

Wickham Bishops Parish Council
Annual Parish Assembly
Tuesday 7th May 2013

Present: Chairman and Councillors of WB Parish Council, County Councillor Rodney Bass and members of the public.

1. The meeting was opened by the Chairman, Cllr Iain MacGregor who passed the Chairmanship of the meeting to the outgoing Chair Cllr Ruth Johnson.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record by all who had been present then.
3. Cllr Johnson spoke of the sadness of Cllr Dennison's passing. She then asked each of the Councillors present to give a short resume of their work through the past year in the areas for which they were responsible. It was noted that this would form part of the Council's Annual Report.
4. A question was asked about Neighbourhood Watch and the person concerned was given the name of the co-ordinator to contact.
5. County Cllr Rodney Bass was asked why some of the road safety schemes put forward by the Council to the LHP had been rejected. CC Bass replied that he felt that the majority of the objectives the Parish Council wanted had been addressed. With regard to the extension of the speed limit in Church Road CC Bass said he felt the first priority was Maypole Road and also Kelvedon Road, and areas where children are more likely to be crossing. He stressed that there were a number of legal processes that had to be gone through before speed limits and parking restrictions can be implemented.
6. A question was asked about the ownership of the land at Snow's Corner where the village sign is as there is a dead tree there and wood left by BT that needs tidying up. CC Bass suggested the Parish Council sort this themselves.
7. A question was asked about a possible community housing initiative in the village. District Cllr Henry Bass replied that following needs identified by residents during the work on the Village Design Statement and the Parish Plan and the subsequent Housing Needs Survey commissioned by the Parish Council, the Parish Council in conjunction with a Housing Association are looking at a Village Homes For Village People initiative. When a suitable proposal has been arrived at a public exhibition will be held and full public consultation undertaken. A member of the public replied that there had been lots of surveying and other activity in the field behind them and that there was she felt, public concern about affordable housing.
8. A question was asked about progress on the proposed Solar Farm at Little Braxted. District Councillor Bass responded that he thought a revised plan had been submitted. County Councillor Bass suggested that the Parish Council should hold another public meeting, perhaps in conjunction with our neighbouring Councils when/if new plans

come out. According to District Councillor Bass there may be at least 2 additional proposed solar farms in the pipeline in this area, he is keen for Maldon District Council to sort out a policy on such schemes.

9. There being no further questions the Assembly was closed at 9.05pm.