

Minutes of Haydon Wick Parish Council Annual Assembly held 24th March 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillors J Stooke (Chairman), J Fuller (Vice-Chair), E Baker-Lee, L Brown, E Gerrard, R Hailstone, J Keepin, R McVay, J Mills, S McDermott and G McKeown

WARD COUNCILLORS: Councillor D Renard

CLERK: Terry Powell

Public: There were two (2) Parishioners present

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor P Exell, S Exell, P Martin, J Martin, D Wakefield, S Wakefield and M Whelan

- 2.** Councillor Stooke welcomed all those present to the meeting and introduced himself as Chairman, Councillor John Fuller as Vice Chairman and Terry Powell as the Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer. A summary of the make-up of the Council was given explaining that the Council is made up of eighteen (18) Councillors with all positions filled. Of these eleven (11) had been had been elected with the remaining seven (7) being co-opted positions. The Councillors are rightly proud of what has been achieved over the last 12 months and wish to provide a good example of what a Parish Council can do for residents. Have worked from the start to achieve the three Rs namely recognized/relevant/responsible and to these have added an A for ambitious. This work will give a good strong foundation for the new Council after the elections in May.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual Assembly held 29th April 2014 were circulated to all those present and were accepted.

Proposed: Councillor J Fuller Seconded: Councillor J Keepin
Vote: Agreed with one (1) abstention

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved as a correct record

4. REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE PLAN 2014/2015

The Chairman presented the outcome of the 2014/15 of the Performance Plan, copies of which were provided for all those present, and was pleased to advise the meeting of the success in achieving the majority of the objectives. There were valid reasons for those items that were still ongoing or that had been stopped/abandoned. Examples of the notable successes are the clean agenda work with the valuable assistance of volunteers and under the auspices of the Localism Act 2011 taking over responsibility of many direct work areas from the Borough Council including management of play areas. Some of the areas where work was still ongoing are the provision of an area for bees which had been delayed as it had not possible to identify a suitable location, continuing work on the implementation of a parish wide footpath network, progress has been made in the

last two months on Thamesdown Drive/Barnfield link road and the provision of additional allotments. Projects such as the proposal to rebuild the River Ray footbridge had to be stopped due to the failure to reach an agreement with the landowner to create a footpath across private land to the bridge site.

It was intended to consider applying for the Quality Parish Council Award in the coming year which would recognize the good work undertaken to date and the continuing aim of the Council to provide a high standard of service provision to the residents.

Councillor R Hailstone commented on the success achieved on the Thames Avenue crossing point

5. PROPOSED PERFORMANCE PLAN FOR 2015/2017

The Chairman presented the three year corporate strategy for the Council and explained the rationale behind the plan.

6. FUTURE PROJECTS

The three year plan, Shaping the Future, is setting the scene and structure for the Council. While the projects listed outline an exciting future for the Parish it is important to understand that it is not a fixed plan but is a live document which will be able to be reviewed and varies as circumstances demand. Certain aims and objectives were highlighted by the Chairman as listed below.

The Council will need to consider carefully the play area provision in the Parish whether to maintain and/or refurbish existing sites or to close some areas and/or merge with others to provide a better play environment. In addition there is a need to consider provision for families such as barbeque facilities.

There is a need to protect areas such as the Cricklade corridor perhaps by the introduction of a neighbourhood plan.

7. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

A question was raised asking for an explanation of the split of Councillors between the three wards in the Parish. The Clerk responded with the figures and explained that consideration would be given to reducing the number of wards to two with an equal number of seats in each ward. Consideration will also be given to renaming the Parish by the new Council.

Councillor R Hailstone wished the Council to take a more active role in Mouldon Hill with the objective to develop more formal paths and perhaps an arboretum. There is a need to bridge over brook to include the additional section of land into Mouldon Hill. Appears to be a lack of drive on the part of the Borough Council to improve the area. Since Chris Annis has not been available the work is now under the remit of Richard Bell and seems to be considered from a planning angle only. There is a lack of firm plan for the area or any joined up thinking to bring all interested parties together.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.38 p.m.