

# RATLEY AND UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

	<b>Minutes of Ratley and Upton Annual Parish Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2016 in Ratley Village Hall at 7.00 pm</b>
No	<b>Agenda Item</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies</b> Apologies were received from Cllr. Grinnell-Moore and District Cllr. DallaMura
<b>2.</b>	<b>Present</b> Cllrs. A Berry (Chair), A Jones, D Payne, A Graham, C Williams (WCC) and J Obbard, Clerk. 6 members of the public were present – Shona Walton, John Hopkins, Mark Orr, David Lamb, David Brazier, Barbara Payne.
<b>3</b>	<b>County Councillors Report</b> County Cllr. Williams précised his annual report. This is shown in full in Appendix 1 Dave Lamb asked how many houses were planned for Lighthorne Heath?. Cllr. Williams explained that currently there were 3,000 planned out of a total of 15,000 allocation for 2011 – 2031.  Shona Walton asked a question regarding Council Tax and the comparative numbers of band D properties in Nuneaton and Stratford – if SDC is so restricted on spending why not follow Nuneaton model? Cllr. Williams explained that Nuneaton has problems due to its population demographic and as a result has had to increase its Council Tax by around 4 – 5% per year. As a result, Nuneaton are now beyond their means and are therefore unable to build roads or undertake developments etc. poor, high unemployment etc.  <b>District Councillors Report</b> Cllr. Williams presented the District Council report - This is shown in full in Appendix 2.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2015</b> These were proposed by Cllr. Graham, seconded by Cllr. Payne as being a true and accurate record of the proceedings. This was agreed by all.  The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.
<b>5.</b>	<b>Matters Arising from previous meeting</b> The Chairman summarised the minutes from the last meeting and covered Matters Arising from the May 2015 Parish Council meeting (actions had been transferred to aid a more rapid response)
<b>6.</b>	<b>Annual Financial Statement.</b> The Clerk presented the annual accounts for April 2015 to March 2016 and pointed out that these were provisional as they had not yet been fully audited. For the first time in ten years the Precept had to be increased in order to balance accounts to £12,000.  The largest expenditure was, again, grass cutting of playing fields, verges etc., followed by Clerks Salary, donations to Village Hall and Ratley PCC.  The closing total balance was £8,011 which was a decrease of £373 from the previous year due to some minor additional expenses.  The Clerk reminded the meeting that the Parish Council accounts were public documents. The

# RATLEY AND UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

	2015/16 accounts will be available for inspection for a period of 30 working days commencing 3 <sup>rd</sup> June at the Clerks address (7, Grange Close, Ratley – 07748903260)
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>Local Community Reports</b></p> <p><b>7.1 Ratley Village Hall.</b> This was read by the Clerk on behalf of Robin Flintoff, Ex-Officio Chair of the Village Hall Committee. The full report is attached in Appendix 3. Unsuitable for large vehicles is now up!</p> <p><b>7.2 - Ratley Parochial Church Council</b> This report was prepared and presented by Mark Orr. The full report is attached in Appendix 4.</p> <p><b>7.3 - Ratley Youth club.</b> This report was prepared and presented by Shona Walton. The full report is attached in Appendix 5.</p> <p><b>7.4 – Tysoe School</b> This report was prepared by Gill Roache, Tysoe C of E Primary School Governing Body – read by Cllr. Jones. The full report is attached in Appendix 6.</p> <p><b>7.5 - Welfare Trust.</b> David Lamb presented a brief overview of the activities of the Welfare Trust, on behalf of Veronika Lamb, the Secretary. These are shown in Appendix 7.</p> <p><b>7.6 - Ratley WI</b> This report was prepared by Sue Flintoff, President of Ratley &amp; District WI, and read out by Cllr. Payne. The full report is attached in Appendix 8.</p> <p><b>7.7 – Ratley Table Tennis Club.</b> This report was prepared and presented by David Lamb, Chair of Ratley Table Tennis Club and presented by the Clerk. The full report is attached in Appendix 9.</p>
<b>8.</b>	<p><b>Chairman’s Report</b> The Chairman presented his annual report of the activities of the Parish Council and the community. This is précised in Appendix 10.</p>
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b> Barbara Payne asked about the Planters outside the Village Hall and whether anyone was intending to plant up etc. She kindly offered to take on this responsibility for 3 remaining planters (one broken) . The Chairman thanked Barbara on behalf of the Parish Council.</p> <p>Cllr. Graham reminded the meeting that would be community handrail painting event on June 12<sup>th</sup> - cake may be involved ....</p>
	The meeting closed at 20:20

Signed (Chairman) \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

# RATLEY AND UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Appendix 1 – County Councillor’s Report

### Ratley & Upton Annual Meeting – 25<sup>th</sup> May 2016 County Councillor’s Report

During the past year the County Council has continued with its policy of implementing a savings regime which will produce a final figure of some £92 million of direct savings by the year 2017. It will come as no surprise that the largest single expenditure for the County Council is Adult Social Care followed by Children’s Social Services. These two services account for nearly a £200 million spend out of a budget of £400 million. The introduction of the Care Act put an onus on local authorities. Warwickshire County Council fully subscribes to the principles of the Care Act which ensures that respect is given to the frail and sick at all times. The County’s ambition is to ensure that a full care service is available to all aged that are awaiting discharge from hospital. Some years ago, the County concentrated on improving the efficiency of Care Homes under our control and this has proved most useful with implementing the Care Act.

As part of our cost saving exercises throughout the year, the County revised its School Transport policy. One example is the decision made that any new students choosing to go to grammar schools will have to fund the cost of transport. Warwickshire was one of only a handful of counties in the country who provided free school transport to grammar school students. All other transport for school education is funded by the County Council.

The relatively mild winter has dropped the demand for road gritting and as a consequence it has been possible for the Road Gritting Teams to be transferred to Road Maintenance with particular attention to attending to potholes. One only has to drive into adjacent counties to see the success of this decision compared with other adjacent counties.

We now have a very successful Flood Prevention Team based in Shire Hall and the Team is currently taking steps to ensure that the flooding experienced in Cumbria and Somerset does not occur in Warwickshire.

Last December we started preparing the Budget for this year. As in previous years certain assumptions were made as to how much Grant Support we will be receiving from Central Government. When the figures were revealed they were significantly lower than we had anticipated. This made setting the Budget extremely difficult. However, there were some concessions. We appealed to central government to reconsider their Grant Support and fortunately the government, as a result of lobbying by the Conservative administration at Shire Hall, agreed to increase our allocation by some £6 million over the next two years. They also allowed us to increase the amount the Council Tax was raised by ensuring that the rise was ring fenced. This year the Council Tax increase is 3.99% of which 2% is ring fenced to cover Adult Social Care whilst the remainder covers the increased cost of administering the Council. For example, increased cost of insurance, staff salaries etc. Central government has indicated that over the next five years the amount of Grant Support will be reduced and local authorities will have to raise the funds from other sources, such as Business Rates that are currently given to the government. Whilst this sounds attractive Warwickshire, being a mainly rural area, does not attract the same amount of Business Rates as other authorities.

# RATLEY AND UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

As far as Unitary Authorities are concerned, this could be an interesting proposal especially since it is believed that the savings could amount annually to at least £20 million. Unfortunately, there is opposition to this proposal, a preference being to create two Unitary Authorities for Warwickshire, one in the north and one in the south. Government guidance does not support this proposal since the population for each area proposed would be significantly lower than the half-million required.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Adrian Berry, as Chair, and the rest of the Parish Council for the diligent way in which they handle their responsibilities.

