

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
OF THE PARISH OF WRAYSBURY  
HELD IN WRAYSBURY VILLAGE HALL  
ON Monday 26<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2018**

**Present**

Councillor Mrs M Lenton, Chairman of the Parish Council, in the Chair. The Clerk and sixteen Registered Electors of the Parish.

(Borough Councillors J Lenton and C Rayner, Cllr P Lord, Cllr Mrs D Hughes, Cllr Ms S Nicholls, Cllr Andy Moran, Cllr Mike Williams, Cllr G Sinclair, Cllr Ewan Larcombe along with 5 members of the Parish)

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mrs L Andrew and Cllr A Davies.

Apologies for a late arrival were received from Borough Cllr J Lenton, Cllr Mrs M Lenton and Cllr A Moran.

**2. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 27th March 2017 were circulated at the meeting. They were, following some minor alterations, agreed as a correct record and signed accordingly.

**3. Presentation By Guest Speaker – Call Flow Solutions**

An overview of the internet provided company was given; they are based in Kent and have been investing in local infrastructure for over 15 years.

They are offering a superfast fibre broadband fibre to cabinet (FTTC) service to Wraysbury residents. This is where the broadband travels over fibre optic cable from the exchange to the street cabinet and over copper cable from the cabinet to the home. They are operating from 4 cabinets in Wraysbury covering 500 to 600 properties. The Broadband speed achievable will depend upon the distance between the cabinet and the property but a minimum of 20mb is guaranteed.

They are offering 3 packages, 40 GB, 200 GB and unlimited data usage all on 18 month contracts. They are offering a special offer to all Wraysbury residents and a 'special, special' offer to those signing up from to night's presentation in the next week. Free connection and router are include in the package.

Questions:-

- What are the cost of calls? There is a call package for an additional £6 per month or calls can be paid for as made.
- What is the lead time on installation? 2 weeks for broadband installation and a further 2 weeks for the phone line.

Call Flow are to be present at the Village Fair and the presentation is to be put on the Parish Website and Facebook page to inform residents of the service offered.

**4. Chairman's Report**

The Neighbourhood Plan

The Plan has been submitted to RBWM for inspection and the issuing of the 'SEA' screening opinion and a Habitat Regulation Assessment screening opinion. Due to an excessive delay in this process a letter was sent to Sajid Javid MP the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local

Government requesting his intervention. Since then progress has been made and the results are expected shortly.

#### The Commemoration of the Centenary of Armistice Day

Preparations are well under way with a committee, with Mr G Morley as secretary, organising the following events;

An exhibition in the Windsor Room of the village Hall.

An afternoon tea party with cakes requested for various Village organisations.

Various activities, including those for the children, and talks from 3pm.

The lighting of the beacon at 7.05pm, the Windsor beacon being lit at 7pm by the Queen.

Ringling of the Church bells.

The publication of the 'History of Wraysbury' by the history project group.

#### Consideration of Additional Planning Meetings

Due to the number of planning applications and the timing required for response by the Parish Council the need for additional planning meetings has been considered but will remain as part of the full Parish Meetings for the present.

#### The Neighbourhood Action Group

Following the revision of the NAG, monthly meetings are taking place between Horton, Wraysbury and Datchet members and as a result the Neighbourhood Watch initiative has also been revised. Issues of concern were the spate of burglaries before Christmas, the numbers have now decreased following an increased police presence and the arrest of 2 individuals.

A new concern is the rise in car break-ins, the police are frustrated at the number of cars that are left unlocked and those with valuables left on show.

Scams, especially those directed at the elderly are also of concern with not all being reported due to embarrassment.

#### Wraysbury Parish Council Accounts

The audited accounts for the year 2016-17 were made available for inspection by those present. The accounts for 2017-18 would be made available following the end of the financial year and the audit inspection.

#### Parochial Charities Accounts

The audited accounts were made available for inspection by those present.

### **5. Vice Chairman's Report**

The Parish Council has been criticised in the past for its failure to communicate properly with residents. The Parish Boards and Website are the main means of communication but the Parish also has a Facebook page where any issues can be reported and the Parish Council can also percolate information.

The RBWM website is also a good source of local information and 'Fix My Street' a good means of reporting issues to the Borough.

It is also worthwhile signing up to 'Jeff Pick's Alerts' to keep abreast of any policing issues within the local area.

Cllr Lord is available on a Wednesday between 6 and 7pm at the Container Library for any face to face discussions and Library staff in the Borough are being trained to direct residents with issues to the right people in the RBWM.

Cllr Lord stressed that communication is a two way process and that resident and local groups also need to inform the Parish Council of any concerns or issues. It is often the case that residents complain on social media but do not speak to or report issues to those who can try to resolve them.

Any suggestion on how the Parish Council can improve communications with residents would be more than welcome.

