

**KINGS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on**  
**Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2013 at 8.00 pm at Kings Bromley Village Hall.**

**Present:** Cllr. G. Seddon (Chairman); 5 Councillors.  
Mr. I. Colclough (Clerk);  
6 members of the public;

**1. Apologies:** County Cllr. Mrs. J. Eagland;

**2. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

**Agreed** that the minutes of the meeting held on 25th April 2012 be signed as a true and correct record. Proposed by Mr Alan Howard and seconded by Mr. Steve Browne.

**3. Matters Arising**

None.

**4. Annual Report of the Parish Council – Cllr. Gareth Seddon.**

Another year passes – another busy year for all Councillors and the Clerk.

Responsibilities remained the same during the year with Councillor Holland chairing the Planning Advisory Committee, Councillors Browne and Mrs. Gair monitoring the proposed HS2 and Councillor Pritchard (as our District Councillor) keeping us fully in touch with matters on the wider front. Councillor Mrs. Rothery agreed at the last monthly meeting to become our flood warden – more will follow as the plan unfolds. Within the village, Allan Howard again looked after Kings Bromley's 'Best Kept Village' campaign and despite a summer which was hardly worthy of the name, led the village to another well-deserved victory. We thank Allan and his team for their work (again) and wish everyone the best of luck in the forthcoming campaign. It is again right also to mention the Churchyard Gang who keep the church *environs* looking so magnificent year after year. The Kings Bromley Show organised by the Horticultural Society continues to be the event of the year especially when, during a summer as awful as 2012, the planners somehow manage to choose what felt like the only day with decent weather. It is a true show-piece for the village, an excellent day out and we thank all those whose hard work makes it so. The Christmas tree: I referred last year to the search for the elusive 'Goldilocks Tree' which would prove 'just right'. This year, 3 very cold bears continued the search and managed to get a little bit closer to the ideal thanks again to an anonymous donor. June Baskerville helped with transport and Geoff Sutton fixed the lights: thanks to them and also those who assisted in fixing the tree in place. The Parish Council again managed to avoid any rise in the precept, only to find that this may actually work against us in future. Our judicious financial monitoring has enabled us to maintain the village services for which we are responsible and even to make savings in certain instances, but we now discover that our ability to 'manage' on less may well mean that we get *even* less in future. Whatever the case, we will continue to work hard to provide for the needs of the village. Traffic continues to be an issue, even though the Localism Act suggests that we should be able to gain some respite from its constant threat. Our MP, Michael Fabricant, is adamant that the Act allows for restrictions to be put on both the A513 and the A515 and is supportive of our case. Staffordshire County Council, however, is equally adamant that this will not happen. Kings Bromley is now working with the Parish Councils in Yoxall and Draycott-in-the-Clay to put together a coherent case to be presented to the County. We shall see. The biggest threat continues to be High Speed Rail. The Parish Council has supported the work of the Kings Bromley Stop HS2 group with donations towards operational costs whilst

remaining sensitive to the views of all parishioners. 47 members of the public attended the open meeting last Friday which was held at the cricket club and at which Michael Fabricant MP spoke of his opposition to the project in its present incarnation. However, 47 people makes it difficult for the Parish Council to gauge the opinion of parishioners so it is imperative that everyone investigates the available information as soon as possible and makes an *informed* judgement now so as not to have any regrets later on. On the other hand, we must ensure that parishioners' lives are not ruined in the meantime by the selective use of statistics and emotive language. For example, the last police report showed nil crime in Kings Bromley: a 10,000% rise in crime would still give us nil. I spoke last year of my disappointment at our being accused by some parishioners of 'doing nothing' even though there is tangible evidence of the work of the Council at every turn. It was equally disappointing this year to find Councillors (me included) castigated for missing a single meeting because of work commitments – there is life outside Kings Bromley – or even being ill. I will state again that the position of Parish Councillor is a completely unpaid position and that no Councillor has ever taken expenses (to which they would rightly be entitled given the plethora of meetings which are attended, telephone and internet costs, etc) in my time as a Councillor. All of your Councillors give a substantial amount of time to the role, far beyond the single monthly meeting. Even then, it is worth noting that, whilst Kings Bromley Parish Council meets each month, there are other councils which meet only bi-monthly or which do not meet in August so that holidays can be taken. The fact that we are able to address issues month by month so as not to keep people waiting unnecessarily is a testament to all involved. I thank all Kings Bromley Parish Councillors for their hard work on behalf of the parish. Councils and Councillors alike are governed by strict rules – Kings Bromley will continue to abide by those rules at all times. The Parish Council could not function without the Clerk and we are fortunate to have a Parish Clerk who is forward-thinking, efficient, hard-working and (in these straitened times) financially prudent. I thank Ian Colclough for his first class service to Kings Bromley Parish Council – long may it continue. Thank you.

