

particularly Bio-mass fuel which is becoming increasingly popular although currently there are only a few landowners growing energy crops e.g. willow, poplar and perennial grasses.

Broadband

Alan Weeks summarised the reasons behind the increasing interest in Broadband technology and the work of the Wincle campaign team. Several companies have reviewed the possibility of providing Broadband to Wincle, but the terrain has meant that no one has come up with an economically acceptable solution that would reach homes of those interested. The option of funding an upgrade to the BT exchange is being considered and funding is being sought from Regional Development Agencies.

Action: AW to discuss options with a Regional Development Agency consultant and also contact Steve Hopson regarding the Broadband Bus which has recently been set up.

Parish Internet presence

Further development of the Internet site for Wincle has been suspended pending Parish Plan funding. A URL has been purchased in the meantime (www.wincle.org.uk).

Action: All to let the clerk know of any potential web developers in the Parish.

Removal of Wincle Phone box

BT have requested Parish feedback on the proposal to remove the phone box next to Tolls Farm. Following publicity of this in the recent Parish update Dr Gill Plant of Golden Slack Farm contacted JW to highlight the importance of payphones to doctors who have been called out to rural communities where mobile signals are poor. As a result Cllr Gaddum has contacted the Primary Care Trust who will write to BT regarding all of the phones being removed. The Peak Park had not been contacted by BT and as a result they have asked for the consultation deadline to be extended.

Action: JW to write to BT to request a holding objection to give more time for all interested parties to voice their concerns. JW will also contact Swythamley Parish Council who are similarly affected.

Parish Finances

a) Acceptance of Accounts

JW stated that the bank balance at 31.03.04 was £380.29. The financial report was shared with attendees.

JW thanked Peter Malkin for his work in doing the Internal Audit of the 2003/4 accounts. They were approved by the Meeting (Proposed Mr W Blythe, seconded Mr G Meadows).

Action: JW to submit 2003/4 annual accounts for external audit to Hacker Young, Chartered Accountants, Chester.

Election of Officers

No other candidates were put forward for either position, therefore it was agreed that Paul Woodcock and John Weston would remain as Chairman and Clerk/Financial Officer respectively. (Mr & Mrs J Marsh proposed and seconded).

Any Other Business

A537 Closure

The A537 Macclesfield to Buxton road will be closed for 3 weeks during the autumn. The Parish Chairman has written to the Senior Engineer at Cheshire County Council requesting that a 50 mph speed limit be imposed at least between Bosley and Algreave and that Police resources are deployed to monitor speeds through the diversion period.

Actions: Cllr Harden will follow up the request for a speed limit during the diversion period.

PW to write to Superintendent Strachan to pass on our concerns.

State of the Roads in the Parish

Doug Chadwick commented on the narrowing of the roads in the area due to the CCC Highways Department failing to clear debris and weeds. JW stated that he had recently been in touch with them an inspection.

Action: Cllr Gaddum agreed to follow up and suggested that it would be a good idea to get the Highways contact to 'walk the patch' with JW to highlight the issue.

Emptying of Waste Bin at Tolls Farm

Doug raised the point that a call had had to be made to get the Waste Bin by the phone box emptied recently as this is not emptied by the weekly refuse collectors.

Action: JW to highlight the issue with MBC.

Jonathan Marsh proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman and Clerk for their work during the year.

The meeting ended at 21:00.