



CHINEHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly

Date: Thursday 25th April 2019
 Time: 7 pm
 Place: Community Rooms, Chineham Village Hall, Thornhill Way, Chineham.
 Present : Cllr. Marian Adams Cllr. Paul Miller
 Cllr. Andy Clarke Cllr. Steve Oakley
 Cllr. Les Fryer Cllr. David Thornton (Chairman)
 Cllr. Sue Fuller Sally Jackson (Clerk)
 Cllr. Kirsty Giles Julia Johnston (Asst. Clerk)
 Cllr. Ginny Wright (Apologies)

1. Introduction.

Cllr. Thornton welcomed those present to the Annual Parish Assembly and advised them of the fire exits and procedures for evacuation.

2. To receive a presentation by St. Michael's Hospice.

Daisy Mitchell (Deputy Head of Fundraising) gave the following presentation on St. Michael's Hospice.

Who are we? St. Michael's Hospice is a local adult Hospice which opened 27 years ago. It is a registered charity and the services to patients are free of charge. It was built by the community for the community.

What do we do? St. Michael's Hospice treats patients with life-limiting illnesses either via their in-patient unit or in the patient's own home.

Myths: the Hospice is available for patients with all life-limiting illnesses, not just cancer. It is available for anyone over the age of 18 and can be accessed for symptom control as well as end of life care. The Hospice can make it possible for patients to go home.

A time to live: the average length of a patient's stay is 11 days. Time and support is also offered to the patients' families.

In-patient Unit: the unit has 10 beds although they are currently operating 7 beds due to a shortage of nursing staff. There is a professional chef, weekly hair salon, family lounge and gardens. On average there are 2 staff members for every patient.

Community Palliative Care Team (formally Hospice at Home): this provides clinical care within a patient's home. They work in conjunction with GP's, Social Workers and Community Nurses providing care 365 days a year.

Signature.....

Chairman

More services: patients can access therapeutic clinics, Physiotherapy, MND clinics, complimentary therapies e.g. massage, a Befriending Service via the Odiham Cottage Hospital and family support e.g. bereavement services.

Costs: in 2019/20 it will cost £5 million to provide the services free of charge to patients. St. Michael's Hospice only receives 16% of these funds via the local Clinical Commissioning Group.

Community fundraising: these include sponsored events, tea @ 3, quiz nights, street and supermarket collections, donations etc. The Hospice tries to spread the word about its services and the fundraising required via talks in local schools and at group AGM's etc.

Corporate fundraising: these include Storck, Festival Place, Site Equip, Revolution Vehicles and Hireserve.

Hospice-led events: these include 5 and 10k runs, the Big Wheel cycle events, Golf Days and the Moonlight Walk.

In memory services and celebrations: the Sunflower celebration and the Light up a Life service.

Other income sources: these include legacies, trusts, in memory donations, a lottery and scratch cards.

Retail stores: there are currently 10 shops with a new one opening in Kempshott this year. Chineham has a local retail store and also the Furniture/distribution centre.

Volunteers: the Hospice currently has 740 volunteers covering patient drivers, retail, fundraising, gardening and administration. £770,000 is saved each year by the volunteers providing their services.

Cllr. Thornton thanked Daisy for her very informative and moving presentation.

3. Local Police (if available on the evening).

It was acknowledged that the Local Police were not available to attend the meeting.

4. To receive the report of the Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2019.

Cllr. Thornton began by acknowledging that the nine serving Parish Councillors had put themselves forward for election at this year's Parish Council election. As there were no other candidates, the election is uncontested and so the nine Parish Councillors have duly been re-elected.

Cllr. Thornton explained that the Parish Council meets monthly, in public and these meetings include a public session when residents can express views or ask questions. The Parish Council is organised with 3 committees, Finance, Recreation and Planning. Only the Full Council can authorise actions or expenditure. The Planning Committee has delegated powers to respond to applications because of the time constraints in responding to them.

Signature.....

Chairman

Cllr. Thornton referred to three projects completed in the last year. The Parish Council was pleased to install a Commemorative seat and it has been welcomed by residents. The Community Orchard in Reading Road was finally planted last November after long negotiations with Hampshire County Council as it is on Highways land. The trees are all alive, well and currently in blossom. The Parish Council was pleased with the expert support from Hortus Loci who supplied the trees and planted them. The Parish Lengthsman has repaired seating and re-varnished the wooden seats around the Parish.

Cllr. Thornton referred to two on-going projects. The proposed Hanmore Road play area (beside Busy Bees) has been held up by legal issues but these have now been resolved. The site work has started and the project will progress this summer. The Tollhouse Meadow replacement bridge has been agreed with the Borough Council and will be installed during the summer months when ground conditions are suitable.

Cllr. Thornton referred to two proposed projects. The Parish Council is working on ideas to enhance the area inside the moat by Farm View Drive to provide a secluded site for quiet contemplation ("Moat Park"). The Parish Council has met with Borough Council Officers to discuss feasible ideas and will consult residents before making any decisions. The Parish Council is considering installing more seats along the Petty's Brook "corridor" to enable all, including our less mobile residents, to enjoy this key green feature of Chineham.

Cllr. Thornton gave his thanks to Cllr. Sue Fuller and the Recreation Committee for all their hard work on these projects.

