

COLNBROOK WITH POYLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at the Village Hall, Colnbrook on Tuesday 19th May 2015, commencing at 8.30pm.

Members Present: Cllrs Angell, Mrs Bedi, Bryant, Elum-Smith, Grewal, Hood, Kinane, Laxman, Richardson and Smith

Officer Present: Mrs K. Jones - Clerk & Finance Officer

Thames Valley Police: Jemma Cropper

Members of the Public: 18

The Chairman invited PCSO Jemma Cropper to give her report to the meeting before the transaction of the rest of the business on the Agenda. A copy is attached.

1) **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2014/2015**

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting and apologised for the slight delay in start time. He gave his report for the year with the use of a power point presentation, highlighting the wide range of parish activities.

The most significant matters dealt with in the last twelve months included:-

Two Honorary Freemen

Councillor's 'K' Laxman and Ray Angell had been made Honorary Freeman in recognition of their time served on the council and had been presented with their awards by The Hon Mrs Mary Bayless, Lord Lieutenant of Berkshire, at an award ceremony held at the Hilton Hotel Colnbrook.

Heathrow Proposed Expansion

The pro's and cons of Heathrow expansion had been featured a great deal in the local press and exhibitions/meetings were held in Colnbrook by both Heathrow Airport and Heathrow Hub. The Parish Council decided to oppose the two schemes.

Letters of objection were sent to the Commission and council members attended the public hearing held at the Park Hotel. The Chairman also attended a hearing held at Gatwick where he was invited to speak and voice my concerns for our Parish and the wider local area should Heathrow be chosen.

In an effort to give our local people and Slough councillors a better insight to the alternative to a third Heathrow runway the Parish Council arranged for Gatwick Airport to hold an exhibition in the Village Hall. Slough cabinet members were invited to attend but none responded and subsequently they decided to support Heathrow with some mitigation measures tabled.

Following a recent High Court ruling on EU levels of air pollution, this is now a very big issue and the Davis inquiry reopened on the 8th May and is seeking responses and more evidence on the matter by the 29th May.

The Community Cup Award

This year the Colnbrook Community Cup was awarded to Chris Daron for all her good work during the floods of February 2014 along with her work for 'CAST' and the Village Hall.

Retirement of The Clerk – Roland Hewson

After nearly 20 years of service starting the day the Parish was formed Roland decided it was time to retire. As a mark of gratitude for his exceptional service to the community of Colnbrook with Poyle he was also made an Honorary Freeman.

Appointment of a New Clerk

A Clustering arrangement with Datchet Parish Council is now in place under a Service Level Agreement whereby Mrs Katy Jones took over the position of Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer, in September 2014.

CCTV Camera

Anti-social behaviour had become something of an issue in some parts of the community and working with our neighbourhood police team, means of tackling the matter were discussed. Following representation from the Parish Council to SBC, and an offer to help with the funding of the network connection, the centre of Colnbrook now has CCTV coverage 24hrs a day and is monitored from Slough's control centre. The Police have already acknowledged the benefits.

PCSO Contract

Although it represents a large proportion of the monies available to the Parish Council it was decided to renew the funding agreement with Thames Valley Police for the provision of extra dedicated PCSO cover in the Parish. Crime figures are generally lower as a result of this.

Colnbrook Action Week

A big part of last years' action week was the big tidy up carried out by residents with help from the Parish Council, Lanz, SBC, Hilton Hotel, Asda, Flood Forum and other groups. It was a successful day and managed to get rid of the old sand bags from the flooding.

WWI Memorial Event 26th July

On the 100 year anniversary The Parish Council organised a World War One memorial event which was held at the Jubilee Clock and then followed by a service in St Thomas' church and tea in the church grounds.

A4 London Road Improvements

The so called London Road 'improvements' have caused significant concern in the community and following a request the Parish Council made arrangements for SBC to receive questions and suggestions at a public meeting. They have taken some of the concerns on board but not everything. The double yellow lines have now gone down but the bus stop is still to be moved. Travelling east has improved but there are still problems, especially turning right into the BP garage. The Parish Council have continued to press SBC for appropriate action to make the scheme safer.

Floral Displays

The Parish Council's Summer Floral displays are a regular feature throughout the Village. This year we used a new contractor at a reduced rate allowing for both winter and summer displays at the same cost of just summer flowers in previous years. This has allowed the council to have winter displays in the Conservation area.

Flood Action Group

A Flood Action Group has now been formed after the February 2014 flood event, helped by The Parish Council and The National Flood Forum. The results of the section 19 flood investigation is now available online on SBC web site.

New Notice Boards

Thanks to donations from Cecil Wiggins, Mr Battoo of the old Colnbrook Post Office and Heathrow Airport Ltd we have been able to replace our 20 year old notice boards originally made by Cllr Geof Preece.

Web Site

Our new Clerk Katy and a small group of councillors have been working on a new web site which will be launched in the next few days. This will include the contact details for all new councillors and we ask you to make use of them. colnbrookwithpoyle-pc.gov.uk There is a link to the new Parish Council Facebook page.

Newsletters

Two packed newsletters were delivered to all the homes in the Parish during the year. A few copies are available if for any reason you didn't see one.

Green Flag Awards

As a result of the investment we make in good maintenance and the hard work of Cllr Ray Angell, Colnbrook Recreation Ground was again awarded Green Flag Status for 2014. The judging has just taken place for 2015

Credit must also go to Cllr Ray Angel for his success in retaining the same award for Pippins Park, which is an SBC facility.

Colnbrook Museum

The Parish Council have agreed to work with The Village Hall trust on a project to fund and construct a Colnbrook Museum attached to the Village Hall.

Treasures such as the Colnbrook Fire Tender and Coronation Clock will be able to be properly displayed for all to appreciate. It is also intended to provide a teaching facility in the extension. There have also been discussions with Slough Museum as to how they can help. They are currently locating the Colnbrook Box which was passed to them in 1995. This could possibly be another exhibit along with many photographs and chronicles.

Apple Fayre

Cllr Scott Bryant has taken on the role of leading the organisation of this years' Apple Fayre in conjunction with all the other groups in the Village.

Colnbrook Community Carol Singing

The Parish Council is one of the parties which arranged what has now become the regular Christmas event outside Ye Olde George. Hopefully it will be even bigger and better this year.

A4/Sutton Lane junction

Following pressure from the Parish Council efforts are being made by SBC to tidy up the physical parking restriction at the junction. A temporary scheme is now in place but this will depend upon the SIFE appeal.

School Awards

The Parish Council continue to make awards at the end of each term to help both schools with encouraging reading and good social behaviour.

Slough International Freight Exchange SIFE.

Another threat to our Parish and the Colne Valley Park. SBC Planning previously refused planning permission but now an appeal has been launched. The Chairman invited Mr Mike Nye to add more information on this item.

Mr Nye explained that the new consultation had come about because of the delay between the first appeal and a change in planning law as a result the addendum had been produced. The applicant was aware that the flood plain was being taken up but stated that reducing the ground levels would off-set this. The new consultation ends on 29th May 2015. There is a hearing set for the 22 June and a pre inquiry meeting on 20th July. The actual Inquiry starts on the 8th September.

The Inspector can only do one appeal at a time and if the third runway is approved then SIFE will be inside the airports boundary.

The inspector will weigh up all the arguments and base the decision on the Planning Policy Framework – not on emotional arguments. However since last time the South East Plan has now gone meaning a loss of protection for the green Belt. It will now be down to SBC Policy Framework. Colne Valey Park has 6 objectives but these alone will not be enough to stop this. It was felt that Colnbrook takes all the negativity of these developments with no mitigation.

CPR Training

The council now has 20 CPR dummies available for anyone to use to learn CPR. There is a video which takes about half an hour. The Chairman, Cllr Scott Bryant together with The Chairman of the Colnbrook Residents Association had undergone a course in Emergency Life Support and were happy to help facilitate Free CPR training for anybody in the Parish that wishes to take it up.

Magna Carta Celebrations

The Parish Council have been busy planning a 800 year anniversary Celebration of the sealing of the Magna Carta which happened just down the road in Wraysbury.

Our event will take place on Saturday 6th June and includes a free, Liber Tea Party in the grounds of St Thomas' Church. There will be a parade from King Johns Palace to St Thomas Church.

Conservation Area Lamp post painting

Slough Borough Council generally have a policy of not painting lighting columns.

The ornamental columns in the conservation area of the village were funded by the Parish Council nearly 20 years ago and were in need of a paint job.

It's not unusual for Parish Councillors and other local volunteers to do painting jobs on bollards and other street furniture but the lamp posts posed too much of a health and safety issue and so we employed contractors to do the work.

New Tennis Court for the community

The Parish Council help fund the Colnbrook Community Partnership whose last significant project was a new Tennis Court in Pippins Park. Opened by the Mayor last September.

Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG)

The Parish Council are a supporter of the Colnbrook NAG. Together with the Police, SBC, local residents and other groups they tackle what are generally anti- social issues

in the area. Litter and fly tipping are current concerns which are receiving active attention.

