



TIMSBURY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of 25th April 2019 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 Christine Bateman, Liz Casson and Gill Miles.
3. **Minutes of the meeting held on 30th April 2018.**
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. **Matters Arising from the Minutes.** None

5. **Chairman's Report**

Councillor Packham made a presentation reporting the roll call of 12 Parish Councillors. 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.

Planning. The PC made comments to BathNES Council on 20 planning applications. We have also been active regarding:

- Bristol Airport planned expansion through Parish Councils Airport Association.
- B&NES New Local Plan Sites Assessments which is delayed due to waiting for the West of England Joint Spatial Plan to be approved.
- Upper Conygre / Wheelers site for 26 houses & offices which we have successfully negotiated with the owner who plans another application this year.

Bus Services and Transport. We are trying to protect the 179 service and a working party of residents is working with other Parish Councils, B&NES and First bus to ensure its future, perhaps with a new route. A detailed survey of residents is being planned.

The PC has invested heavily during the year in 5 major improvements to the village:

Hub Library. This is new major venture for the village and the PC is going well and includes a proper B&NES library of 2600 books and access to 7 million by ordering click and collect. It is used by 50 library users each week plus many or groups such as children's storytelling, Memories and gadget Busters, all run by volunteers. The set up has relied on Liz Casson who is employed by the PC. B&NES gave us a set up grant of £5,000.

Youth Services. The PC gives a grant of £3,000 pa for 3 years towards the Bath Youth For Christ youth project which is based at the YMCA and overseen by St. Mary's Church. Also, the PC is part funding the ex-B&NES Youth Connect Service in collaboration with other PCs in the area.

Streets & Safety. After many years planning, we are part funded the B&NES scheme to improve pedestrian facilities in North Road by widening the narrow pavement and improving the crossing to Chapel Walk. This has overall been successful in protecting pedestrians without too much inconvenience to vehicles. The costs to the PC was £8,000, with the rest paid for by B&NES.

War Memorial. With the agreement of the Royal British Legion, we improved the design and access to the memorial in the centenary year of the end of the First World War.

HaHa Path Improvement. This important path to the west of the village was resurfaced making it more accessible and attractive. The surface will last many years and cost the PC £3,000 with the remainder paid by B&NES.

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.

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

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.

Communications. The Newsletter has a new Editor and is being improved from May at a reduced cost, resulting in the PC not having to subsidise it any more.

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. The Fun Day team have folded after many years hard work and the remaining funds of about £1,000 have been given to the PC to make available for other initiatives.

6. Financial Statement

The Parish Clerk, Chris Gittins, presented the financial statement for the year ended 31st March 2019, including a breakdown of each budget heading. He pointed out that the 5 initiatives outlined by the Chairman above cost a total of £40,792. He reported that from a total Expenditure of £98,962 and Income of £74,572 the balance of funds held by the Parish Council at the year-end totalled reserves of £38,296, and with VAT to be claimed at a later date.

Questions from the floor:

A question about the long term implications of the youth services was answered by The Clerk saying that B&NES has given the PC very little time to make a decision to take on its service in the village, and that the long term will be discussed and decided on soon at a PC meeting.

The financial statement was then approved by the meeting.

7. **Conygre Trust Election of Trustees.** **Jeff Sluggett and Jan Merchant were proposed by Phillida** Russell and unanimously re-elected to serve as trustees of the Conygre Trust for the year 2019-20. The Trust is holding its AGM separately this year.

8. **Items raised by parishioners.** None

9. **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. Afterwards, the Chairman was thanked by the meeting for her efforts now that she is standing down as a Parish Councillor after 30 years and Chairman for 13. Cllr. Rob Young was also thanked after 24 years.

Approved and signed as a correct record of the meeting:

Chairman: _____

Date: