

**UPPER CLATFORD ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
MINUTES FROM THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2020  
AT 7.30 PM IN THE KING EDWARD VII MEMORIAL HALL**

<b>Present:</b>	Parish Cllrs P Heslop (Chairman), R Bennett, D Coole, C C Eyre, H Folkard-Tapp, S Kennedy, A Lockhart, C Williams, A Wilson, TVBC Cllr M Flood PCSO L Moore and PC 5 x Members of the public Minutes: C Emmett Parish Clerk
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1.	<b>Apologies for Absence</b> Cllr A Gibson, Cllr N Shah, Cllr A Wilson	
2.	<p><b>Update from the Local Police</b> The police gave a brief overview and answered questions from those attending. The main points were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Size of the Andover Rural patch covered by 2 officers</li> <li>• Crime in UC area is very low level apart from a recent spate of thefts from cars sheds and agricultural buildings which they are targeting with Op Will.</li> <li>• Need for assistance (eyes and ears) of the public in identifying and report crime or suspicious activity.</li> <li>• Contact police via 999 for emergencies. Responses to crimes are from the Andover station not the Neighbourhood Team.</li> <li>• Contact 101 telephone and on-line reporting for other crime reports. All reports are seen by officers and it helps identify patterns of crime for response.</li> <li>• Social media now very much a tool used by the constabulary and it was recommended individuals registered with Hampshire Alert. If you live or work in Hampshire or the Isle of Wight, you are invited to register now to become a recipient of messages of information, crime alerts and witness appeals local to the area in which you live or work in a way that suits your needs and lifestyle by email, text or telephone. Just click visit <a href="#">Hants Alert</a> to register. As a registered recipient you will not only benefit from two way messaging but may also hear about positive police action in your community, help identify suspected or wanted criminals or learn about community groups, events or meetings in your area.</li> </ul> <p>Questions were then invited. A question about enforcement of double yellow lines was asked and the officers stated that they could take action should the offence be causing an obstruction on the roads. It was noted that presently the enforcement role is with TVBC but that is moving back to HCC in May this year. There being no more questions the Chairman thanked the officers who left the meeting.</p>	
3.	<p><b>Parish Council Chairman's Report</b></p> <p>Welcome everybody to the 2020 Annual Parish meeting, and particularly to members of the public. I'm Peter Heslop and I've been Chairman of your Parish Council since June 2017. Since our last Annual Parish Meeting, most of the Councillors stood for re-election in May 2019. Alan Newell, a Parish Councillor for several years, chose to stand down at that time; Alan's contributions to the Parish Council over the years have been much appreciated. Since then we have co-opted two new Parish Councillors: Hollie Folkard-Tapp, who is our environmental advisor, and more recently, Richard Bennett who has contributed to the development of the NDP since the start of the process and was happy to step-up and take on a fuller role by joining the council. I am pleased to say the Parish Council now has its full complement of 10 councillors, and I would like to publicly thank all of them for their ongoing energy and commitment.</p> <p>I would also like to acknowledge the invaluable professional expertise and support provided to the Parish Council by our Clerk, Charles Emmett.</p> <p>I would also like to acknowledge the support given to the Parish Council by our Hampshire County Councillor Andrew Gibson, and our Test Valley Borough Ward Councillors Maureen Flood and David Coole.</p> <p>Work on the development of our Neighbourhood Development Plan has been the principal focus of the Council over the past year, and has absorbed much of the time of most of the Parish Councillors and many volunteers from the community. Progress has been led by Charles Crosthwaite-Eyre, ably assisted throughout by Nick Shah, David Coole, Anne Lockhart and Hollie Folkard-Tapp and other Councillors. I'd like to thank the whole team, including several community volunteers, for the excellent progress made. The NDP process is now moving towards its final stages and will shortly be sent to the Local Authority (TVBC under Regulation 15) for their review and public consultation (under Regulation 16). It is then subject to scrutiny by the Examiner and will be put to a public referendum of parishioners later this year for your approval. We believe that the plan identifies the community planning requirements and reflects your views.</p> <p>As a Council we are routinely invited to comment on all planning applications related to the Parish. I stress the word comment, because that is the limit of our power. The authority to approve or reject applications is vested in TVBC. Our views on applications can be seen in our minutes and on planning portals of both the parish and TVBC websites. Members of the general public can also</p>	