**Cllr Chris Williams**

**Member for Kineton Division – WCC**

**21.05.2016.**

# RATLEY AND UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Appendix 2 - District Councillors Report

### Ratley & Upton Annual Meeting – 25<sup>th</sup> May 2016 District Councillor's Report

During the past year there has been little legislation that would have a direct impact upon Ratley & Upton. The District Council has ceased its cooperation with Cherwell District Council and South Northamptonshire since both these authorities are moving in the direction which would not prove advantageous to Stratford-on-Avon District Council.

Our annual budget which was set in March included a provision that Council Tax will rise by some £5 per year for a Band D property. In normal circumstances, Local Authorities are prohibited from increasing their precept above 2% without holding a Referendum. However, this year the government has allowed Stratford District Council dispensation to raise its Council tax on the basis that we have not increased Council tax for the last five years and it was felt that a 2% increase on the low taxation figure of £127 for a Band D house would not have the same impact that in Nuneaton where a Band D house is currently taxed at £450. This dispensation is for this year only but still means that SDC's taxation is the lowest taxed authority in Warwickshire.

The never ending story of the Core Strategy now looks likely to have reached a conclusion in that the Government Inspector has supported the clarifications he requested when the Public Examination was made last year. The new figure for the housing allocation for South Warwickshire is 15,500 houses to be built in the next 15 years. He is quite content that the development at Gaydon/Lighthorne Heath should proceed and also that a new settlement will be allowed at Long Marston. The Inspector rejected any proposals that Wellesbourne Airfield should be developed for housing but he increased the amount of potential new housing to be allowed in Southam. This could mean an additional 1,500 will be built over the next 15 years. He supported the District Council's proposal that we should allocate 2,000 houses to be built within the Local Centre settlement criteria. Ratley is still recognised as a Category 4 village which is expected only to have to cope with an expansion of some 25 housing units over the next fifteen years. Any small development over this period will be limited to 8% of this total which, in effect, means that it is unlikely that there is any prospect of estate development being allowed.

At the end of March the Management Structure within Stratford District Council has been reorganised with the position of Chief Executive being made redundant and his position being filled by two existing Officers. This reorganisation is scheduled to save SDC some £100,000 per annum and these proposals were incorporated in the budget calculations.

**Cllr Chris Williams**

**Member for Napton & Fenny Compton Ward – SDC**

**On behalf of Cllr Bart Dalla Mura, Member for Red Horse Ward - SDC**

**25.05.16.**

# RATLEY AND UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Appendix 3 - Ratley village Hall annual report

### Chair RVH Trustees report to Annual Village Meeting May 2016

Firstly I must apologise for not giving the report in person as I have since this meeting was inaugurated. My commitments elsewhere are purely personal and I suppose this reflects a subtle shift in my thinking in putting myself first and the hall second. A condition I am not used to and have not used in my 20 year involvement with the hall. I must admit that I had not anticipated that I would be producing the report this year and that by now a new team of hall officers would be firmly at the helm and recounting events of their new start on the halls management and organisation. Instead I find myself in limbo, no longer officially Chair, as I have tried to step down at the previous AGM held in December 2015, and finding no-one willing to take the post on. I am therefore in place in name without this key post currently appointed in fact.

Not that all the Trustees recruiting has been as fraught with difficulty. We have two new Trustees and one, Angela Day, has taken on the role of another key officer - the Secretary. Lisa Curtlin is remaining in place as Treasurer. Meetings are organised and the team of Trustees have been taking it in turn to chair the meetings. Nevertheless it is acknowledged the Trustees do need leadership and someone willing to set an agenda for the future of the hall rather than just a named figurehead for the sake of documentation. With an AGM due at its more normal time in July 2016 it is to be hoped such an individual can be found. At that time I will be stepping down entirely as a Trustee at least for the foreseeable future. I have some personal thoughts on what has happened throughout this whole process. I would say to the members of the parish that you need to do more than turn up for events organised for you by the very few volunteers who selflessly do this for you. Many more people need to actually get involved and make a contribution of time and expertise to ensure this valuable community asset is there for all to use in the future. Some are doing this very well and have established themselves as key contributors such as those who organise the fete. RVH is the beneficiary of this very commendable effort and we are very grateful for it. Unfortunately, too many in the community participate very little and actively support even less. We need more Trustees!

