



MINUTES OF THE TIMSBURY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

held on

30th April 2018 at 7.30pm in the Conygre Hall

1. **The Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Veronica Packham**, welcomed all to the meeting.
2. **Apologies for absence** were received from Sheila Clarke.
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 11th May 2017.**

It was agreed by those present that the minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

4. **Chairman's Report**

Councillor Packham made a presentation reporting that the roll call of Parish Councillors remains the same as last year though with Janet Durk as Vice Chairman. There is still one vacancy and would be interested to hear from anyone interested in being considered for co-option. The Parish Council has met 12 times during the year and committee meetings took place as necessary. All details are shown on the village website along with membership of the Committees.

Allotments. The Allotments Committee were congratulated for so successfully managing the site on behalf of the Parish Council. Most plots are in use.

Planning. There has been a busy year as usual with some applications welcome and some unwelcome approvals by B&NES, such as the old St Johns Ambulance Hall being converted into 2 houses. We have also been active regarding:

- Bristol Airport planned expansion through Parish Councils Airport Association
- B&NES New Local Plan Sites Assessments which is ongoing
- Upper Conygre / Wheelers site for 26 houses & offices which we have successfully negotiated with the owner who plans an application this year. A display of the current plan was available to view.

Sweeper. Les Robbins our village litter picker was thanked for his work keeping the village tidy. The problem of drivers throwing litter was noted, which also puts Les at risk when picking it up at the road side, for which he now has warning road sign.

Planting & Spaces. Thanks to great efforts by Cllr. Mary Anne Ansell and many volunteers the village is looking much brighter than before, especially the many planters, the Miners Garden and the Church Lane flower bed. The help of the Community PayBack Team has been very important as usual although the number attending is lower than before. There is a new local contractor for cutting the HaHa path. The Cemetery is looking tidier due to efforts by St. Marys church volunteers, especially Steve Tanner.

Street Lighting. A reminder that the PC owns and manages 15 street lights – not B&NES.

Bus Stop Repairs. We repaired and improved the two bus stops that we own

Communications. Suggestions about the Newsletter, website and Facebook page are welcome.

Support funding of Local Initiatives. Life Education Van to the school was very welcomed. Taste of Timsbury was very successful again, as was the Christmas carols event and lights in the Miners Garden.

Work with Conygre Trust. We paid for repairs to the Play Area and also towards the refurbishment of the Sports Court area.

Community Hub Library. This initiative is progressing well and hopes to be open in the autumn.

War Memorial. With the agreement of the Royal British Legion, we are planning to improve the design and access to the memorial in the centenary year of the end of the First World War. The proposed new design was available to view.

Streets & Safety. After many years planning, we are part funding the B&NES plans to improve pedestrian facilities in North Road by widening the narrow pavement and improving the crossing to Chapel Walk.

5. Financial Statement

The Parish Clerk, Chris Gittins, presented the financial statement for the year ended 31st March 2018, including a breakdown of each budget heading. He reported that from Expenditure of £62,917 and Income of £77,935 the balance of funds held by the Parish Council at the year-end totalled £15,017 and with VAT to be claimed at a later date. However, he outlined that current commitments from the year-end reserves of £62,686, as follows:

North Road Pavement	8,000	+ VAT	
Tennis Court area	2,700	+ VAT	
War Memorial	6,000?	+ VAT	
Hub Library	6,500?		
Walks Book 2 Printing	800?		
Youth Worker Project	3,000		
Ha-Ha improvement	3,000?	+ VAT	
TOTAL	£ 30,000	+ £3,940	VAT

Questions from the floor:

A question about the principles of the pavement widening were answered by The Clerk saying that B&NES was suggesting that this was the only viable option to improve pedestrian facilities and that this would result in only occasional further need for wider vehicles to give way to pass.

A question regarding Community Infrastructure Levy was answered by the Clerk explaining how the system works. 15% is given to the PC and all PCs are negotiating with B&NES to use some of their 85% portion.

The financial statement was then approved by the meeting.

6. Conygre Trust Annual Report presented by the Chairman Peter Buchanan.

The Conygre Trust is the registered charity which is responsible for managing the Conygre Hall and Timsbury Recreation Field. The Trustees, who form the management committee, have met 11 times in the past year. 14 Trustees served in the past year: two (Mike Horler and Chris Bateman) were nominated by the parish council, two (Jeff Sluggett and Jan Merchant) were elected at this

meeting last year, 9 are nominated by village organisations specified in the Trust Deed, and there is one co-opted Trustee.

There are some organisations who are entitled to nominate Trustees but do not currently have a representative: Timsbury Toddlers, Timsbury Preschool, Timsbury Snooker Club. Trustees are appointed for one year at a time and most of the current membership will be carrying on for next year. New blood would be very welcome!

The highlight activities of the Trust were as follows:

- A new cleaner has been appointed, for the first time as an employee, not a contractor.
- The bar is being refurbished, mainly by Howard Nowell as a volunteer – many thanks were expressed to him.
- The Sports Court refurbishment is being carried out with funding from the Trust, the Parish Council and B&NES Council. Once it is open we hope that it will be used well for tennis, netball and 5-a-side football. Thanks were expressed to Peter Bradshaw for doing much of the organising.
- We are considering an overflow parking area on the grass by the basketball court.
- On the Recreation Field, dog fouling remains a problem, and tree surgery is planned to make them safe, funded by the Parish Council.
- Some repairs have been carried out to the play equipment. Later some will need replacing.

Mat Bramley the Treasurer presented the **Financial Report** of the Trust, as follows:

Whilst the accounts have not been independently scrutinised yet, I believe they are an accurate summary of the year's finances of the trust.

This year we have a significant surplus of £24,000, though with to date unspent grants being held for £7,500 for the Sports Court. With other smaller commitments the remaining surplus going towards reserves is about £10,000.

At year End the Current Account balance rose from £43,000 to £68,000, and the reserve account was £16,410.

We do rely a lot on volunteers such as Jeff Sluggett who manages the Hall, Malcolm Cox who does the bookings and many others.

Election of Trustees. Mr Jeff Sluggett and Mrs Jan Merchant were proposed by David Collett and unanimously re-elected to serve as trustees of the Conygre Trust for the year 2018-19.

7. Items raised by parishioners

Question about the various uses of the Conygre Hall was answered that it needs to be promoted more. A new website arrangements is planned as part of the village website.

8. The Chairman concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and taking part in the meeting which had been very interesting and informative. She invited residents to stay for post-meeting drinks.

Approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting:

Chairman: _____

Date: