

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF BURTON LATIMER  
TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT BURTON LATIMER COUNCIL OFFICES ON  
11 MAY 2010**

*Present: Town Councillors: J.Smith (Town Mayor), M. Jerram (Deputy Town Mayor), P. Bettles, M. Evans, H. Fry, C. Groome, R. Groome, D. Gunn, F. Macdonald, D.Zanger.*

**Public Forum** (6 members of the public present)

Matters raised: Mrs C. Tomkins – Hillcrest Avenue development, requested Council support at the Appeal Hearing (10.00 am 26 May), Cllrs agreed to support, including residents leaflet, co-ordinating objections and attending the Hearing). Mr G.Mercer – commented on the improvement in the cleanliness (litter, dog fouling, public toilets) of the town.

**APM 05/10/01          Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from the following Cllrs – Cllr S. Walden (illness). Cllr C. Groome proposed that the absence be approved, seconded by Cllr Gunn. **Resolved:** that the proposal be approved.

**APM 05/10/02          Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting 12 May 2010**

Approved 2 June 2009.

**APM 05/10/03          Town Mayor's Retiring Speech – Cllr J. Smith**

*"As I finish my Mayoral year, I feel BLTC has progressed in numerous directions, stream lining its business, as we edge closer to Quality Council status, acquiring, modernising/renovating the new Civic Centre, forging and strengthening its partnership with Kettering Borough Council, NCC and other agencies, working as a symbiotic team to further the aspirations as a progressive and flourishing town.*

*I have endeavoured to extol the virtues of living and investing in Burton Latimer, even at the London Marathon(an awesome experience), and in doing so have met some articulate and amazing, dedicated volunteers, who help make our world a nicer place to live in, through such societies as the NSPCC, Children's Society, Pocket Park volunteers and our own veritable Heritage Society, who capture and convey the very essence of our town history, as it diversified its industry and grew in population and career base.*

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*“Our liaison with various societies and local groups, working and living in our community, and now serving as Mayor, has been an honour and a pleasure, and in some respects a life changing experience, for myself, and my family, and indeed my friends, to whom my heartfelt love and thanks go to, for their unstinting support and understanding, when I cram 48 hours into 24!(My belief that there is only one time that is important-NOW! It is the most important time, because it is the only time we have power.*

*I particularly enjoyed organising the Christmas light switch on, working with our local schools, supporting our local artists (ABLE) who have put on some fantastic art/craft exhibitions and shared their skills with the community, and especially revelled in our BLTC Ball, where we raised funds for local charities-thank you so much to all for your support and belief in my vision to achieve, working together.*

*My thanks especially to our Clerk George Sneddon, for his guidance, diligence and meticulous work throughout my Mayoral year, and of course to fellow Councillors for their continual forbearance, as BLTC has evolved and embraced change, as the fluctuation in world markets influence the progression and evolution of our town and assets, they have stoically and steadfastly continued to speak up and achieve for Burton Latimer-your work is very much appreciated-thank you always.*

*I hope we continue building on the firm foundations of a new Civic Centre, supporting and advising residents and businesses, caring for our Youth and ageing population alike, wherever possible. Personally, representing Burton Latimer as Mayor has meant not only promoting Burton Latimer, but also resulted in forging new friendships and acquaintances with Mayors in neighbouring towns and Counties, a blessing indeed for friends are the family we choose. I remain focused and committed to achieve better facilities for Burton Latimer in a professional, resourceful and ever enthusiastic manner, probably best summed up in my love of music, running and reading .... but life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away-this year has provided many of these moments – thank you!*

*I will finish on something I read –teach this triple truth to all –a generous heart, kind speech and a life of service and compassion are the things which renew humanity”.*

***There being no further items for discussion, the Chair closed the meeting at 7.21 p.m.***