Councillors meeting attendance records

For your information these are as follows:-

87.50%	Cllr Peter Hood – CHAIRMAN
87.50%	Cllr Ray Angell – VICE-CHAIRMAN
15.63%	Cllr Charles Burke
50.00%	Cllr Howard Jones
87.50%	Cllr ‘K’ Laxman
84.38%	Cllr David MacDougald
46.88%	Cllr Mrs Avtar Cheema
59.38%	Cllr Dexter Smith
59.38%	Cllr Mrs Barbara Underhill
43.75%	Cllr Mrs Neelam Verma
93.75%	Cllr Scott Bryant
28.13%	Cllr Mrs Safia Akram

Income and Expenditure 2014/15

The chairman gave a presentation on the councils’ income and expenditure for the year 2014/15. The largest proportion of income being the precept at £93,450 which together with some sponsorship and a little interest totalled £101,440.28

With regard to expenditure the largest proportion goes on funding the PCSO post £33,394.00 with public communication coming next at £12,800.36. Total net expenditure was £99, 671.06

There will be a yearend financial report with the Annual Return submission to the next full council meeting.

The Chairman thanked everybody for coming and stated that the Council will continue to do its best for the community and trusted the twelve newly elected councillors would put their differences behind them and work together for the community.

2) **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Q. To the newly elected members, especially those from the Labour Party – How do you intend to support members of the village on matters such as SIFE / Heathrow proposed Expansion / Grundon incinerator. Will you support residents or follow the party line and feed Colnbrook to the wolves?

The Chairman deferred this question until the Annual Statutory meeting had taken place since at this moment in time no candidates had official signed their acceptance of office so were not yet councillors.

Q. There appears to be confusion over the Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council – can you explain the difference and were electors given the opportunity of contributing to the agenda on the former?

A. The Chairman stated that the Annual Parish Meeting was a gathering of the community to talk about what the parish had achieved in the previous year and as it was an open forum issues could be discussed freely.

The Clerk then explained that in setting up the meetings for this year she had amended the title of the later to the Annual Statutory Meeting of the Parish Council to avoid

future confusion. However the present web site had not allowed her to alter the title on its format – it being fixed. This was something that the new web site would allow. She proposed that in the future the two meetings be held on separate nights in line with good practice and to allow more time for community involvement in the Annual Parish meeting.

- Q.** Regarding Heathrow expansion, the parish council stated that most of Colnbrook people are against this, but failed to see if the majority of people work at the airport how can they be against it. Having seen the result of airports that have ‘died’ leaving slums behind do you want the same for Colnbrook?
What happened to the voice of those who want expansion and the industry to thrive?
Where is the proof that the community don’t want it?
- A.** The Chairman said there were no statistics and it was now up to the Davis Commission to decide the outcome.
Mike Nye said it was a doubled edged sword employment V. increased noise / pollution.
- Q.** Is there a National Planning Policy Framework to cover developments like SIFE and Heathrow expansion?
- A.** Mike Nye – Yes and these determine how developments are going to proceed, but won’t discourage them rather speed up the process. SBC have a local plan which will be taken into account but Colnbrook as of yet don’t have a Neighbourhood Plan. There have been efforts to start this and it will need the commitment of councillors and residents get it off the ground.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

SIGNED: DATE.....

Subject: Report by PCSO Jemma Cropper to the Annual Parish Meeting held at The Village Hall, Colnbrook on Tuesday 19th May 2015

1. Burglary

There had been only 1 reported incidence of burglary from a house from the 13th to 18th May and there were none reported in Colnbrook in April at all.
There had been 6 break in’s into garages / sheds and 10 into motor vehicle which is a slight increase on Aprils figures.

There were no stolen vehicles or bikes compared to 2 in April

2. ASB

There had been 5 reported incidents so far in May compared to 11 in April. TVP are aware of local 'Hot Spots' and they are working on these.

Of the offence types in the whole of Slough East ASB is down by 25.4%

3. Traffic

Regarding the road layout changes at Brands Hill these will be discussed at the NAG meeting on the 20th May. Accidents have decreased massively since these were first carried out and the shops have noticed a difference. Tickets have been issued in the post to parking offenders.

4. Other Matters

Cllr Elum-Smith enquired as to stolen cars. PCSO Cropper reported that there had been none in May so far and only 1 last month from the trading estate. No particular areas had been targeted it was very sporadic.

PCSO Cropper also stated that with regard to burglaries again there were no targeted areas and no real pattern and as much in the day time as at night.

She advised the public to visit the TVP web site to see online by post code the statistics for their locality. There is also the Thames Valley Alert page where people can see what types of crimes are happening in their areas.