	<p>make their views known to TVBC by letter or email to the planning department.</p> <p>That aside we have worked at ensuring the parish owned or maintained areas (such as the Green), are appropriately inspected and maintained, with grass cut and bushes trimmed. In addition, the equipment in the playing fields is routinely inspected on a monthly basis and work is done to repair and maintain play equipment and safety surfaces as necessary. A recent initiative has resulted in a party of volunteers from the Parish Council planting a new hedge along the roadside boundary of the Balksbury Bridge playing field. The young trees and stakes have been provided free by the Woodland Trust.</p> <p>Prompted by storm Ciara, we have just commissioned a re-inspection of trees on the Green, in Brook Way and White Oak Way due to their size and potential risk to public and property. As there are so many trees on parish land, most of which are covered by Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) which limit what can be done with them, and our policy has to be one of need (ie safety) rather than cosmetics. Earlier in the year we had a survey done on the trees at the bottom of Brook Way followed by some remedial work. We have started to clear the bushes and undergrowth in that area in an effort to open it up and deter continual dumping (fly tipping) of green waste.</p> <p>The sports field has been maintained by the Parish Council throughout the year and has been extensively used by the Upper Clatford Youth Football Team – both summer and winter – as a free community facility. It was also used by the PTA of Clatford school for a fund raising event known as CLATFEST last summer and has been booked again for June this year. The Pavilion is in a fairly shabby state and we will have to do some work to ensure is kept weatherproof and possibly smartened up next year. Similarly, the access road to the field will need improvement if the facility use justifies it. The installation of a height restriction barrier at the entrance to the sports field has been effective in controlling unwanted access and illegal occupation of the field, which we have experienced in previous years.</p> <p>We remain conscious of the general concern about the speed of some traffic on our roads but have so far been unsuccessful in our approaches to HCC Highways regarding the lack of speed limits (other than national speed limits) on Watery Lane and Balksbury Bridge Road. On the positive side measures to improve sight-lines for traffic on Foundry Road in Anna Valley by the introduction of parking restrictions on the bends to the east of Waterloo Terrace seem to have helped and we understand that the long-awaited resurfacing work on Sam Whites Hill may happen later this year. The frequent disregard of the double yellow lines immediately outside the Crook and Shears remains a concern, and is regular and unnecessary cause of traffic congestion in the immediate vicinity. We have plans in the near future to install a Speed Indicator Device (SID) at various key locations on the roads through the villages in an effort to remind drivers to take care throughout the built-up areas. Our accounting year ends at the end of March. Spending details are published in the minutes of the monthly Parish Council Meetings. This year we anticipate spending approximately £38,000 (last year £28,500). The increase is mainly attributable to the NDP costs which have been covered by a grant from Locality (a national network supporting community organisations.) Other costs are met from the Precept (£15,300), rent from the Old Chalk Pit (£10,000), and a contribution from the parish reserves. Next year we have planned on a similar spend due to increases in costs for a new grounds maintenance contract, work on the pavilion and various other community projects, but we will only be raising the Precept by an extra £380.</p>	
4.	<p><b>Public Participation</b> There were 5 members of the public attending.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. One member, Mr A Flint, spoke about his concerns (and those with him) about clearance work at Brook Way Bottom in the last month. In summary his points were: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. At the previous PC meeting it was stated that there work would only trim back the hedges.</li> <li>b. He was concerned about nesting birds. [Afternote: The contactor confirmed necessary actions in accordance with legislation had been taken]</li> <li>c. Open space means the area is not protected from cars and this presents a potential H&amp;S hazard for children (who would have been stopped from running into the road by the vegetation/hedge) and demanded to know what the Parish Council was going to do about it.</li> <li>d. It has destroyed a natural habitat.</li> </ol> <p>After a short discussion the Chairman stated the comments would be considered when considering any future actions for the area.</p> </li> <li>2. The same resident asked about locations for the SID. Response: While exact locations have still to be finalised the aim is to rotate through locations on the main roads through the parish including Foundry Rd.</li> <li>3. Tree Survey. It was asked if the tree survey was in yet and whether it would be made available to the public. Response: It had been received that afternoon and had not been reviewed yet. The document or main points will be made available.</li> </ol> <p>The speaker was asked to send his speaking notes to the Clerk to ensure they were accurately represented in the minutes.[Not received at time of publication]</p> <p><b>There being no other comments the Chairman thanked all for attending and invited them to remain for the Parish Council meeting which followed.</b></p>	

Meeting Closed 8.10 pm