



PANGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 2019

The Annual Parish Meeting was held in Pangbourne Village Hall on Thursday 16th May 2019 commencing at 7.30pm

Parish Councillors present:

P.MacIver (Chairman), J.Higgs (Vice Chairman), C. Hartley, G. Hurley, J.Pearce, C. Rennison,

Councillor Apologies:

Matt Shakespeare, Brenda Kerr-Muir, G.Child,

Also Present:

Clerk , R.Elkin

Assistant Clerk, J. Griffin

WBC District Councillor, G.Hurley, retired District Councillor P.Bale

Members of the Public:

Approximately 61 electors were present including members of various organisations. Thames Valley Police sent a brief report but were unable to attend. In addition, there were 6 members of the Council and 2 officers present, all of whom are also residents of the parish.

A number of groups and organisations also arranged displays within the hall and provided information for residents.

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

Chairman P. MacIver welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked so many people for coming. He said that he hoped that the evening would be informative and that it was his pleasure to preside over his first Annual Parish Meeting, having become Chairman two days before and of the newly elected Council following the local elections in April. He thanked John Higgs for becoming the Vice Chairman of the Council. He reminded everyone that it is a legal duty of the Parish Council to hold an Annual Parish Meeting and for the Chairman of the Parish Council to take on the role of Chairman of this meeting if present.

He stated that he would try to give everyone an opportunity to speak should they wish to do so, but asked that everyone be as brief as possible. Reports are available from various committees and community groups.

2. PRESENTATION OF THE MILLENNIUM AWARD 2019

The Millennium Award was presented again this year a brief pause in 2018 when the Magazine team retired. The Parish Council agreed to take on the award and this year's was the first presentation by the Parish Council.

There has been a very good response with several very strong candidates nominated for a variety of good service as always it was hard to single out any one person.

There was, however one clear and very deserving winner-

ANGELA CULLINAN

Angela was nominated after 12 successful years as Chairman of the Village Fete Committee and also for her work on other volunteer organisations, as a former Parish Councillor and as a School Governor at Pangbourne Primary School.

She has also been active within APT in helping to secure the continued operation of the public toilets in Station Road.

Through her work on the fete, she has been able to raise funds for several local causes.

Angela has contributed greatly to village life in Pangbourne in a variety of ways and even after stepping down from the fete committee, has continued to offer support.

One nomination summed up Angela thus:

“If Angela were a stick of rock, you would see Pangbourne written right through. Angela has given a great deal of time and energy to the Pangbourne Community since she moved here in 2006”

The Crystal bowl was awarded to Angela for the next 12 months and her name will be added to the awards board in the village hall in due course.

3. Thames Valley Police Report

Unfortunately, no-one was able to attend from Thames Valley Police and the Chairman read a brief report on behalf of TVP.

- www.police.uk is a site which residents can visit to look at the up-to-date crime map of Pangbourne
- It currently shows that there were 4 crimes in March 2019 including 1 burglary, 2 public order offences and 1 incident of anti-social behaviour.
- It was also noted that County Lines drug gangs continue to be a concern across the whole area and more information can be found on the Thames Valley Police Website.
- Residents were also reminded that they can report crimes online via 101 which is often quicker and easier than reporting on the phone.

4. MINUTES OF THE 2018 PARISH MEETING & MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 24th April 2018, having earlier been circulated were taken as read and signed by the Chairman as a correct record. Any matters arising can be covered during the Open Session later.

5. WEST BERKSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR, MRS PAMELA BALE

District Councillor (Pamela Bale) report for 2018/19 Annual Parish Meeting 16th May 2019

Good evening everyone, and it is a pleasure to see so many residents present this evening, and representatives of many local groups.

I would like to congratulate Gareth on his recent election to the position of West Berkshire District Councillor to represent Pangbourne, Tidmarsh and Sulham. Thanks also to Matt and Susie who stood for election.

This is the last Annual Report which I will be presenting, so an opportunity to thank the Parish Councillors and the Clerks for working with me since 2006 when I was first elected as the District Councillor for Pangbourne.

I would also like to pay tribute to Kevin Hawkins, who sadly died last year. He was a significant contributor to the Parish Council, and is much missed.

Before considering a review of the past year, I would like to thank all the residents who supported me at 4 District Council elections, and for your goodwill and assistance as we coped with major issues such as the flooding in 2007, and the group of travellers who settled on land adjacent to the Cemetery for a number of months.

The village has changed in the past 13 years – significant housing developments have increased the number of residents, and altered the age profile. I am particularly sorry that Sovereign Housing decided not to replace the accommodation for the elderly at Pages gardens. The loss of the banks has also caused issues – and I continually thank Stephen for providing the Post Office facility at Collins. However, new housing has brought new residents, and we need to ensure that we all use our local shops and businesses so that they continue to provide the services which we need.

The willingness of local residents to support the community is much appreciated – the volunteers who set up Action for Pangbourne Toilets, those who volunteer in the Library, and the more active who support Adventure Dolphin – deserve our thanks and appreciation. The Dementia Friends group – I have to declare a personal interest as a member – is providing activities which supplement the regular lunch and tea parties organised by parishioners of the two churches. We do need to recognise the commitment of groups such as APT as management of the toilets can be a daily task.

***Council funding** has become a significant issue in the past few years. The Council used to receive an annual Revenue Support Grant from Central Government of several million pounds. Unfortunately, “austerity” has had a dramatic impact on the funds available, so the RSG is now zero and Council tax of £90.61M is the main source of income. The 6 Berkshire authorities are still benefitting from the pilot scheme for retention of Business Rates - so the Council will retain £24M of the £86M which will be collected this year.*

Further savings have been necessary in order to prepare a balanced budget, as costs in many areas – such as Adult Social care and Children’s services have been increasing. Hence there have been reductions in staff, and in contributions to some voluntary organisations.

One of the savings was a reduction in the number of Councillors – from 52 to 43 – and the local impact is that Gareth is now responsible for Tidmarsh and Sulham in addition to Pangbourne.

Reductions in staff and budget have resulted in longer response times for addressing issues such as pothole repairs, and less funding for new Highways schemes, and for Planning enforcement action.

Highways officers well understand the traffic and safety issues in the village, and were able to provide the funds necessary to respond to the request for a Pedestrian crossing adjacent to the Primary School.

There are still concerns about the availability of parking in the village, and the Parish Council has been given advice so that they can conduct a survey of use of the Station Road car park.

Some positive news is that the waste depot at Padworth now accepts ALL household waste items – such as we used to take to Smallmead – AND the opening hours have been extended.

During the past 12 months, I seem to have spent most of my time chasing issues caused by third party contractors – particularly Thames Water and Gigaclear.

Gigaclear have yet to finish installing the super-fast broadband fibre network in the village - and the regular meetings with the Parish Council and WBC Highways have ensured that their work does not clash with other utilities.

Thames Water contractors have caused considerable disruption – e.g their attempts to repair a manhole cover in Tidmarsh Road are now well into double figures, and resulted in correspondence with our MP Alok Sharma.

At least Thames Water agreed to recognise the negative impact they had on businesses in the village, and made a financial contribution towards publicity for the Pangbourne Christmas event.

Thank you all for the different ways in which you support the village, and particular thanks for your patience when issues have taken time to be addressed.

I would also like to thank the members of the Parish Council for the time they give to maintaining the village assets on behalf of all residents. This is in addition to the time they spend in Committee and Council meetings.

When we prepared the first Village Plan in 2003, the Vision was:-

To maintain Pangbourne as a pleasant thriving village in which to live, work, shop and play.

I think that says it all, and I am grateful for the opportunity you gave me to represent Pangbourne

THANK YOU

There is no “seal of office” for a District Councillor – but I am pleased to hand over the responsibility for Pangbourne to Gareth, and wish him well in the new role.

Pamela Bale

16th May 2019

Following the outgoing District Councillors report, a presentation of flowers was made in recognition of the many years of service provided by Pamela Bale both to the Parish and West Berkshire Councils.

