

## WRINGTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Held on 28 April 2021, 7.00pm, via Zoom

**Present:** Cllr P Neve, Cllr B Taylor, Cllr G Bigg, Cllr D Yamanaka, Cllr L Samuel, Cllr J Steinbach, Cllr S Lovell, Cllr J Coffey, Cllr S Treweek, Cllr P Jarvis, Cllr L Vaughn, Cllr H Ward, District Cllr S Hogg, F Burke (Clerk), J Bishop (Assistant Clerk) and two residents.

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**1. Welcome**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Apologies for absence**

No apologies had been received.

**3. Minutes of the Parish Meeting held 27 March 2019**

These were noted and adopted as a true record.

**4. Chairman's report and financial statement for the year 2020/21**

Cllr Neve delivered the following report:

When Covid hit last year the PC had to rapidly adapt to operating remotely and online which, while it brought some challenges, was quickly accommodated and now works pretty well. Work has continued as before, it has just sometimes been a little more difficult. I would like at this point to express a huge "thank you" to all our staff who have continued throughout to hold everything together.

The two biggest issues we have had to deal with in the past few months have been planning applications that seriously threaten our community and which we continue to oppose.

Firstly, work to counter the proposed airport expansion continues with the decision of BAL to go to appeal. Cllr Steinbeck is working tirelessly alongside Hilary Burn and others in the PCAA in preparing for the appeal which will go ahead later this year.

Cllr Taylor and the Planning Committee have spent a lot of time in responding in great detail to the Butts Batch housing development plans, working in parallel with the members of the Keep Wrington as Wrington group who have done a fantastic job to raise awareness of the very damaging implications of this proposal. Again, this is in process so we await further news.

Another major item is the Gatcombe Farm scheme which may possibly offer potential benefits in solving a long running problem. However, it is by no means a perfect development and we have again spent a lot of time preparing detailed responses and seeking considerable changes and improvements.

Developments such as these continue to threaten our parish and one of the most important things that will help determine what the parish of the future looks like is for us to prepare and submit our Neighbourhood plan. This huge task is being coordinated by Cllr Bigg. If

you feel you can help please do get in touch. When we have this completed and approved it gives us both more say in what happens in our community and also has cash benefits too.

The Planning Committee also continued to deal with a continual stream of planning applications, meeting every three weeks to ensure we consider and comment on all proposals. We have also responded to a number of policy and other consultations.

On a slightly negative note, we have had to deal with a number of incidences of petty vandalism which are annoying and waste money and staff time but we hope this will subside as we come out of the covid restrictions.

The Local bus provision continues to concern us.

We await the installation of the 20-mph zone and are involved with NSC and other councils on more active transport provision.

We have signed a new 6-year lease with Wrington Sports & Social Club for the Pavilion and are now working very closely with them and other sports groups to expand the provision and use of our recreational assets.

Play equipment is being replaced and improved. A new multiplay unit has been ordered for Church Walk play area and repairs to other equipment are underway.

The Twinning with Villeneuve-Lès-Béziers has been re-invigorated with the installation of their new Mayor.

We are glad to have such an excellent local councillor in Steve Hogg who is a key conduit to NSC and we are also lucky to have former Councillor Deborah Yamanaka on the PC with her 25 years of local government experience.

Finally, the financial statement for the year 2020/21 was shared on screen. There were no questions.

## **5. Climate Change**

Cllr Neve delivered the following report:

This is, undoubtedly the biggest single threat to humanity and is clearly something that both affects us all and can only be solved through action by all, or at least, most of us. As a PC we are limited in what we can do, however where we can act is to help everyone understand the problems and enable everyone to act in ways to achieve the change to a low carbon world.

Following the lead from NSC we passed a climate emergency motion and have approved a climate strategy and action plan. That action plan is available on the PC website. We have set up a climate working group within the PC and also, with other members of the community, a separate independent climate steering group to run, inspire and help coordinate projects throughout the parish. Several new projects are now starting, and I hope that as people learn more this will grow further. It is very early days yet but already there is a project working with the school to grow food and another looking at other ways to help encourage wildlife in our gardens and public spaces. A 'library' is also being considered and work on helping car shares and solving other transport needs for those who need it. We hope to develop more help for people in using more renewable energy and improving their homes and other buildings. Other residents are organising a freecycle event next weekend.

You don't have to wait to act on climate change, but if you have an idea that will help in the and what help then bring it to the group and we will do what we can to help develop and promote it.

## **6. Questions to the Council**

The Chair invited questions and the meeting discussed the following points:

- The installation of EV charging points – the meeting discussed various possible locations.
- One resident provided an update on Wrington Fair Week and the Dickensian Christmas Fair. They explained the committee were determined that the Fair would go ahead in some form next year and they would keep the Council updated.
- Cllr Hogg gave an update on the 20mph safety scheme and on how the extension of the scheme had led to a delay in implementation.
- Finally, Cllr Hogg gave an update on the proposed development at Butts Batch and how he felt there were some fundamental problems that the developers would find it hard to overcome.

The Chair thanked those present for attending the meeting and with there being no other business the meeting was closed at 7.45pm.

**Cllr Neve  
Chair**