## 6. Introduction To Lead Members

### Properties.

Cllr Moran as Lead Member for properties gave details of past, current and future projects;

- The Football Club – the club is now under new management and on a good financial footing. There is now a youth side as well as 2 senior sides. Two new dugouts have been built using a grant obtained from the RBWM.
- The Community Building – the lease with the Scout Group is coming to an end and a new one is being prepared.
- Memorial Gates – the gates are due to be refurbished for the 11<sup>th</sup> November Commemorations, a beacon is also being commissioned for the event.
- Parish Office – a feasibility report is being produced for the construction of a Parish Office and archive, a garage to house the new community bus, public toilets, storage facility and new facilities for the football club on the site of the existing garage.

### Greens

Cllr M Williams as Lead Member for Greens reported that;

- There is currently an issue with the state of the verges especially down the Staines Road due to cars and lorries parking on them. There is little that can be done to prevent this but discussions are being held with Volker concerning repair works.
- The area around the Memorial Gates has been tidied up and the driveway resurfaced in preparation for the 11<sup>th</sup> November. A new flower bed will be planted with poppies.
- New rubbish bins are to be ordered to replace the old, existing ones and also some additional ones.
- In his role as Community Resilience Officer Cllr Williams reported that the temporary flood relief plan proposed by the EA has proven to have a detrimental effect upon the Village, the plan is therefore being revised.
- The Wraysbury Flood Plan has just been completed by Cllrs Williams and Moran and will be discussed at the next Parish Council Meeting.
- The River Thames Scheme – there is due to be an update on the proposed scheme next week but there appears to be a funding issue.
- The EA have concerns over the recent invasion of pennywort in the Thames and are asking for any sightings to be reported.
- The Village Archive – Cllr Williams has initiated 'Project 2020' where it is aimed to make the archive an online facility.
- Cllr Williams is also involved in the Wraysbury Voluntary Care, Wraysbury Village Trust, the Lunch Club, Wraysbury News as well as driving the community bus. It has been suggested that there is a Village Cliché, it may seem that it is the same people are involved in the many Village Organisations but new faces are always more than welcome.

### Waterways

Cllr G Sinclair as Lead Member for waterways reported that;

- The three main waterways in Wraysbury; the River Thames, the Colne Brook and the Wraysbury Drain require constant communications with the Environmental Agency and the RBWM.
- It is hoped that the Parish Council can work with RK Leisure to allow residents to make greater use of Wraysbury 2 Lake and the surrounding area.
- Cllr Sinclair is also a member of the Bowls Club Committee and the Village Trust.

Planning

Cllr Mrs Hughes as Lead Member for planning reported that;

- Housebuilding in Wraysbury is constrained due to the flood plain and the Green Belt.
- The Parish Council aims to insure that applications do not exceed the 30m2 flood allowance including any increase in foot print since 1978. The neighbourliness of applications is also considered, looking at light and privacy issues.
- New builds are becoming taller as floor levels must now be raised to protect against flooding.
- It is hoped that once the Horton & Wraysbury Neighbourhood Plan has been accepted more notice will be taken of the Parish Council’s wish for smaller properties suitable for the young and elderly.
- Despite the comments submitted by the Parish Council the Borough Council make the final decision. If an application goes to appeal the Secretary of State may override any decision made by the Borough.
- Cllr Mrs Hughes is also a tree warden and as such can offer advice on tree species and diseases.

Parish Paths

Cllr Ms S Nichols as the Councillor responsible for the pathways in the Parish reported that;

- The RBWM are proposing a program of work to be carried out on public rights of way by various voluntary groups. A request for suggestions of likely projects has been placed on the Wraysbury Parish Council Website.
- A successful grant application has been made in order to produce a leaflet containing details of the pathways in the area, along with a map and links to other routes.

**7. Questions from the Public**

- Cllr Mr E Larcombe requested an update on the Ward Boundary Review.
- Cllr Mrs M Lenton advised that The Local Government Boundary Commission’s Draft Review recommended that Horton and Wraysbury are to join with Datchet with a total of 3 ward Councillors as opposed to the current 4 Councillors. This has yet to be formally agreed. Both Cllr Mrs M Lenton and Borough Cllr Rayner expressed their concerns over the resulting additional work load for Councillors.
- Mr H Perez advised that a closed Facebook page has been set up for residents to express their concerns over the No. 10 bus route. Courtney Busses, the new provided, has access to the page. Following a meeting Courtney Busses a public meeting has been arranged and all are welcome to attend. Cllr Mrs M Lenton expressed her concern that meetings are being arranged between individual residents/groups and companies without the knowledge or invitation of the elected members of the Parish Council. Residents are not always privy to all the back ground information and behind the scenes work that the Borough and Parish Council are undertaking.

..... Chairman ..... Date