cramped. All the classrooms will be refurbished in the new scheme.

Mrs C Scarlett is on sick leave at the moment; the second teacher Miss Hunter had done a marvellous job in keeping the school running. It is not known when Mrs Scarlett will return. In the meantime the Governors and NCC have decided to appoint an Acting Headteacher who will work 3 days per week. This will give the school more support.

Pre-school/nursery is very active and a very good facilitator for the school.

The Council sent their good wishes to Mrs C Scarlett and thanked all the school governors for all their input and support.

7. **District Councillor's Report**  
**Councillor Mrs J Wrigley**

Councillor Mrs J Wrigley gave a full and comprehensive report (copy filed with these minutes).

She also reported on the Open Meeting for Senior Citizens on 9th June 2005 at 2.00 pm in the Village Hall, Acomb.

Councillor C Enderby on behalf of the Council expressed thanks to Councillor Mrs J Wrigley for her excellent and detailed reports throughout the year.

8. **County Councillor's Report**  
**Councillor T Flaws**

Councillor J Wilkinson explained to the meeting that Councillor T Flaws had only been elected to NCC on 5th May 2005 and was not expected to present a report.

Councillor T Flaws thanked the Council for his warm welcome and informed the

meeting of his appointments for 2005/2006.

He will serve on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee of:-

Community Services

(covering for example Adult Care, Fire Service, Trading Standards, Highways, Public Transport)

Strategic Services

(covering for example Finance, Legal, Administration, Regeneration)

He will also represent NCC on Northumberland National Park Authority, Northumberland Care Trust (subject to interview).

Councillor T Flaws went on to comment he is reviewing some local cases on housebound senior citizens.

He will help this Council whenever possible and local residents only have to contact him should they have any NCC concerns.

9. **Any Other Business**

- a) A local resident was very concerned about all the problems being caused (gas/water) by the contractors working at Acomb County First School. There are problems with the gas mains and water supplies. Councillor Mrs J Wrigley agreed to speak to the Clerk of Works at NCC dealing with the Contractors at Acomb County First School to try and resolve the problem. Clerk would contact Northumbrian Water.
- b) Councillor K Laidlow asked if the Council, the Churches, or local community were organising anything for VD/VG Day. It was agreed the Council would not be organising any events and with no Royal British Legion in the village there was very little interest.
- c) Councillor Mrs A Earnshaw had been contacted by former Parish Councillor A Henderson to see if the Council would be considering preparing a Village Design Statement. It was agreed we would seek further information to see what is involved.
- d) Milecastle Housing to be contacted in regards to the damaged wall at Morrison Terrace, requesting repair work is carried out as soon as possible.

The meeting closed at 7.40 pm.