

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF CAMELEY PARISH
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11th MARCH 2015 AT 7.00 P.M.
IN TEMPLE CLOUD VILLAGE HALL**

The meeting was attended by 6 Parish Councillors, Ward Councillor Tim Warren. Tony Hooper chaired the meeting. Minutes were taken by the Parish Clerk. There were six members of the public present.

PARISH COUNCIL – Chairman’s Annual Report 2014/15

“I would like to start by thanking you all for taking the time and trouble to attend this evening and then to thank all my fellow Councillors for giving up hours of their time without reward for the good of the Community. In particular I would like to thank the following; the wonderful team of Natalie Parfitt, Gail Parsons and Naomi Wear, who continue to keep the Village Hall and Playing Field “on the road”, the Village Operative, Andy Chick, the Clerk, Nigel Scutt and Kelvin Parfitt for all he does within the Parish. Incidentally, if there is anyone out there who could spare time and volunteer they would be welcomed on the Village Hall committee with open arms.

Temple Cloud in Bloom, a wonderful team of volunteers galvanised and led by Sandra Blair, have transformed the village this past year- the flower boxes and displays make Temple Cloud a much more appealing place and their efforts have been rewarded by a silver gilt trophy from Britain in Bloom.

We must then give thanks to Pete Hutchinson who has again been able to erect and maintain the Village Christmas tree. Special thanks in this respect are also due to Nancy and John Hampson of the Old Court who generously supplied the electricity for free for the tree lights. Thanks also to the Community Speed Watch Scheme and hopefully more will volunteer to help. I would also like to thank the Residents Association for negotiating new litter bins.

This is the last A.P.M. before the elections in May and the Village faces new challenges such as how to build a “joined up” community across the busy A37 and in particular assimilating existing and new developments and their residents. The new Parish Council has an opportunity to shape the future of Cameley and I urge as many people as possible to put their names forward as potential Parish Councillors in order that the new Council is and is seen to be representative of the whole Parish of Cameley.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR’S REPORT

I'm going to start this short report by thanking the Parish Council for their help and support last year and pledging that I continue trying my best for everyone in the forthcoming one even if a lot of my time is spent as leader of the Council.

The challenge last year was the lack of a core strategy and consequently a number of controversial planning applications coming forward however with its introduction this year, Parish Councils have some protection.

This year we are looking to do something about potholes with additional funding available.

Financially we are looking at another year of the Council Tax being frozen although it is quite possible that this will be unsustainable for very much longer.

I would like to praise the Temple Cloud in Bloom group for their outstanding contribution to how the Village looks. Long may they continue.

TEMPLE CLOUD VILLAGE HALL & PLAYING FIELD COMMITTEE

It has been another busy year for the Village Hall – we have had lots of compliments on how nice the hall is and how great the new heating is.

Bookings are still growing with coffee mornings, toddlers, health visitors, bingo and a new Pilates class all of which have gone down very well.

Then there are the birthday parties which are still going strong and we have some functions coming up such as an Elvis tribute.

I would like to thank Gail, who keeps on top of everything including the regular cleaning which makes the running of the hall easier for us all. I would like to thank Naomi who does all the bookkeeping and also Kate who has been helping me out a lot, sorting things, meeting people, handing out keys etc.

In terms of the Playing Field, the seniors are having a great season and are second in the league and in the hunt for promotion. The under 18's are also having a great season which is really great to hear.

The new training lights have been gratefully received by both teams and they would like their thanks passed to the Parish Council.

INTRODUCTION FROM THE NEW RECTOR

“I arrived with my wife, daughter and two dogs in early November just before Christmas to begin work as Rector. You might be familiar with St. Augustines Clutton and St Barnabas Temple Cloud, but I am also Rector of St Nicholas Stowey and Holy Trinity Bishop Sutton. Just to make sure I have enough to do there is also St. James Cameley! Before arriving in Somerset I was a vicar in Egypt and Morocco, not at the same time of course! Before that I was Rector of Holy Trinity Stapleton and chaplain of Colston's school. We are really enjoying getting to reacquaint ourselves with friends and favourite places in the area, including Chew Valley Lake, the wonderful cities of Bath and Wells together with the Cabot Circus development in Bristol which appeared while we were overseas! This has also meant exchanging the blue skies and sunshine of North Africa for the green of the rolling Somerset countryside. A fair exchange! How is it going so far you might be asking? When you accept the job as Rector you have to take the accommodation that comes with it, which is why I have spent a disproportionate time at B&Q in recent months. If you want to swap your warm cosy house for the huge draughty rectory, please let me know! Anyway back to church, it was a packed house at the Christmas services at St Augustines and St Barnabas. It was great to see so many families and children at the carol services. I guess my great challenge is to get the chance to see them again before next Christmas! I was pleased to find churches where so much is going on, Saturday morning coffee shop,

monthly breakfasts at the Railway, contemporary music events and a new Sunday School which has been started recently led by a mum from Clutton. We will be running some groups in the coming months looking at the Christian faith and it's meaning for the 21st century. I look forward to getting to know you and to encourage all connections between the life of the church and the community in these two wonderful villages of Clutton and Temple Cloud”.