

Duffield Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council, held in the Committee Room, Hazelwood Road, Duffield, on Tuesday 8th September 2009 at 7.00pm

Present: Chairman: P Greenwood
Councillors: Buckle, Knibbs, Rice, Rowlands, Short, England

Also in Attendance: Clerk: Mr Chris Carter

Prior to the meeting Ron Brickman led those assembled in prayer.

Apologies for Absence

1691 Apologies were received from Councillors Garner, Storer, A Woodings and B Woodings.

Variation of Order of Business

No variation to order of business was deemed necessary.

Declaration of Members Interest

1692 None were declared

Public Participation

1693 Mr Matt Doran, National Trust Project Officer for Duffield Castle updated members on the Trust's plans for the Castle.

The Parish Council used to manage the Castle until a 99 year lease ran out in 1998, at which point the Trust took over. Mr Doran stated that the Trust was taking more of an interest in the Castle than it has in the past, with a view to making it a community asset.

The full report from the recent archaeological dig is not yet available, but initial indications are that, despite the visible stones being only a Victorian representation of the Castle, it appears they are in roughly the correct position. The size of the foundations indicates the castle may have been about 100 feet tall. The dig Open Day was a success, with about one hundred people attending.

The Trust want to re-present the site, remove some vegetation to restore the river valley view, remove the existing tarmac and put up an information board. The steps will be repaired (necessitating a temporary closure of the site) but, despite the obvious safety concerns, it may not be possible to remove the dangerous railings because of the relevant ancient monument regulations. Mr Doran confirmed that the agreement in place regarding

