

**MINUTES OF THE
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF WOODNEWTON
May 31st 2011 7.30pm
in the VILLAGE HALL, Orchard Lane**

Present: Cllr D. Webb (Chair), Cllrs Mrs. S Roberts, D. Burgess, A. Hansford, G. Bradbury, Mrs. A. Smith
P. Hamalainen (for The Mildmay Trust), Mrs. H. Smith (county cllr), Mr J Taylor (district cllr), 16 residents

1. **Apologies:** None
2. **Welcome:** Cllr Webb introduced the councillors and their guests and welcomed all to the meeting.
3. **Guests: Heather Smith** spoke of the dire financial situation at County Hall which has seen £73m cut from its £450m budget. 50% of county's street lighting has been turned off – not universally popular. Bus subsidy reduced but Call Connect to be expanded to include Oundle from September. Highway maintenance has been prioritised including gritting and snow clearance. Verges will be cut less frequently, though. Parish can take this job on for themselves & receive a small contribution towards the cost.

Jeremy Taylor reminded residents that he is new to ENC. He feels the new domestic waste service will be a big topic, together with Augean. He will sit on the development control committee amongst others. He is keen to come to parish council meetings. He supports the managed development of villages.

Both spoke about the Augean appeal decision and their new plans to expand the site & extend its' life beyond 2013. HS felt it was reasonable to grant a short time extension to fill the existing holes but thought the application to expand needs to be dealt with separately. She feels most likely grounds for successful opposition are around the non-radioactive waste going into the site. JT thought a strategy of making the site uneconomic by reducing the distance waste can travel might work.

Chair thanked Mrs Smith & Mr Taylor and they left.

4. **Playground:** Described by David Burgess as a well-used & loved asset. Some equipment is 30 years old though. Outlined options being discussed in council & urged people to join a working group to look at them. There was a lively discussion and many suggestions.
5. **Street lighting:** Gary Bradbury took people through the options from the recent questionnaire. There was a great deal of discussion with a general consensus that the views of the residents at Orchard crescent should be listened to.
6. **The Mildmay Trust:** Paul Hamalainen told everyone it had been a quiet year & presented the accounts (attached)
7. **Accounts:** the clerk presented the accounts (attached) and answered questions
8. **The Chairman's report:** see attached
9. **Questions from the floor** continued the themes already discussed, especially consultation on the Augean plans.