## **5. Parish Council Finance**

### **i. Budget 2013/14**

The clerk said that the council had again kept the precept unchanged for the fifth consecutive year. With other revenue there would be an expected income of approximately £13,613. After careful consideration an estimate of expenditure was £12,643 leaving a surplus of £970. This was always subject to change as unexpected costs could impact on expenditure at any time during the year. Costs are rising and it is inevitable that an increase in the precept will be required in future.

### **ii. Unaudited Accounts for the year to 31/3/13**

An unaudited copy of the accounts summary had been provided to all attendees. The clerk asked if there were any questions concerning the balance sheet. None were forthcoming. The accounts are currently with Tomkinson and Teal of Lichfield for the yearly internal audit.

## **6. District Councillor's Report and questions – Cllr. Ian Pritchard.**

I continue to lead the District Council on Housing, Health and Environmental Protection as a Cabinet Member. My priorities this last year have been to put in place a Housing Strategy. We have a legal obligation to produce this as with all my other responsibilities, trying to combine the Government's Policies at the same time as getting the best deal for our residents is difficult, not impossible but terribly time consuming. We have also produced a Housing Allocations Policy to work alongside the Strategy I mentioned a

moment ago, making sure local people have a greater priority as social housing becomes available. More recently, my department has been writing a Discretionary Housing Payment Policy. This is to make sure that reduced funding goes to the most vulnerable members of society. Hopefully we have got this right but it is new ground so we will have to wait and see. I have also introduced the Green Deal. This is another example of the Housing Team working well with our partners. It is always a pleasant task to recommend to Cabinet the acceptance of funding into the District, this was no exception. The bid was orchestrated on our behalf by Marches Energy Agency and was only one of two successful bids in Staffordshire. The funding is to help reduce both fuel poverty and cut carbon emissions, which was most importantly one of the four priorities I mentioned in the Housing Strategy. The importance of this subject has been identified, as currently 22% of the population in Lichfield District live in fuel poverty (above the national average and the highest in Staffordshire). Reducing energy waste and cutting carbon emissions are seen as the only ways to achieve any form of improvement. The Lichfield Plan is at this very moment with the Planning Inspectorate in Bristol. We have had some pleasing feedback, so it should be in place later this year, fingers crossed. I have been appointed Lichfield District's Older Person's Champion. I feel it was my dress sense rather than ability that was the driving factor, but I do however take this position very seriously, as we have such an increasing ageing population. As you will have noticed on the outskirts of the city, the development which was started last year is progressing nicely, producing as I have said previously, 54 supported housing for older residents of the District as well as 6 shared ownership homes to give first time buyers a chance to get on the housing ladder. We have managed to trim the Council's budget a little more without affecting the services we offer the District. I personally feel we cannot continue along those lines. We are looking to combine some of the things we do with neighbouring authorities, emulating the joint waste service we already offer with Tamworth. That is not the only service we share and they all work extremely well and save the council money. This year we increased our share of the Council Tax by 1.8% reducing last year's increase by nearly half. If you take into account the County Council reduction, the overall increase in your Council Tax was less than 1%, which is a perfect example of two Conservative Councils working together. I continue to work for individuals and families in my ward, as the need arises. Clearly I cannot name individual people or their problems, but please be aware I am always here willing and hopefully able to help. He then asked if anyone had any questions. None were forthcoming. The chairman thanked Cllr. Pritchard for his report.

