

## West Ilsley Parish Council

### **Report of the Annual Parish Assembly held at 8.00p.m. on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2002**

Present: Cllrs. R.Gore (Chairman) C.Sheppard, A.Morris, P.Carlisle, P.Bartaby, J.Scriven, L.Gibson (Clerk) Dist Councillor J. Morgan and 17 members of the public.

1. The report of the Annual Parish Assembly held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2001 having been circulated, was signed as a true record.

2. Chairman's Annual Report

The chairman reported another busy year for the Parish Council. Among the many issues discussed over the past year were: Road Surface Conditions and Gritting, Flooding, Village Parking, Planning Applications, Management Agreements, The Post Office and Rural Housing. Many of which are still regular items on the agenda.

During the year repairs have been carried out to the War Memorial in the churchyard. This being particularly appropriate in the year that West Ilsley hosted a Remembrance Day Service.

A new Footpath Map was commissioned for outside the church, thanks go to Alec Cole for carrying out the installation. Another is to be installed in the area around the Gazebo.

The Parish Council continued its policy of making donations only to local groups that directly benefit the village. In the past year donations were made to The Downland Practice Surgery Bus, The Downland Sports Centre, The Downland Volunteer Group and The West Ilsley News. It also part funded the Summer Playscheme held in East Ilsley and attended by many West Ilsley children.

Tracey Allan-Jones left The Parish Council and Joanna Scriven was co-opted onto the Council in her place.

Cllr. Morris continues to represent the Parish Council on the Downland Practice Patients Representative Committee and during the year became the Parish Council representative on the Board of Governors of The Ilsley's School.

The Chairman thanked the members of The Parish Council and the Clerk for their attendance and hard work throughout the year.

3. Report from District Councillor John Morgan

Councillor Morgan gave an interesting résumé of his busy life as a District Councillor with responsibility for nine parishes in the Downland area, seven of which have Parish Councils. The Chairman thanked Cllr. Morgan for his help and support throughout the year.

4. Reports from Representatives of Village Organisations

W.I.Tennis Committee – John Clemenger The tennis court remains in good condition although the likelihood is that the wire will soon need replacing. There are no plans to reduce the conifers around the court as players enjoy the privacy. The charge per hour will soon increase from £1.50 to £2.00. The bank balance remains at £1000 plus. Last year a successful programme of coaching for children was carried out, it is hoped to repeat similar this year. The three main committee members are still keen to retire if replacements can be found. The Committee would consider a proposal, from the floor, of a Tennis Club run under a management committee and would be willing to discuss the idea further.

W.I.Church – Ian Fewtrell-Smith The church continues to enjoy a service 3 Sundays in the month. There is an After School Service and a Pram Service each month. The churchwardens are Tony Scriven and Ian Fewtrell-Smith. The PCC membership has increased from 24 to 26. Over the year there has been a plant sale, a quiz night and a harvest supper, events planned for the coming year include a barn dance and stalls at the village fete. On July 28<sup>th</sup> West Ilsley is hosting a treasure hunt for The Downland Federation of Churches. The church roof requires some further work, and we plan to re-tile the Chancel roof this summer. The bell rope has been renewed. A small group of helpers keep the church clean, maintain the churchyard and provide and arrange flowers. The PCC continues the policy of keeping the church open during the day. Many of the comments in the visitors' book express appreciation.

W.I.News – Andrea Cook Distribution is around 148 copies. The police input is a welcome addition. Whilst the growing use of e-mail is encouraged, we still offer a typing service for those that prefer it. Thank you to all for observing the deadline. Thanks also to Anne Carlisle, John Verney, Angus Muir, Kay Fewtrell-Smith and Carrie-Anne Young for the house to house distribution and to Ian Burton for putting the W.I.N. on the website. The editors are always happy to listen to suggestions or to receive any feedback.

W.I.Cricket Club – Alec Cole Both teams had a successful year and have improved their positions within the league. New members are always welcome, also social members. This year the pavilion has had a new heating system installed, also a security system. A sightscreen has been purchased. During the coming year it is hoped to purchase new machinery and equipment for the bar and a further sight screen.

W.I. Evergreens – Anne Carlisle Membership stands at 44, of which 20 are West Ilsley residents. The officers and committee are appointed at the A.G.M. in March. This year members and friends have enjoyed outings to Salisbury, Southampton, Bournemouth, Millets Farm, Ross on Wye, The New Forest and Cardiff, and in April there was a visit to My Fair Lady at the Corn Exchange. During the year a donation of £190 was received from West Ilsley stable lads. Fund raising for the coming year will include a cake stall at West Ilsley Show, and a stall at East Ilsley Sheep Fair. The Annual Bazaar held last November helped to boost funds and members enjoyed a Christmas Lunch at The Swan, East Ilsley. We hope to continue to attract new members, especially new committee members.

Downland Sports Centre – Rose Metalli A successful year with the centre currently receiving 1000 visitors per month. Children's birthday parties continue to be popular as do children's holiday activities. This year we introduced public use of the School swimming pool during the summer holidays, 900 people used the pool during August. Another successful venture this year was the introduction of Indoor Boot Sales during the autumn. Hopefully this will be repeated this year. The gym has been upgraded and currently has 64 members, 15% are from the West Ilsley area. The Centre is always happy to answer any queries.

W.I.Website – Ian Burton The site has been running since September 1999 and visitor numbers are now up to around sixty per month. It is regularly updated and content includes the W.I.News and Parish Council agenda's and minutes. The Village Photo's section is popular. The site has helped ex-villagers keep in touch and has also been used by people (including Americans and New Zealanders) who have traced family and friends. Plans for the coming year include sections on Local Walks and Village History. Any contributions would be most welcome. The invitation to villagers and village organisations to participate and host material, remains.

Ilsey's Under 5's – Sue Carrington There have been some new faces at the Baby and Toddler group on Wednesday mornings. The playgroup continues to operate on Wednesdays and Thursdays and is full to capacity. There is now a waiting list for places. Fund raising has been low in the past year but there is a fund raising Barn Dance planned for the near future.

W.I. Firework Committee – David Gore A good firework evening had been spent last November in Richard Gore's field, it was jointly funded by the Cricket Club and the Village Fete Committee. Alison Banks and Angela Hyde ran the B.B.Q.. This years fireworks will again be held on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

W.I. Village Fete – Alison Banks This year's fete will be held on July 14<sup>th</sup> and hopes are for a good day after the disappointment of last year's cancellation due to the foot and mouth outbreak. Any village organisation is invited to write to the committee to be considered for a donation from the funds. There is a small committee in operation and any offers of help either in the planning or on the day would be gratefully received.

The Ilsey's School – Avice Morris The school currently has 55 pupils on role and is operating a 3-class system. There are 3 full time teachers' 1 part time teacher and 4 support staff. Outings this year have included a Pantomime, the British Museum, and a Victorian Schoolroom. The children performed Ali Baba in December and will be taking part in the East and West Ilsey shows. Many children are taught music during lunchtime. The school is a member of the Downs Federation of Primary Schools.

Village Hall Committee – Angela Hyde Usage this year has remained steady. Fund raising included a Christmas Raffle and Bingo sessions. The committee hopes to host a Clay Pigeon Shoot later in the year. A new lock has been fitted to the door to prevent children running into the road. A new Constitution has been adopted at the last committee meeting. Future plans include a Saturday Activity Club that all members of the village could become involved with.

Downland Volunteer Group – Les Fayle A busy year with demands for car journey rising by some 15% making the total number of journeys for the year 1190. Destinations include hospitals in Reading, Oxford, and Newbury. Doctor's surgeries, dentist, opticians, hospital visiting and shopping. The office procedure is now fully computerised and working well. The committee very much appreciates the support given by West Ilsey and would like to take this opportunity to say thank you.

Golden Jubilee Celebrations. The Parish Council is organising a Jubilee Party on the Recreation Field on Monday June 3<sup>rd</sup>. It will begin at 3.00p.m. with a children's tea party with a bouncy castle and will progress on into the evening to a party for adults. Cllr. Gore offered to take responsibility for forming a sub committee to finalise the arrangements.

The Chairman thanked all those for coming and especially thanked those that had given reports.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.58p.m.