

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Piddington & Wheeler End Parish Council held on Tuesday
8th May 2018 at 7.30pm in Piddington Village Hall**

Present: Cllrs Mr S. Digby, Mr N. Cloke, Mr A Hackett, Mr A. Stevens, Ms J Redfern, Mrs. J Roy
Mrs H. Glasgow, Clerk

6 members of the public. County Councillor Darren Hayday.

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Mrs W. Pitcher.

1. Cllr Simon Digby as Chairman welcomed everyone present and thanked them for their support over the previous year.

2. Chairman's Report

Piddington and Wheeler End Parish Council represents a small area of Buckinghamshire but is a big hive of activity. It operates as dynamic, decision making, environment enhancing, listening and active democratic operation.

We are a group of unrecompensed volunteers doing our best with a backcloth of convivial cooperation, helped, directed, herded, cajoled and guided by our very able Clerk.

We have a lot to show for our efforts. I'd like to mention some of them -

- Emergency plan resurrected and updating commenced
- HGV signs re-erected
- Footpaths reported
- Disabled bay sprayed out
- Dog fouling signs distributed
- Community cohesion around the mast application
- Continued efforts to making parking safer in Piddington
- Full allotment take-up
- Chickens are now welcome on the allotments, but no cockerels
- Padlock replaced at the Playing Fields
- Football nets replaced
- PC website was reviewed and proposals adopted to upgrade and modernise
- A full litter pick was organised and carried out
- A score of 76/100 in the Best Kept Village competition
- Roadside weeds were treated
- A mid-Summer street party was held
- ROSPA playground inspection and maintenance of equipment
- Attendance at LAFs, NAGs and Rural Forum Meetings
- DCLG, BCC and BASC Conferences attended
- The continued annual cutback of brambles and encroaching growth on Chipps Hill to encourage the spread of wild flowers
- Full grass cutting and maintenance of the playground, playing field and Piddington Green

Individually, these actions would be barely worthy of inclusion in the scripts of the chaotic PC meetings of The Vicar of Dibley. But taken together, they add up to a comprehensive maintenance programme and positive enhancement of our local environment. But we have much more to do. Superfast Broadband is tantalisingly close to our parish, but still hasn't arrived. We will keep pursuing the suppliers to get a result. Piddington Against Plastic and Stick and Flick are ideas we will pioneer and champion.

We are very lucky to have healthy relationships with the public servants in our area. County Councillor Darren Hayday is a regular attendee at our meetings. He listens to us, he listens to local social media, he listens to our parishioners, but most importantly, he acts. His help and support has been invaluable in the last twelve months.

District Councillor Jean Teasdale is supportive of our Parish Council, and has helped us get the bins emptied when they should be. We thank her for her continued help. District Councillor Ian McEnnis has been a big help to us in this parish

Our clerk, Hayley Glasgow, has been a wonderful sounding board and expert on getting problems sorted out. She gets stuff done and is dogged in her determination. Hayley has sorted, prioritised and disseminated the key points of the upcoming GDPR, making it much more palatable for her Councillors. Her bottomless good humour and easy smile gets us a lot further than many PCs.

Each Parish Councillor has given their time unselfishly over the last year.

We sadly lost Sylvia Storey to cancer last Christmas. She was the local backbone of the Parish Council, constantly patrolling the area and striking fear into the hearts of truck drivers who had parked in restricted areas. She hoovered up dog mess and glass, making the playground a safe area for playing children. But most of all she fought for what she believed was right and helped drive for better decisions on the Parish Council. We shall miss her terribly.

During the year Alan Hackett ably deputised for me during the year as vice-chairman and has taken up the mantle of servicing the AED and helping to update the Emergency Plan.

Wendy Pitcher continues to be our expert on all things rural. Jean Galliven retired this year, and I'd like to thank her for her great enthusiasm, her stewardship of the War Memorial and general all round good humour.

Jo Redfern has been busy in the last year. She again sorted out the work on Chipps Hill and monitored the contractor as the work was carried out. She has kept an eye on the peripatetic cones of King Street and ushered them back to their intended locations on many occasions. Jane Kingsman Roy got even deeper into Parish Council activities, attending training sessions and summarising the main points for the good of the rest of us. She has worked to improve our website and we will be making changes as a result. Jane is spearheading the Emergency Plan revamp, which is an additional challenge due to GDPR.

I'd like to welcome Nick Cloke and Tony Stevens who joined our ranks in April and look forward to their energy and ideas. I thank all of our Councillors for their continuing work and support.

Our parishioners are always willing to make their voices heard and I am grateful for that. I ask them for their help in making things happen over the next year.

My thanks on behalf of this Parish Council to all who have helped make improvements happen and I relish the opportunity of us all working together in the future to do even more.

3. Annual Accounts

The Responsible Financial Officer, Mrs Glasgow issued sets of accounts.

4. Open Forum and reports from other bodies

Cllr Hayday will attend the litter pick on Saturday 2nd June 2018.

The footpath from Piddington to West Wycombe has been cut back making it a lot safer and wider.

A Parishioner reported that the memorial bench will arrive and be installed shortly.

The Parish Council has 4 litter pickers which Parishioners are welcome to borrow. Cllr Roy or Cllr Redfern can lend them out when required.

A Parishioner asked if she could plant some wild flower seeds on the bank behind the allotments. Wild flowers need to be actively managed. The Parish Council doesn't have an issue with the planting of the wild flowers.

A Parishioner raised concerns about the speed of traffic on the Old Oxford Road, Cllr Hayday spoke to the Parishioner regarding her concerns after the meeting.

A Parishioner asked if the white line at the bottom of Princes Street could be re-instated. Cllr Hayday will look into this.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.00pm.