#### **7. County Councillor's Report and questions – Cllr. Mrs. J. Eagland.**

The clerk read out a written report sent by Cllr. Eagland.

In the past eight years that I have had the privilege of representing Kings Bromley as your County Councillor, I have attended almost all of the Parish Council meetings. Having said that, I have been absent from some meetings during the past twelve months due to clashes with my Civic responsibilities as Mayor the City of Lichfield. However, on these occasions I have always given my apologies in advance of my unavailability. Also at these times I have provided the Parish Clerk by email of any items or information from the County Council that either involve or be of interest to the Parish Council and Kings Bromley residents. During the years that I have represented Kings Bromley I am particularly pleased to have made contributions to or have been involved in various projects and initiatives that have affected the village.

I have been advised by the residents and some parish councillors that the relocation of the 30mph road sign seen on entering the village has been successful and has indeed slowed traffic down during its passage through the village.

For the past two and a half years the Stop HS2 campaign has been high on my list of priorities. The County Council agrees wholeheartedly with the people of Kings Bromley that HS2 brings no benefit whatsoever to those affected or to Staffordshire as a whole. To all elected members affected by the HS2 a sum of £5,000 has been made available to support initiatives in the fight against HS2.

Indeed all the anti HS2 signage that you see around the village has been paid for from these monies. The County Council has also appointed a full time officer to liaise with all interested parties to keep everyone informed of all the latest developments with HS2 and HS2 Limited. At the last full County Council meeting I had the pleasure of presenting a petition on behalf of the residents of Alrewas with regard to the Arriva Bus Services. This also affects Kings Bromley. I am waiting to hear from the County Council officer who is collating all information in readiness for a forthcoming meeting with representatives of Arriva Buses. Owing to the boundary changes, I will no longer have the pleasure of representing Kings Bromley on the County Council. I shall miss the ladies of the WI, the Kings Bromley Agricultural Shows and the many friends that I have made over the past eight years.

Finally I wish you all the very best of luck for the future.

#### **8. Policing in Kings Bromley.**

No police officers were present and no report had been received.

#### **9. Kings Bromley United Charity – report read by Cllr. Seddon.**

Mrs A Howard reported that the charity is an amalgamation of many local charities with the main aim of looking after three armshouses. The charity has several trustees and meets twice per year. Maintenance is one responsibility and recently the fence at the side of the site has been replaced along with refurbishment to some of the houses. The accounts show an increase of £9000 for the year. A full report is available from Mrs Howard along with copies of the accounts.

The chairman thanked Mrs Howard for her report.

#### **10. High Speed Rail 2 - report by Cllrs. Browne / Gair.**

Cllrs. Browne and Gair are attending meetings on behalf of the council. Cllr. Browne reported by saying that they are attending many meetings and trying to understand all viewpoints. 47 attended a recent meeting at the Cricket Club with local MP Michael Fabricant. This went well and he gave some answers and would look at others. 70 attended an exhibition in the village hall and registered for the hardship scheme. The fight will continue and both councillors will report to the full parish council meetings. There is a strong national feeling that the project has got to be halted.

The chairman thanked both councillors for their work on this subject and Cllr. Browne for his report.

#### **11. Village Organisation Reports.**

The following organisations had either sent in reports in advance or there was a representative at the meeting to give the report. Apologies for any that have inadvertently been omitted.

##### **Beavers, Cubs and Scouts – written report.**

Last year the entire Group took part in the Scout Association's nationwide challenge based on the Olympics and called 'Our Sporting Adventure'. Each section was given lists of activities, all based on the values of the Olympic and Paralympic movements. On completion they were awarded bronze, silver and gold medals which in turn became points in the nationwide challenge. Both the Beaver section and Cub section managed to get maximum points and came joint top of the medal table – there were 15 from the entire country at the top so a fantastic achievement. We provide youngsters with a huge array of activities to suit the relevant ages and abilities – but the philosophy is just have a go! Just looking quickly at the programme from the last autumn term, scouts love the outdoors and did hikes, cooking cakes on a fire, did map reading in the dark and

tobogganing. Cubs worked on a few badges, including scientist, global and air activities which culminated in a trip to RAF Cosford and the Beavers went international focusing on India and America, they visited church to take gifts for harvest festival, had a visit from a police officer and did their safety badge. All members of the Group were given opportunities for hiking, climbing and getting out on the water amongst other exciting activities. All sections went on outings; possibly the most exciting was a trip to the seaside for the Beavers! And all sections did a number of camps – from the Beavers just sleeping one night, the Cubs doing weekends and the Scouts doing both weekends and a week long summer camp in Essex. The last camp in 2012 was a weekend family camp, this time there were just over 150! And the weather was glorious – you couldn't say that for many weekends last year! Obviously the Group could not run without the small army of volunteers. Our leaders and helpers form a varied group, coming from all walks of life and willing to help in a number of ways. From every week, to every other week, to once a month, to coming with us on a camp – we really couldn't do it without them, so this gives me an opportunity to say a huge thank you to them all. Whilst we all commit to providing a fantastic experience to the members of our Group we also have a fantastic time ourselves! The Group continues to grow and we are always in need of extra help, be it regularly or infrequently so if you know anyone who may be interested then please contact Angela Burns. Finally we love doing refreshments at the annual Kings Bromley Show, which seems to get bigger and better every year and look forward to seeing you all there in July.

#### **Bellringers – written report.**

Regular ringing has continued at Kings Bromley, Mavesyn Ridware and Hoar Cross. We have rung for the majority of services, and on some occasions have managed to provide a band for Mavesyn Ridware and Kings Bromley simultaneously. Bands have also rung for a number of weddings during the year. The band is making good progress, under the leadership of Andrew Ogden and guidance of Anne Ogden, and the “core” team can be relied upon to attend Thursday night practises, and on a Sunday. Many regular members of the band attend ringing practise at Armitage on a Saturday morning and Monday evening as well, where Lance Hill, the tower captain there enthusiastically and energetically encourages method ringing in particular. We have regular visitors on a practise night and some Sundays and we are grateful to them for the additional help this gives the local band. The joint benefice band is fortunate to have the full support of Reverend Ty Leyland. Alice and Aimee Ogden, aged 11 and 10 respectively are learning to ring and can now augment the band for service ringing. The annual outing was held in September and comprised a visit to four churches in the Black Country - Sedgeley, Coseley, Trysull and Wombourne, with an excellent lunch being had at the appropriately named “Bell Inn”, Trysull. Our annual Christmas Dinner was again held at The Shoulder of Mutton, Hamstall Ridware. There was extensive flooding on many of the surrounding roads to Hamstall, none of which prevented people from attending, though there had to be some ingenuity displayed to get there, demonstrating what a resourceful lot the Kings Bromley bell ringers are!

#### **BKV Report by Mr Alan Howard.**

Last year we won in our category and hope to repeat this again in 2013 but we need help from all parishioners and councillors. Lots of work is undertaken by the parish clerk and I thank him for that. Last year's prize money of £200 was donated to the Churchyard Gang. Street representatives are required to keep litter problems under control and there will be a village 'clean up' this Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> May. All welcome. The chairman thanked Mr Howard for his report and all the hard work he and others undertake to achieve the success they have in the past. Long may it continue?

#### **Churchyard Gang written report from Mr Lomas (summarised by Clerk).**

Last year was another successful one in that we won the Silver award in the BKV competition. Some 100 representatives of Lichfield Diocese attended a presentation meeting at Blymhill. Slides showing many of the churches that had entered were shown

and ten featured ours. Two members left the team but were replaced by two new ones who have become very involved and made a great contribution. We should like to thank the Parish Council for their donation of £250 towards fuel costs and repairs to the machines. All machines have been serviced by the team ready for next season. The only major problem last season was an invasion of moles but these have been dealt with by a professional mole catcher. Damaged areas have been reseeded and we look forward to pristine grounds this year.

#### **Gardening Guild Report by Mr Alan Howard.**

This is now the largest gardening guild in Staffordshire and meets at the village hall on the third Monday evening of each month. Summer trips out are organised.

#### **Historians Report by Mr Allan Howard.**

It has been a very busy year. Negotiations to buy a picture were successful and financial support was forthcoming from many village organisations. Thank you very much to them. The picture is on display in the village hall and is now owned by the villagers. A publication is being produced and research continually undertaken. Next year will be the centenary of the Great War and an open day is planned to demonstrate the impact this had on the village. 90 parishioners served and 14 did not return. It is also the centenary of the opening of the village hall and this year's village show theme will be 'Victorians'. The chairman thanked Mr Howard for his report.

#### **Horticultural Society Report by Mr Alan Howard.**

The society maintains the show field. It has made a £600 donation to the Stop HS2 campaign and supports other organisations too. The existing field gates will be replaced by new wooden gates and, if it is before June, then they will be known as the Jubilee Gates. This will be Mr Howard's last show as co-ordinator. The chairman thanked MR Howard for his report.

#### **Neighbourhood Watch – written report from Mr Gilmour.**

This past year saw the retirement of Andy Brown after 30 years of service. Villagers attended his retirement gathering and wished him well for his future. We now have able cover from PC Dave Griffiths, PCSO Tracey Horton and others from the quick response team. The Village crime figures continue to be low but the 'duster sellers' still come. Thanks to villagers' diligence in reporting them quickly, Police located 2 males, who were from Derbyshire and known to the police. Although this seems trivial, there is an established link to more serious crimes. So, please, if you are suspicious please call the Police. Dial 101 for minor issues but 999 for crimes in progress or if you feel threatened. Street coordinators or the Village Watch Co-ordinator will help. The OWL (Online Watch Line) is open to all and many already are signed up to receive the communications by e-mail. Crime reports, latest statistics and Police advice and stories feature. Taking but a few minutes to read, these usually monthly items may alert you to what is occurring in your road thus helping prevent crime to you and your neighbours. It is also a simple way for you to feedback your observations and questions to the authorities. If you would like to receive OWL electronic mail please speak to the Village Co-ordinator. Robert Gilmour, the Village Co-ordinator thanks all the Street co-ordinators for their successful role in achieving the Watch objectives. On a personal note as he enters his 75<sup>th</sup> year, he has indicated to the Police that he is unable to respond to calls to him as quickly as he once did. In the circumstances he will step down later this year and hopefully hand over to another who will carry forward this rewarding role.

#### **Royal British Legion**

The Kings Bromley branch is small but has regular contact with most of its members. Anyone needing help or interested in belonging should contact the Hon. Secretary on

01543 473578. The Branch organises the two annual Remembrance Services, this year on Remembrance Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2013 and, especially involving the young of the Parish, on Remembrance Day, Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November. The 2012 Poppy appeal again increased its collection, now at £3152.32 and the Branch thanks all who contributed by their donations or collecting efforts. Branch Officers and Members meet at regular intervals, details of which are posted on the Village Hall notice board. Visitors and new members are always welcome. Members do not have to have served in the forces to join and help fulfil the Legion's objectives of providing care and support forces members past and present.

#### **Women's Institute written report.**

The Kings Bromley WI meets on the first Thursday of each month during the year, excluding August. At the end of 2012 the membership stood at 51 and each meeting attracts on average 34 members. We participate in meetings and social events at County level and join with other WI branches for Group meetings. Each month we have visiting speakers who talk on various topics ranging from an historian from Shugborough Hall explaining the history of shoes, to a lady who was in charge of security in a large departmental store, recounting the characters and their 'art' of shoplifting. During 2012 outings took place to the Smith & Pepper Factory in the Birmingham Jewellery Quarter and to the Pen Museum. In August a coach was arranged for a visit to Althorpe House.

The Village Hall was decorated with bunting and an afternoon tea was organised for the whole village to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. Pots of tea and cakes were in abundance for all to enjoy. As for 2013, the programme of speakers is organised and outings are being planned and arranged for the rest of the year.

#### **Snooker Club – written report.**

The Snooker Club operates from the Village Hall, utilising two tables that have resided in the upstairs snooker room since 1914. The Club was formed in that year, and its purpose is to provide a recreational snooker facility. It is therefore not affiliated to any league. We currently have 30 members, two thirds play on a regular basis, with the remainder playing less frequently. New members are always welcome, and guests are allowed to play if playing with a member. There are two "open" sessions each week when the members know there will be other members there to play against. These are on a Tuesday afternoon and a Thursday evening. However, the club is accessible to members at all other times, for members to play against friends or guests. Although the membership is at a healthy level, the majority of members are, shall we say, "mature" and therefore the club's future aim is to attract younger members of the village to come and participate. In this way, we hope to keep the club viable for many years to come.

#### **Youth Club – written report.**

Over the past year we have seen a few changes to our club, firstly with the departure of our regular leader Jane Watson; to whom we would like to express our thanks for all her help and support over the years. The club has a new Secretary, Andrea Smith who took over at the AGM in November and we would also like to formally acknowledge our new regular leader Jackie Williams. Our weekly sessions each Thursday throughout the school year are always fully supported by our membership and we have a number of children on the waiting list too. This year we have provided a variety of activities; 2012 gave us the opportunity to use both the Jubilee and Olympics as themes for events and

we also welcomed the local PCSO Tracey Horton for a talk on safety and Jane from Crackpotz to help us paint mugs with our logo on. Using local talent and our youth leader we were able to provide a self-defence evening and a cup-cake decorating class respectively. If you have a hidden talent and would like to share it with our village young people please contact us. During our winter months we rely heavily upon indoor entertainment and the members particularly enjoy playing computer games together. With this in mind we will hope to raise some money to buy a Wii for the club that can be used during this period. Also this year to continue with our commitment to introduce new ideas to our club, we have invited the local Search and Rescue team along to give a demonstration and will be holding a Picture Scavenger Hunt for our members in June. Recently we have welcomed two new Youth Leaders, Kate Port and Jason Smith each of whom will regularly assist in the running of the club alongside Hannah Coyle and the rest of the team. Thank you to everyone who has supported the club over the last year with their time, expertise, monetary contributions and visiting our stall at the show in July. Anyone wishing to find out further information regarding the club should contact either Julia Coyle or Sheenagh Piggott.

#### **Cricket Club – written report.**

KB cricket club has been busy over the winter starting a junior section for the club, this culminated with 12 juniors registering on Saturday. New members are always welcome with training been on a Sunday morning from 10 until 11. The senior section started this last weekend with our Saturday team who achieved a winning draw against Spondon in the Derbyshire league. Our Captain, Greg Thompson achieved a century in this first game of the season. Our Sunday team starts its matches on the 5th May with a new Captain, Steve Barry, last year and the year before we gained promotion so we are hoping to continue this success.

We are always looking for sponsors and welcome visitors to the home games where the bar is open. What better way to spend a warm Saturday afternoon.