The last year has been fairly typical of the halls operation except in one key respect. No major events have been organised as part of the halls activities this year. This has had an impact on hall funds and fund raising will once again be a priority for the new leadership team if we are not to see the hall slide inexorably into a risky financial position. The Trustees will also need to steadily maintain the rise in fees to at least keep pace with our increasing running costs and maintenance costs.

It has always been my view that fees should reflect the true cost of hiring the hall and the impact of major increases can only be realistically avoided by regular appropriate rises that match the true cost of maintaining a public building of this type. We also need to be more aware of how much hiring spaces of our quality are set at for major events such as wedding receptions and be more willing to charge a rate that is realistic. It should not be necessary for a few individuals to engage in major fundraising to subsidise the activities of even local hirers in this quality of venue. Partly this would be helped by raising the hall profile and making information about events, activities and hiring potential have more significance in the wider community. An active village website would help in this respect which would host a page on the village hall.

# RATLEY AND UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Unfortunately the hall has suffered some damage this year both externally and internally. In all such events no hirer has taken responsibility and reported the damage and it is very difficult currently to establish who is responsible in these cases. The costs of repairs inevitably then fall on the halls finances. The Trustees are very keen to maintain the quality of the hall and as such have recognised the need to repair the corner of the roof on the roadside the result of truck damage. It would help the hall considerably if the Parish Council could find a way to limit this damage by vehicles using Chapel Lane and cutting in at the narrowest corner of the hall. The latest incident will cost the hall over £500. This is no small matter for a charity to raise. They have also undertaken to stabilise the roof gully and make necessary repairs for the long term. As a result companies have been asked to tender for the work and a contractor has been appointed and will start work on June 20<sup>th</sup> 2016. This will be a cost of £5,600 plus VAT. Following this some redecoration will be required internally by volunteers.

The rural cinema has now been in operation for 20 years it continues to be a major success as a regular monthly event. In fact Ratley VH has been in almost continual operation throughout this time as a founder member and as the only one who still shows a program for both children and adults every month of the year. As all VH events this is run by volunteers; they actually pay to watch the films! as well as organising the pick up and return of the kit, setting up the hall and providing support and refreshments. I cannot praise enough the value of this service to the community and only wish that it was supported better than the one or two adults who show up for films some months of the year. The cost of seeing a film in the VH has remained almost static throughout this period and is remarkably good value for money compared with our commercial rivals.

In thanking the Parish Council for its financial grant this year I hope they will continue to see the public benefit the RVH charity brings to the community and look to increase their financial support. The current grant level whilst welcome has not increased in several years while our costs for insurance and heating have both risen significantly more than inflation. As can be seen from the financial statement these two items; insurance cost is c. £2.4K and electricity cost £1.8K ,are barely covered by our combined income from hirings and village lottery.

This is a brief report, therefore, primarily because the VH needs new impetus and direction to exploit its potential and I sincerely hope it finds the team to do this in the coming year and a more positive years activities are reported on in 2017.

Robin Flintoff (ex officio) Chair May 2016

## **Review of financial performance *[Prior year figures in brackets]***

Total income **£ 8,736** *[£ 10,735]* comprising:

Hall hire **£ 3,466** *[£ 3,119]*

Grants and donations **£ 1,996** *[£ 4,419]*

Hall events **£ 1,365** *[£ 1,315]*

Feed in Tariff **£ 1,181** *[£ 1,161]*

Other **£ 728** *[£ 720]*

Total costs **£ 8,835** *[£ 10,166]* comprising:

Insurance **£ 2,390** *[£ 2,319]*

# RATLEY AND UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Electricity **£ 1,800** [*£ 1,517*]

Repairs **£ 78** [*£ 1,493*]

Council Tax **£ 1,799** [*£ 1,759*]

Cost of hall events **£ 1,148** [*£ 1,120*]

Depreciation **£ 270** [*£ 683*]

Other **£ 1,350** [*£ 1,275*]

Profit before depreciation **£ 171** [*£ 1,252*]

Loss after depreciation **£ 98** [*profit £ 569*]

# RATLEY AND UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Appendix 4 - Ratley PCC Report

### SECRETARY'S REPORT – Work of the PCC

Annual Open Meeting Sunday April 24<sup>th</sup> 2016

Ratley PCC is a charity exempted from registration with the Charity Commission

Aims of the PCC: To co-operate with the minister and chairman in promoting the parish, the whole mission of the church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical.

**Organisation:** Consists of churchwardens – Thelma Grinnell Moore and John Wrench.

Deanery synod representative – vacancy

5 elected members namely John Mahler, Mark Orr, Michael Parkes, Keith Smith, Bill Voysey and co-opted minute secretary Cynthia Voysey.

#### **Last year's PCC meetings:**

The PCC met 5 times last year.

#### **Worship:**

Lay-led Evensong continues to be successful. Thanks to the team who organise, prepare and take part in the services and to Barry who often preaches then. Church in the Pub continues on the second Sunday of each month with Compline in the church beforehand. The shortened Children's Service continued monthly on the second Sunday. It was decided to say The Peace at the end of the Services.

Messy Church continues successfully.

#### **Special Services during the year:**

**April 5<sup>th</sup>** – Easter Sunday service with the Festival Choir

**August 1<sup>st</sup>** – Patronal Festival had to be cancelled due to holiday commitments etc.

**October 4<sup>th</sup>** - Harvest Festival with the Festival Choir. This was followed by supper in the village hall and sale of produce.

**November 8<sup>th</sup>** – Remembrance Day service was held outside the church at 10.45 when a wreath was laid at the war memorial. This was followed by a service in church led by David Brazier.

**November 22<sup>nd</sup>** – Songs of Praise and Gift Day Service. led by Keith Smith.

**December 20<sup>th</sup>** – Carol Service with the Festival Choir, followed by mulled wine and mince pies.

**December 24<sup>th</sup>** – Crib Service for the children at 5 o'clock and Midnight Eucharist at 11.30 pm.

**February 28<sup>th</sup>** – A Remembrance Service for Vera Hassall and Ivy Curwen.

**March 4<sup>th</sup>** – Womens World day of Prayer held at Radway, prepared by the women of Cuba.

**Electoral Roll:** There are currently 31 members on the electoral roll including 3 non-residents.

# RATLEY AND UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

## **Church:**

Two candlesticks have been purchased to try out and 10 new hymn books.

Several repairs have been carried out in and outside the church including the floor in the south aisle, the path, wall and access to the churchyard at the rear of the church.

John Wrench has worked on applications for grants towards the cost of major repairs to the church which will be ongoing next year.

## **Social and Cultural :**

Many people went to see the **Passion Play** performed in Kineton in April.

The **Annual Bazaar** was cancelled this year and instead a **Safari Lunch** was held in September on a beautiful sunny day and 36+ tickets were sold and we extend grateful thanks to the families who opened their homes and gardens and provided food and catering.

The **Annual Sponsored Cycle Ride** held in September (name changed to Ride and Stride) was well supported this year and raised £135 for the church.

The **Messiah** was performed in church on 19<sup>th</sup> December, thanks to Keith Smith, and was well supported

A meeting re **The Growing Church** was held on 25<sup>th</sup> November.

*THE EDGEHILL MASTERS GOLF TOURNAMENT - POPULAR ANNUAL EVENT.*

## **Review of Financial Affairs:**

The PCC has met all its financial commitments for the past year and a report, given by the treasurer, will follow.

*SADLY EXPENSES HAD EXCEEDED INCOME DUE MAINLY TO MAINTENANCE AND RESTORATION COSTS, WHICH WILL BE ONGOING FOR ROOF REPAIRS, AND DESPITE A LEGACY FROM IVY CURWEN'S ESTATE AND A GENEROUS ANONYMOUS DONATION.*

# RATLEY AND UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Appendix 5 – Ratley Youth Club Report

### Youth Club Report to Annual Parish Meeting - May 25th 2016

Ratley Youth Club continues to thrive with 20 regular members and a few older members becoming more worldly-wise and choosing the events they fancy from their widening range of options on a Friday evening.

As Chair, I am annually relieved when the Brown family agree to stand for election as Secretary and Treasurer, and to whom my annual thanks are no less sincere for being repeated.

Every couple of years, there is a tense period when the children of the Programme Leaders start to become more independent, and we look to other parents to volunteer to organise the fortnightly events. Carol Ann Templeton this year was joined by Sarah Jarvis, whom I am delighted felt able to contribute in this way, as they have been innovative in exploiting the resources of the local area as well as organising special treats such as Ice skating, bowling and Frisbee Golf.

The summer programme for example involves den building at the Herb Centre, games and barbecue on The Rec, as well as a trip to Draycote Water, led by expert sailors Angel and Robin Day and swimming at Banbury Lido. Village Hall club events include pizza and film nights, crafts and baking sessions and even a talent show, using the skills they learned at last term's Circus Workshop. Last month's tour round Upton Farm on the shooting trailer playing sheep bingo and rolling in the biomass wood-chip barn was described by even sophisticated 13 year olds as 'The best Youth Club ever!' If you have an interest or hobby you could share with us one club night, please let me or one of the Leaders know. We currently have 19 DBS checked Leaders to call on, so you would be well-supported.

Our finances are reasonably healthy this year, enabling us to subsidise the more expensive events, and we are grateful to the Village Hall Committee for supporting us through their charitable status to hold grant monies which paid for the Circus Skills workshop. The revised charging policy we trialled last year of £10 per term in advance for each child, with a maximum charge of £25 for any family seems to be working well, making it easier for the Treasurer and safer for Leaders organising transport on out-of-village events.

We are annually indebted to Adrian Berry, Robin Flintoff and Quentin Creese at the Rose and Crown, and for a record donation to Club funds following last year's spectacular and safe Bonfire Night with spuds'n'beans. However, due to changes in the policy of our insurance underwriters, this year's event is at risk, and we are looking for new insurers or a new venue. This is a matter of concern to the Club and the Parish Council, which supports this most popular annual family event in the village.

Through our 2015 Christmas fund-raising, the Club was able to donate £228 to both the Cystic Fibrosis Trust and the WWF, the charities chosen by our members.

# RATLEY AND UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Increasingly, we have to have regard to safeguarding matters, and a workshop by Lee Atkins, Senior Youth Worker from the Warwickshire Association of Youth Clubs led a training session for Leaders, and invited members of the PCC and Village Hall Committee on 20th May.

The Management Committee is working through a thorough overhaul of almost 20 policies and risk assessments, to ensure that we are keeping our children and volunteers safe, whilst maintaining an atmosphere of increasing independence, resilience and mutual endeavour where we acknowledge but do not over-emphasise risks, encouraging proportionate responses and responsible behaviour. Whilst trying to keep bureaucracy to a minimum, and to maximise a relaxed, informal atmosphere, we do rely on parents completing the necessary documents, which we understand can appear onerous to busy mums and dads. We are grateful for their tolerance!

Finally, the Chair, the Committee and Members would like to acknowledge their indebtedness to Carol Ann and Sarah for their imaginative and thorough leadership as Programme Organisers this year, and we look forward to another year providing opportunities for our children to grow into sociable, responsible young citizens, proud of themselves and their community.

**Shona Walton Chair - Ratley Youth Club**

# RATLEY AND UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Appendix 6 — Report from Tysoe C of E Primary School

### Tysoe School Report to Ratley PC - May 2016

Tysoe and Wellesbourne Schools Federation is now firmly established. Executive Head Teacher Lindsey Oscroft and Head of School Jenny Coates , with the support of Staff and Governors , achieved a ` Good ` Ofsted rating for the school last September. This was all the more impressive as it was in the third week of Term!

The school is the catchment school for Radway , Upton , Ratley and Edgehill in addition to Tysoe, Oxhill and Whatcote. We hope that the Parish Council will aid us by drawing the school catchment area to the attention of new residents .We continue to have a number of pupils from out of catchment area.

The Governing body services both schools and there are frequent visits by Governors to both schools. Monitoring is an important aspect of Governor responsibility and monitoring reports are collated and reported to Full Governor meetings. We have 3 committees . Resources, Performance and Standards , and Pupils, Parents and Community . All Governors serve on one of these committees.

The two Church Schools enjoy regular visits from clergy across the area . The Christian ethos is a very important part of who we are. An assembly is held every day, sometimes lead by the children. We have a Christian Foundation subgroup, comprised of clergy and Foundation Governors (appointed by the Church) who discuss, organise and oversee the religious offerings at the School. Every few years we have an SIAMS Inspection by the Diocese. The school continues to participate fully in the life of the Community, looking forward currently to Celebrations for the Queens 90th birthday, when it will hold its own Street party . Although the schools work closely together in some aspects each retains its own identity and indeed they are very different schools, which is exactly how it should be .

There is always the opportunity for prospective parent to visit and see the school in action. We currently have some spaces across the school. Please contact Mrs Horrocks on 01295 680244 to make an appointment.

Gill Roache (Governor Tysoe and Wellesbourne Federation)

# RATLEY AND UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Appendix 7 – Ratley & Upton Welfare Trust Report

### RATLEY AND UPTON WELFARE TRUST

Charity Commissioners Registered No. 217491

Trustees:

Mr Keith Smith  
Mrs Claire Brown  
Mr Mike Parkes  
Mrs Terry Walters  
Mr John Walters  
Dr Gary Fisher  
Mrs Rebecca Fisher

Secretary:

Mrs Veronika Lamb  
2 Grange Close, Ratley  
Banbury, OX15 6DP  
Tel. 01295 670291  
Email: david.lamb36@btinternet.com

### Report for the Annual Parish Open Meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2016

The Clerk reported:

Income from the Financial Year 01/03/2015 to 29/02/2016	£1539.51
Brought forward from year ending 28/02/2015	£ 933.20
<b>Total income</b>	<b>£2472.71</b>

This was distributed as follows:

Senior Citizens – 74 received £10.00 each	£ 740.00
School Children – 34 received £5.00 Gift Voucher each	£ 170.00
Ratley Youth Club	£ 120.00
Severn Trent	£ 166.28
Children's Christmas Party	£ 100.00
Expenses	£ 6.29
Ratley Village Hall Hire	£ 4.70
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>£1307.27</b>

Carried forward	<b>£1165.44</b>
-----------------	-----------------

As of 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016, The Trust has a balance in its Current Account of £1271.75.

I am pleased to report that all 13 allotments have tenants and the other 4 pieces of land that we manage in Radway and Edgehill are also currently being rented out.

# RATLEY AND UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Appendix 8 – Ratley & District WI report

### The Ratley & District WI Secretary's report

The WI year started in November 2015 with an unchanged committee and officers. The past year has been the centenary of the founding of the first WI and nationally there have been many events to celebrate this. The highlight was a royal garden party .

The resolution meeting discussed the benefits of removing the distinction between nursing care and personal care and our unanimous vote was conveyed to Fenny Compton who were our representative at the Annual meeting in the Royal Albert Hall.

In September our link trustee, Sue Musson joined us and we found our speaker from Age UK a useful source of information.