Cllr. Thornton gave those present a brief resume of some queries from local residents that have been passed on to the relevant authorities. These include: grass-cutting (BDBC/Grounds Maintenance), overgrown vegetation (BDBC/Grounds Maintenance), fly-tipping (BDBC/Street Cleaning), fallen Leaves (BDBC/Street Cleaning), pot holes/resurfacing works (Hampshire Highways), the drain at Guinea Court shops (BDBC/Environmental Health), Sewage Treatment Works (Thames Water), concerns over roundabout safety (Borough/County Councillors), Reading Road residents/volume & speed of traffic during works (Borough/County Councillors), Kings Pightle safety issue on pathway (Hampshire Highways assessed path & put in guard rail).

Cllr. Thornton advised those present of some of the Consultations that the Parish Council has replied to from the Borough Council and other authorities. The Parish Council always responds to consultations and the responses can be found in the Parish Council minutes and often in the reports of the consulting bodies. These include: Hampshire County Council – Permit scheme for Road & Street works, Hampshire County Council – street lighting, supported passenger transport services & concessionary travel scheme, Government - 2019/20 Local Government Finance Settlement Technical consultation, National Highways & Transport Public Satisfaction survey, Local Government Boundary Commission for England – Council Ward Boundaries for Basingstoke & Deane, North Wessex Downs AONB updated management plan, Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council – Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019/20 – 2022/23, Hampshire County Council – Rights of Way priority cutting list, Hampshire County Council/Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council – draft Transport Strategy.

Signature.....

Chairman

Cllr. Thornton informed those present that the big planning event has been the proposed redevelopment of the Chineham shopping centre. Parish Councillors attended pre-application meetings and considered the application at the December meeting. The Parish Council's response was in favour except for the road layout, location of bus stops and pedestrian access to transport. The Parish Council is awaiting a revised application. The Parish Council has commented on proposed developments adjacent to the Parish, the Aurum site, Razor's Farm and Upper Cufaude Farm. The Parish Council's concerns are the effects on Chineham's already overburdened infrastructure. The Parish Council is paying close attention to the awaited developments on the other side of the A33. The Planning Committee considered 53 applications in 2018 and objected to two (a chart was shown to the meeting Appendix A).

Cllr. Thornton advised that Parish Councillors had attended last year's Four Lanes School Fete and planned to attend again this year. The Parish Council introduced revised policies in line with the new GDPR requirements. The Parish Council undertook a number of traffic surveys at Thornhill Way, Mattock Way, Hanmore Road, Reading Road and Bowman Road. A second Tree Warden has been appointed for Chineham. The Parish Council gave a grant to Victim Support during the year.

Cllr. Thornton acknowledged that the Parish Council's activities would have been impossible without the work of the Clerks who give excellent support and advice. He further acknowledged that the Parish Council is fortunate that both Clerks are experienced and qualified. Cllr. Thornton also thanked the Rapid Response Warden, the "eyes and ears" of the Parish Council.

Cllr. Thornton concluded his presentation by thanking all of the Councillors and staff for their hard work.

Cllr. Thornton invited Mr Peter Vincent to say a few words about the Chineham Community Speedwatch initiative. Mr Vincent advised those present that there are only six current volunteers and that three are required each time there is a roadside set-up. He advised that motorists travelling at speeds in excess of 35mph in a 30mph speed limit are noted and this has been set by the Police. Since local records began in 2014, 2532 cars have been recorded speeding with 587 in excess of 40mph in a 30mph zone and with 25 vehicles in excess of 50mph in a 30mph zone. This year 142 cars have been recorded speeding with 5 cars in excess of 50mph. The record is 65mph in a 30mph zone. Mr Vincent advised that the equipment is shared with Old Basing & Lychpit Parish Council on alternate months. Various times and locations are selected for the roadside set-up but locations must be risk assessed by the Police first. Mr Vincent acknowledged that since he took over as co-ordinator of the scheme, there has been no local Police presence during the roadside set-ups.

Cllr. Thornton thanked Mr Vincent for his update.

5. To receive a statement of the Parish Council accounts for the year ended 31 March 2019.

Cllr. Fryer presented the following statement of the Parish Council accounts for the year ended 31 March 2019.

Good Evening,

Signature.....

Chairman

My name is Les Fryer and I am chairman of the Finance Committee. You have available the unaudited accounts for the year to 31 March 2019. I am pleased to state that we have been able to keep our precept (local rates) for Chineham residents during the year to £37,000. In fact there has been no increase since 2012. We have by good housekeeping, and funds available to us from Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council been able to complete a number of projects for the area as mentioned by the Chairman. The community room has continued to be a good revenue source for the Village Hall and they have been able to absorb the running cost of this community room & Parish office. The Parish Council made a £200 section 137 grant to a local organisation. Last year this was £6284 which included a £5500 grant to the Community section of Four Lanes School. The Parish Council would like to make further grants to local area clubs & charities and invites applications. You will have seen from your rates that we increased our precept by £750 for the current year which meant a slight increase of 24 pence per annum to the average local council tax. Since 2017, Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council has reduced their grants for dual admin and single person's resident allowances by £2100 and this is the main reason we have had to increase our precept. I am ably assisted on the Finance Committee by Cllr. Andy Clarke and Cllr. Steve Oakley to whom I give my thanks.

I am happy to take any questions.

Cllr. Oakley noted that Chineham Parish Council has one of the lowest precept rates in Hampshire.

Cllr. Thornton thanked the Finance Committee and the Responsible Financial Officer for all their hard work.

Cllr. Thornton thanked everyone for attending the meeting and invited those present to stay for refreshments.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Signature.....

Chairman