**GUSSAGE ST MICHAEL WARD MEETING**

**Half Year 6 November 2019 at Gussage St Michael Village Hall**

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| **Present** | Panel - Cllr Kate Mitchell, Cllr Susan Hanstead  Public – Rosemary Tong, Simon Tong, Richard Friend, Ann Friend, Lesley Spain  Secretary – Ian Hanstead |
| **Apologies** | Dorset Cllr Piers Brown, Peter Bending |

**Welcome**

Cllr K Mitchell welcomed everyone to the half year meeting.

**Report from Dorset Councillor**

None received

**Report from Parochial Church Council**

None received

**Report from Hall Committee**

Cllr S Hanstead (also chairman of the Village Hall) summarised events, since the last Village meeting report in March, saying there have been four Spud ‘n’ Spouts:-

1. Jamie Campbell from Crichel Bakery - bread
2. The Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance - update
3. Martin Green - archaeology
4. Claire Thomas – colour in paintings over the ages

They covered a wide range of subjects - very informative and social evenings

Future dates booked:

* Friday 8 Nov – Call my bluff
* Saturday 7 Dec - Performance by the Bournemouth GASP – half Gilbert & Sullivan and half carols - £7 to include a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie and a donation to Macmillan Cancer Unit at Christchurch
* Friday 24 Jan – Robin Cook – My Life and Times at Harrods
* Friday 28 Feb – Dick Taylor – The Rise of Airpower 1903 – 1918
* Friday 27 Mar – Michael Wray – A Firefighters Experience

Events were published on the monthly newsletter, the Parish magazine and the noticeboards.

Hiring the hall continues with a wide variety of uses e.g.bridge, painting class, Pilates, pickleball, parties and other social events. GSM residents pay a reduced hire charge. Ann Friend is the 'bookings clerk' to book the hall.

Thanks and appreciation were given to:

* Vic Hatton and Ann Friend for planting and looking after the planters at the entrance – they look lovely
* Ian Hanstead for painting the hall and doing the repairs when needed
* the committee and
* all who attend events.

**Report from Parish Councillors**

Cllrs K Mitchell and S Hanstead presented a Powerpoint.

The new Parish Council structure, which Gussage St Michael is now part of, was explained.

Photos of ‘before’ and ‘after’ for village assets was shown, as well as a ‘work in progress’ for the fingerpost at the top of Parsonage Hill, demonstrating how village precept was being applied. Further photos of ‘work to do’ on two other fingerposts was shown.

**Financial Report**

Cllrs K Mitchell and S Hanstead ran through the expenditure for this year.

**Parish Precept for 2020/21**

Cllrs K Mitchell and S Hanstead linked the above items and identified expenditure items for the following year:

* Salt and Grit - £75
* Repairs to bus shelter and wood treatment for bus shelter, picnic bench, Roman Road information board, noticeboard - £75
* Fingerposts - £500 – contribution towards next post for refurbishment
* Grass cutting - £225 – as a provision if volunteers are not forthcoming
* Miscellaneous - £50

Several questions from the public were raised and answered satisfactorily relating to these figures.

The Precept, as above, for the Gussage St Michael element, to which a proportion of the central administration costs for the Vale of Allen Parish Council will be added (unknown at this moment in time), was

Proposed by – Ann Friend

Seconded by – Lesley Spain

Vote – unanimously in favour.

Cllrs K Mitchell and S Hanstead will take this to the Vale of Allen Parish Council’s next committee meeting in preparing the overall budget.

**Any Other Business**

* L Spain raised the traffic problem with the single width road (top road hill from Bowerswaine turn off towards the pumping station). Vehicles continually getting stuck as opposite road users not giving way. Discussion concurred with this issue. Thoughts to pass to Dorset Cllr Brown were:
  + Part-time traffic lights
  + Signage improved
  + Road widening
* R Tong thanked the new Parish councillors for their work and looking after village matters.
* L Spain complimented the presentation
* Cllr K Mitchell asked the audience for their thoughts for the next five years. Comments included:
  + Resurface the roads:
    - Between Gussage St Michael and Gussage All Saints
    - Parsonage Hill
    - Manor Road between Grove House and the Village Hall
  + Fingerposts refurbishment
* Cllr S Hanstead advised that the road between Gussage St Michael and Gussage All Saints would be shut between 12 to 14 November due to water pipe repairs.