

**Tisbury Parish Council**

**Annual Parish Meeting**

Friday 24th May 2019 at 7pm

Victoria Hall, High Street, Tisbury, SP3 6LD

**NOTES:**

1. Those present:

Present: Dr Murrison, MP; Parish Councillors Simon Davison, Gerry Murray, Richard Beattie, Felicity Corp, Jo Ings, Patrick Duffy; Wiltshire Councillor Tony Deane; Parish Clerk Sandra Harry; up to 35 members of the public.

1. Presentation of Requests for Small Grant Funding from local groups:

A total of ten groups submitted applications totalling £3004 from an available budget of £4690. Members of the public were told that the final approvals would be made at the next council meeting on Tuesday 4th June 2019 but were given the opportunity to comment on the applications. One application in particular was highlighted as being of less benefit to the residents of Tisbury than any other, i.e. Fonthill Park Cricket Club’s request for a £300 grant towards the cost of a defibrillator, due to the number of residents benefitting from the facility and the remote location of the club house.

1. Question and answer session with Dr Andrew Murrison, MP.

Dr Murrison spoke briefly about his current position within Government and the various hot topics of concern, including; Brexit / Article 52 / ‘No Deal’, the desire to grow the economy in a way that benefits everyone even if only in a small way, also a general sense of wellbeing as a result of improving the outcomes of healthcare. Dr Murrison briefly weighed up the pros and cons of leaving the European Union from a local and national perspective, especially with respect to immigration and regaining sovereignty of the nation; although declined to give a definitive view.

During the remaining time, a variety of questions and comments were discussed with residents:

1. Public confidence being badly dented by the ‘expenses debacle’.
2. Prosecutions of military personnel in cases of alleged abuse by British armed forces, especially those that had been ongoing for many years, as justice was not time limited but the quality of information certainly was.
3. Schools funding that is inadequate when distributed via the Local Authority rather than directly.
4. University funding appearing to have a greater priority than that for the more practical skills gained by apprenticeships.
5. Climate Change – cannot just be about farming; a more holistic solution is required that is beyond tokenism and leads the way for other countries. Most people want to keep our mixed countryside and imaginative solutions must be considered whilst being wary of unintended consequences.
6. President Trump – successful because he does what he says he will do!
7. Neighbourhood Planning – awareness of some judicial reviews taking place with respect to Developers wanting to build more houses than previously specified. Hopefully, the majority of the increasing numbers of houses required will be accommodated in growth corridors rather than villages like Tisbury.
8. Nurses – consideration should be given to training Nurses on wards in hospitals rather than at universities.
9. Asked what stance Dr Murrison was taking on the use of glyphosates, he indicated that he did not use them personally, but understood that farmers needed to consider the risks in a balanced way – hopefully based on science.
10. Those attending were made aware of the following reports available on the parish council website:

* Minutes of the meeting held on 15th May 2018
* **Chairman’s** Annual Report 2018/19
* Tisbury PC **Financial Report** (y/e 31.03.2019)
* The **Lord Arundell of Wardour Charity** Annual Report
* The **Alice Combes Trust** Annual Report
* Report from the **Tree Warden**
* **Wiltshire Councillor**’s Annual Report

1. **Public Participation** – the following topics were raised during the public participation session:
2. Councillor vacancies in both Tisbury and West Tisbury Parish Councils.
3. The huge contribution made by Volunteers in the village community, with volunteers always made very welcome, for example, at the Library, Link and TISBUS.

Note: Parish Councillors, although giving up their time freely to serve the community, are not classed as volunteers as they have ***a duty*** to attend meetings unless they have a good reason not too.