

HEPSCOTT PARISH COUNCIL  
Minutes of AGM held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2013.

---

Present: David Cowans (Chairman), Philip Ashmore, Merle Heppell\*, Ken Reed, Fred Dye\* Derrick Melia, Anne Finlay, Sylvia Johnson\*, Hollie Ross\*, Graham Gate\*, Angela Parr (Parish Clerk)

Apologies: Norma Barker, Glen Sanderson (County Councillor), Brian Dobinson\*, Paul Kidd\*, Dorothy Cowans\*

Note: Those marked with \* were at the meeting, in order to be co-opted onto the new committee, or as members of the public.

**1. Chairman's Welcome:**

David welcomed both existing councillors and newcomers to the meeting and stated that he was pleased to see such good attendance.

**2. Chairman's Report for 2012/13:**

David stated that it had been quite an exciting year as we have had 3 chairmen. One was Derrick Melia, the outgoing Chairman at the last AGM, the second was John Lewis who took over from Derrick, but had to leave for health reasons and the third, David himself who had taken over the job, but had said at the outset it would only be for the rest of the year as he did not want to stand again.

He referred to the three long-standing councillors who were retiring - Norma Barker, Anne Finlay and Derrick Melia and thanked them for their excellent contribution during the many years they had been associated with the Parish Council. He also thanked the Parish Clerk (Angela Parr) who is retiring from this role after 5 years service, also for health reasons.

He explained about the Neighbourhood Plan and Hepscoth Parish's

contribution to the Plan.

He also thanked the outgoing County Councillor David Towns for all his support and referred to the two new County Councillors now representing our area, Glen Sanderson for Hepscoth Village and Ian Lindley for the area of Stobhill Manor which is within the Hepscoth Parish Council boundary

DC also read out a letter from Paul Kidd, delivered by hand for reading at the meeting, which thanked the Parish Council for their work.

### **3. Matters Arising:**

Ken Reed asked about the Morpeth Neighbourhood Plan and DC gave brief details as to its set-up, costs, objectives.

### **4. Financial Report for 2012/13**

The RFO presented a handout with full details of expenditure during the year, together with the final statement which showed both Income and expenditure for the year, and final balances. The accounts would now go for internal audit before being sent for External audit with BDO.

Ken Reed asked about Health and Safety and why we needed an annual inspection. The situation regarding Stobhill Manor Playpark was explained.

Hollie Ross asked about CAN, what the acronym stands for and the role of the organisation.

### **5. Contributions and questions from members of the public:**

There were only questions regarding financial matters, referred to in 4 above.

This was followed by NOMINATIONS as follows:

Chairman: Philip Ashmore was nominated by David Cowans and seconded by Ken Reed.

Vice-Chairman: David Cowans was nominated by Philip Ashmore and seconded by Ken Reed.

*Format of new Committee:*

Philip Ashmore (Chair), David Cowans (Vice Chairman), Philippa Raper, Ken Reed - all elected in May elections.

Those standing for co-option:

Merle Heppell, Fred Dye, Hollie Ross, Graham Gate, Brian Dobinson

The AGM was followed by the usual meeting of the Parish Council (minutes produced separately)