

**3<sup>rd</sup> March 2010**

**Public Question Time**

- 1) Mr. Bowden reported a light that has been out in Eastlands for a year.
- 2) Ditch/culvert under Station Road by the coach garage still has not been cleaned out. Mr. Bowden supplied a map with the area marked; he said if it was cleaned out it would carry away a lot of the flood water.
- 3) Mrs. Perrott asked if the allotments were going ahead on the field behind Hollingarth; she said the field floods right up to the resident's gardens and sometimes comes in some gardens. Mr.Povah said he had a response from the Environment Agency which would be discussed in the main meeting.
- 4) Mrs. Shepherd asked if there were any other proposals for the allotments and was a decision likely to be made tonight. Mrs.Stallard said a final decision probably would not be reached tonight.
- 5) Mr. Churchill asked what other sites had been proposed; Mrs.Stallard replied that Mr.Doble had offered the field below Hollingarth and an area in Longmead, which had been earmarked for a picnic area, had been suggested.
- 6) Mr.G.Pike said that if the ditch that Mr. Bowden had reported, was cleared that might help stop the area below Hollingarth from flooding; Mr.Povah said this site was out of the question because of what the Environment Agency had said.
- 7) Mrs.Butt asked what was happening about the garages; Mr.Brooke replied that at the moment lack of labour was holding things up. The roof of the garage is asbestos and will have to be safely disposed of. A portacabin has been purchased for use in the garages. Work on the hall is nearly finished.
- 8) Mr. Churchill was concerned about the allotments; he asked if none of the other sites was suitable would it come back again to the land below the cemetery? Mrs.Stallard said that because of the amount of people wanting allotments the Parish Council is obliged to provide them. Mr. Churchill asked about the access; Mrs.Stallard replied that if the hedge was cut well back a path could be made down the west side of the cemetery. Mr.I.Pike said that the hedge is on top of a bank; it will be the bank that needs taking back. Mr.G.Pike asked what would happen when the path reached the oak trees at the bottom of the cemetery; Mr.Povah said if some of the spoil was removed from the tip there was a free passage right down to the bottom of the cemetery. Mr. Churchill said he thought people would still use the old path and not the new one; Mr.Povah said if they did they would have difficulty accessing the allotments at the bottom. Mr. Churchill said that if the allotments go ahead on the cemetery site would they be screened from the cemetery? Mrs. Stallard said that lots of cemeteries have public footpaths going through them; Mrs.P.Lowman replied that they do not have to take rotovators through with them. She went on to say that at the last meeting a petition had been presented to the meeting but no mention was made of all the letters of protest sent to the Parish Council. Mrs.Stallard replied that the Parish Council had received about 6 letters and some people had felt pressured to sign the petition, Mrs.Lowman said there had been no pressure put on anybody.