A trip was organised to the Spa Centre for 6 members who saw Jesus Christ Super Star. Our outing in June was to the Mill Gardens in Warwick and nearly all our members came. In November we held a coffee morning and bring and buy in the Village Hall in an attempt to encourage new members to join our WI. We did sign up one new member and also made a good profit helping the fundraising made necessary by the dwindling resources caused by our small numbers and increasing costs.

In May four of us went to WI National College at Denman in Oxfordshire for a taster day and this was excellent. Two went to Chesford Grange for the Council meeting but we only managed three team members for the quiz this year, coming a very creditable fourth in our region.

Our annual dinner in the village hall in January caused some panic among caterers and members alike. There was a very inconvenient power cut, but our caterer did brilliantly to still produce a superb dinner.

We have had much fun painting and curling, with talks on Hedgehogs and the Ghost of Christmas past. Our social evening was spent discussing ways to raise money and we look forward to successful fundraising and a successful year.

Sue Flintoff President, Ratley and District WI 04/16

# RATLEY AND UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Appendix 9 – Ratley Table Tennis Club report

### Table Tennis 2015-2016

The Table Tennis Club welcomed 3 new, high class players and was able to field 3 teams. One player, Mike Bridgeman, playing in the 2<sup>nd</sup> division led the B team to, what is likely to be, promotion to the 1<sup>st</sup> Division of the Banbury and District League. If promotion is confirmed, this would be the first Ratley team to reach the top division.

Mike himself, an ex county player, only lost one game all season and became the first Ratley player to be included in the top 12 tournament.

The A team, also in the 2<sup>nd</sup> division, struggled and were relegated to the third division, whereas the C team, David Lamb, Steve Freer and Jack Bell won the 3<sup>rd</sup> division title, with David Lamb winning the individual title.

The climax of the season was the handicap cup. For the first time this was contested between 2 Ratley teams (B & C) and held at the Village Hall.

The class of the B Team told, with Brian Hobill and Alex Jarvis-Cleaver in particular, taking points from the C team. The B team ran out comfortable winners.

Next season we are loosing 2 or 3 players, so are looking for more players to strengthen the club. We are very keen to strengthen the B team with another first division standard player. More players from Ratley would be very welcome and we have a practice night where all are welcome. We will start again in September and practice will probably be on Monday nights.

Anyone interested can contact me.

David Lamb

# RATLEY AND UPTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Appendix 10 – Precis of Chairman’s Report

### Community thanks.....

- Parish Councilors
  - For making the voluntary effort to get things done
- Clerk
  - For all the behind the scenes efforts, fielding incoming emails and mailshots, sorting out meetings and chasing Stratford and Warwickshire councils
- All those people who make things happen e.g.
  - the various societies and clubs we have just heard from
  - the Fete Committee for organizing this year’s Fete
  - John Hopkins for maintaining the bus shelter
- All those who keep an eye out for their neighbours
- Those who help when people need it

### What has the PC been doing?

- Footpaths and Roads
  - Chivying landowners to keep them clear
  - Using the new
- Grass Cutting
  - Contract is running well – new machinery is impressively fast!
- General maintenance
  - Councilors and helpers painted and repaired Town Hill handrail
  - Got agreement from WCC to replace posts at bottom end
  - Replaced 3 out of 5 broken posts on Oliver’s Bank – 2 more in progress
- Organized public meeting about Edgehill traffic issues
  - Warwickshire Police Commissioner and
  - Wellesbourne Neighborhood police team
  - Strafford District Council Public Nuisance and Order office
  - Got commitment for white lines at entrance to Cromwell Close
- Provide local knowledge for Planning Applications

### Rural Broadband

- Ratley and Upton now scheduled for upgrade!
  - New cabinet in at Edgehill
  - Expect rollout this summer

### Parish Website

- New Editor found
  - Alex Graham has volunteered
- Training in progress
  - Taking a long time due to major re-organization at SDC IT department
- Should be up and running again soon
- Possibility of a new way of editing the site
  - Offers multiple users