#### **Gravel Report – written report by Anne Anderson.**

The gravel situation has been laid to rest for the immediate future. As I intimated last year SCC indicated that they would not be permitting extraction west of the A38. Since then, Cemex has sold most of the Wychnor South land to one of the tenant farmers (although Cemex has retained the gravel rights) and has offered for sale most of the land in the Wychnor North site, some of which has been purchased. It is likely that the remaining land on both sites will be offered for sale to the other tenants in the near future. Lafarge has applied for planning consent on areas of the Alrewas South site east of the A 38 so will not be pursuing the Alrewas West site. No further proposals have been made on the Bancroft site. I think it is fairly safe to say that we have won this campaign!

#### **Wednesday Club written report by Mrs Ashcroft.**

I begin as usual that the club is a retired group of folk who meet once a month for social interaction, speakers, outings, cream tea and Christmas lunch. We charge just £5 per year for meetings which includes a cup of tea, biscuit and raffle. During 2012 we had talks on birds in Africa, recycling, the Fauld explosion, teddy bears and also celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. We visited Hereford and Ludlow and Derbyshire and had an enjoyable cream tea at The Kingfisher in Fradley. We have a varied programme for 2013 and look



forward to visiting Shropshire and the Borders in May. We are always pleased to welcome new members.

#### **Bowls Club Report from Kate Bellamy.**

The club was formed 80 years ago and has over 50 members at present. Friendly matches are held as are internal competitions and social events. SCC has given a grant to help build a new shelter and this was completed in March and will open in April. New members are always welcome – contact Mr Dave Coglan. The club is no longer in the league.

#### **The St. Mary's and Richard Crosse Church of England Federation – written report.**

The school has had a successful 12 months since the last report and currently has 127 children on roll and is full. We are oversubscribed for our Reception class in September and will be extending our nursery provision by offering morning and afternoon sessions. Last year's test results for the children were very pleasing with a high percentage of our children achieving the higher levels. We continue to perform well comparing our school with those locally and nationally. We are constantly striving to ensure the children's education is inspiring and motivating and to enhance this we are developing our curriculum to ensure that it is fit for the 21<sup>st</sup> century. For the past 2 years and 2 terms we have been working in a hard federation with St. Mary's Church of England Primary School, Colton with Mr Paul Lovern being the Executive Headteacher over both schools. We have a single governing body managing the affairs of both schools. A new Deputy Headteacher, Mr Jon Wynn, was appointed in September 2012 and staff from both schools continue to work together collaboratively to enhance the education of our children. We continue to work closely with Reverend Ty, All Saints Church and the community. We are proud to support the village in the Best Kept Village competition and the children have once again produced posters for this. Children from both schools contribute items for the Kings Bromley Show. Parking continues to remain difficult despite our best efforts in communicating with parents. The Royal Oak are very generous in allowing parking in the mornings and afternoons when transporting children and the Horticultural Society allow the school to use the Horticultural Field for evening/weekend events. The PTA continues to work hard to raise funds and support the school. Unfortunately the Annual New Year's Day Duck Race had to be postponed due to poor weather conditions and will hopefully take place on Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup> at 2.00p.m. and the community is welcome to join us. The future for the Federation is exciting and challenging and we look forward to continue to serve the village and the surrounding area. I hope you find this report informative.

#### **Thai Buddhavari Temple Report by Ajahn Laow.**

The Temple started in 2007 and holds many activities. The name has been changed. Some events cause parking problems and we are sorry for this. Exams are to be held and there are 30 to 40 students with 80 attending on 9<sup>th</sup> June, half will be British and half Thai. In March thieves took the donation box after removing the CCTV. The summer fayre will be on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> August to avoid a clash with an event in London. There will be a new novice course in August. We are considering a new driveway access to the Temple.

The chairman thanked Mr Laow for his attendance and report.

## 12. Open Forum

The chairman asked for questions from the floor. None were forthcoming. At this point he thanked everyone for attending and said that refreshments were available to all. He also thanked Cllr. Rothery for providing these.

There being no other business the chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Judging of the children's best kept village posters then took place.

Tea, coffee and biscuits were made available to all.