

PUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

THURSDAY 9 MAY 2019

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Parish Council is the first tier of local government and is driven by the needs and concerns of local residents in the community. 2018-2019 has been a very quiet year for the Parish Council. I have reviewed the minutes and correspondents to try and assess why.

We have had very few visitors to council meetings and only one meeting attended by a Ward Councillor. Ward Councillors attending meetings in the past have been very useful in signposting us to solve issues and making us aware of plans and policies that affect us. Unfortunately our meetings have coincided with other commitments that Louise Gittins and Nigel Jones have had. Added to this, boundary changes and council elections have changed focus. Hopefully we will have some input from our new councillor representative from Saughall and Mollington Mr Simon Eardley.

In previous years we have had members of the public bringing forward local issues concerning such things as drainage, parking, speeding, developments, cycle ways etc. Perhaps they are content this year or we are not communicating and engaging sufficiently.

One of the key subjects we have discussed this year has been planning. There has been numerous applications submitted, most needing no comment. However two developments have needed more discussion mainly concerning planning rules.

Early in the year we had a visit from the police to introduce Sgt Lisa Wilson Pc Victoria Reid and PSCO Linda Garvey to the Council. At the bi monthly meetings we have covered a wide range of topics such as new IT equipment, litter, dog waste, lay-by litter and mess and the continued increase in traffic servicing the Aldi RDC.

The Council had a very useful debate about the budget in January. As budgets are being squeezed higher up, we are going to have to spend more from our budget raised by the Council Precept to provide services and amenities previously paid for by CWAC. The precept was raised by 10% this year or £1 per household and I am sure this is an area we will discuss regularly in years to come.

I am very pleased with the attendance and effort that Councillors have put in this year, it never ceases to amaze me the commitment and enthusiasm that you have for your community and on behalf of the locals and myself I would like to thank you all and pleased you are continuing. I would also like to thank Bill Hawkins for his time with us and his contributions.

Outside of the Council the most outstanding effort that has been brought to my attention, has been the work of Mr and Mrs Brabin with their litter picking. How lucky are we to have people like them around us. Councillor Raine has kept us updated with B4RN broadband developments that will soon be coming to our community.

I would like to finish by thanking Mrs Pat Wells for her hard work and organisational skill in making the council run smoothly and efficiently. The support she gives me as Chairman and the rest of the Councillors is invaluable. Thank you.

The Parish Council continues to be a focus for our community, to make a place we are proud and happy to live.

**IAN SPEED
CHAIRMAN
PUDDINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**