Incoming District Councillor, Gareth Hurley thanked Pamela Bale once more, noting what a huge honour it was to succeed Pamela and stated that he was looking forward to representing the residents of the Parish, in its new form with Tidmarsh and Sulham going forward.

Due to family commitments P.Bale left the meeting at this point.

6. PARISH COUNCIL - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

“This year has been one of great change within the Parish Council.

Departures

We have seen our Chairman Rob Holden leave us after many years on the Council and more recently as Chair. Our thanks to Rob for his service.

We have sadly also said good bye to Vice Chairman Kevin Hawkins following a short and courageous battle against cancer last year. Kevin's contribution to the council will be greatly missed.

We would like to offer thanks to Gareth Hurley for making an excellent Vice Chairman for the remainder of the year and wish him well with his new role as District Councillor at West Berkshire Council. He will also continue to sit on the Parish Council.

Other thanks go to Di Williams, Davina Griffiths, Michael Hirst, Tom Saunders who have all left the council during the course of the year following various different tenures and all having made a great contribution to the council. We would like to thank everyone for their hard work and hope that they continue to help and assist the council in the future.

That brings us to

Welcomes

Firstly, let me introduce myself, Peter MacIver as the new Chairman of the Parish Council as of Tuesday following the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and the recent local elections.

I would also like to congratulate John Higgs on becoming Vice Chairman. John has been on the council for over 20 years and his experience and knowledge is invaluable and irreplaceable – I don't think there isn't a footpath, property, or lane John doesn't knowthanks to John for agreeing to take become Vice Chair.

I would also like to welcome other new Councillors who have joined us this year:

Brenda Kerr Muir – who has returned to the council after a number of years and brings back her wealth of knowledge in a variety of areas.

Matt Shakespeare- who joined us this week and is a local scout leader, parent and involved in FOPPs.

Chris Hartley – joined us just before the elections. Chris brings a background in the Brewery and business world and some good solid knowledge we can put to use on Grounds.

Jan Pearce- who again joined us just before the elections and brings with him a solid work background and has agreed for his sins to take on the car parking survey.

Continuing service

Our Clerk, Becky Elkin and Asst Clerk Jo Griffin continue and thanks to Becky and Jo for all their hard work throughout the year.

Gareth Hurley, Clare Rennison and Graham Child have all agreed to continue on the council for another term, having been re-elected and we give them and all our new councillors thanks for giving up their time and for their commitment to serve the village.

Vacancies

For those who have been counting, that leaves us with two remaining seats on the council..... so if you like what you hear tonight and would like to join us as a councillor, please make yourself known to the Clerk or a member of the council

I would also like to extend thanks on behalf of the Parish Council to Pamela Bale for her many years of dedicated service as District Councillor for Pangbourne at West Berks Council. She has worked closely with the Parish Council to represent the residents and local interests and we wish her well in her retirement. I won't dwell on this now as I know that Pamela will be saying a few words later.

Residents:

As always, on behalf of the Parish Council I would like to extend thanks to all those residents and volunteers who freely give up their time and continuously strive to make Pangbourne the wonderful village that it is.

Apologies if I miss anyone out, but special thanks go to

June Hughes for her role as warden and hall bookings clerkshe really does go above and beyond at all times of day and night, often venturing out with a pair of marigolds where others would fear to tread !

Thanks June

Jo Power for all her hard work on the Allotment Association managing plots and plot holders and for representing the PAA on the Grounds Committee.

Other non-Councillor members of Committees – *Jill Palfrey and Colin Williams on the Village Hall Committee. Our thanks to them.*

Fiona Hope and PAWS, many thanks for organising the Annual Litter Pick and to all those dog walkers and kind residents who pick litter all year round.

Di Williams and Davina Griffiths for looking after the Dog Bin dispensers

Thanks to the new and outgoing fete committee.....

Thanks to the outgoing Magazine committee.....

Thanks to those who look after flower beds around the village and at the village hall, who provide hanging baskets, to those residents on various streets who act as the eyes and ears of the community reporting issues, fly tipping, pot holes, broken equipment and unlocked gatesyour help really is appreciated.

Everyone else who makes a contribution and who I have neglected to mention, whole hearted thanks also.

7. FINANCE REPORT AND CIL EXPENDITURE

- The Clerk gave a brief report regarding the financial position of the Parish Council at Year ending 31st March 2019.
- Notable points were that the Council had received a large input of CIL Funds during this year arising from the Pangbourne Hill Development. These funds are ring fenced for expenditure on infrastructure only and the Clerk stated that everyone present should have a copy of the regulations stipulating how these funds could be spent. She asked that those present took a few moments to fill in the questionnaire with suggestions of projects or repairs that they would like to see the CIL expenditure spent on.

8. PARISH ORGANISATIONS

Reports from local organisations were made available for residents.

Twinning Association

Alison Hill presented a short film on the recent trip to Houdan. Twinning has now been established for over 30 years and it is important to keep ties to foreign countries.

Pangbourne Twinning Association hosted 48 people this year in a successful but rainy return visit.

Pangbourne Twinning would welcome any new members to ensure that the group continues to thrive in the years to come.

Dementia Forum

Jill Reid gave a brief presentation outlining their activities over the year. The group has now been active for three years and has a loyal hardworking team led by the inspirational Sue Butterworth.

The “Thursday Club” held in the George has been very well received and holds games and entertainments as well as talks. These events have only been possible thanks to generous sponsorship from Greens the Butchers and Devarshi at the George Hotel amongst others. In addition, Di Williams has started a cribbage group and mah-jong and chess for beginners. The Dementia group was recognised when it recently won the West Berkshire Council Community Champion Award.

APT

Mike Fellows gave a short report

- *Apologies were given for the absence of the chair, Professor, Sir, Brian Hoskins*
- *Background to APT. Formed in 2017 by local people to reopen and run toilets because risk of them being demolished and thus lost forever as neither WBC nor Pangbourne PC wished to fund them. Became a registered charity in Feb, leased them from WBC in July and reopened them on 30th Sep.*
- *Running toilets successfully for over 18 months and made numerous improvements, like changing to LED lights, installing mirrors, making the disabled toilets STOMA friendly and installing usage counters.*
- *Usage counters showed average of about 55 people a day using them, which equates to 20,000 visits per annum.*

- It costs £10k per annum to run the toilets and in addition APT raises an additional £4k to build up a fund for future major refurbishment. Income comes from grants, such as Pangbourne Parish Councils and the surrounding Parish Councils (for which we are very grateful), other grant awarding bodies (like the Greenham Trust), individual donations, fundraising events and Support from some local businesses.
- User feedback has been fantastic, with everybody pleased they are open, particularly those with medical conditions resulting in a frequent need for toilet visits.
- Future. Plans are in hand to install a public drinking fountain outside the building which PAWS is funding. Building infrastructure very sound, but internal facilities over 30 years old and whilst still functional will need major refurbishment. We are currently looking at the disabled toilet and what requires doing to it to bring it up to modern standards. Further in the future we expect to progressively upgrade all the facilities.
- Support. APT has 9 Trustees and about 100 Supporters. Supporters receive periodic updates on what is happening. In addition, they can help with fundraising events (like the Fete), minor building maintenance, gardening (the plot near the toilets) and general admin. More supporters are always welcome.

Friends of Pangbourne Primary School (FOPPS)

Alan Heighway and Emma Taylor FOPPS

Presentation:

Alan Heighway gave a short report as treasurer of FOPPS and as a parent rep in addition to the report which had previously been supplied by Emma Taylor.

It was stated that the two largest events held by FOPPS had again been very successful with the 10k run held in September now an important event in the local running calendar. The fireworks evening continues to go from strength to strength.

The replacement of the Key Stage 1 Playground Equipment is now desperate and the recent award of several grants including the generous grant from Pangbourne Parish Council (which can be match funded by the Good Exchange) will ensure that this project can now go ahead over the summer term.

Report:

The role of FOPPS is to raise money to help the School provide materials, resources and facilities for the benefit of everyone who uses the School and to assist in building a community of parents and teachers.

FOPPS is made up of Committee Officers, along with a wider committee of parents, teachers, and class reps.

Annually, FOPPS raises 10-15k each year with the largest fundraising events being the Firework Fiesta and the Pangbourne 10k Run.

In 2019, we are raising funds to replace all the playground equipment, a significant undertaking in three phases, each of which will cost circa £25k. We are now almost ready to start phase 1, the key stage 1 (infants) playground, which we hope to have done over the summer.

Following the closure of the West Berkshire Schools Library, we were able to provide the school with a new library by allocating funds to convert the space and provide new more up to date books vital to keeping the children's' interest in reading. We have also been able to fund IT equipment, buying enough Chromebooks for a whole class in KS2 (older children) to use.

We will be at the Pangbourne Fete on 8th June with two stalls.

The Pangbourne 10k in 2019 is on Sunday 22 September, please mark the date in your diaries.

Also please note that we are one of the recipients registered in the West Berkshire Lottery throughout the year.

To contact FOPPS to get involved, please email info@fopps.org.uk

Pangbourne Allotment Report 2019

Jo Power

The year from April 2018 – 2019 has not been without its problems on the allotments. A long cold spring followed by a very hot dry summer in 2018 meant that some crops just fizzled out, while others such as tomatoes, courgettes and cucumbers were in their element. Apart from the weather, plot-holders also had to contend with deer and badgers (not to mention rabbits) decimating their crops, with particular emphasis on sweetcorn. Because of this, the PAA has been pushing the issue of refencing and animal-proofing the allotments hard. The first phase was completed in September with the PAA paying for labour and the Parish Council covering the cost of materials. We are happy to say that work is due to start on the second phase (the long western fence) on 5 July, paid for by the Council. John Postlethwaite struggled with The Good Exchange website and put in a grant application for funds to finish the last (south) stretch. To date over £2,000 has been raised through this source, with a grant of £1,750 coming from The Greenham Common Trust. The spec for this third phase is in the process of being sent out for tender. Andrew Lawrence, our Chairman, has moved from Pangbourne and thus left the committee. Antoinette Solera (who dealt with our articles in the Pangbourne Magazine and on social media) has also given up due to pressure of work, and Derek Chant has stepped down because he no longer has an allotment. Davina Griffiths has agreed to come on the committee, and we are hopeful that Claire Middleton will also join us. The weather was beautiful for our annual barbecue on the first weekend in September. This is now well-established in our social calendar, and provides a very good opportunity to meet and talk to fellow plot-holders. We have an annual plant sale outside Garlands at the beginning of May, and we take a stall for our plants at the Village Fete – this year on June 8. People of the Pangbourne Allotment community are a helpful and friendly bunch, so if you would like to join us, please contact clerk@pangbourne-pc.gov.uk or phone Jo Power on 0118 984 5898. You need to live in Pangbourne or nearby, but the waiting list is short, and plots start at £10 per annum.

Pangbourne & District Volunteer Centre

Jenny Holmes gave an update on the work of the Pangbourne & District Volunteer Centre. She stated that they provide over 1300 lifts a year, helping people access medical and other important appointments and are always looking for more volunteers to help offer this valuable service. Often the journeys are short ones to the Royal Berks Hospital or more locally to the Boathouse Surgery in Pangbourne.

FOPPL

D.Saunders attended and gave a short update on the work of FOPPL and library services themselves now that the new arrangements have been in place for approximately two years.

There is 1 paid librarian supported by volunteer librarians to ensure the continuation of library services.

A new self-service machine has been installed which has proved very popular (especially with the youngest users). There are currently 25 volunteer librarians including Duke of Edinburgh scheme volunteers and the challenge is constant to ensure that there are sufficient volunteers to continue operating a full range of times and services.

Visitor numbers have grown since last year by 21,000 and new borrowers has also increased.

Regular services provided include:

- An adult craft group
- Rhyme Time / Story Time for children
- An in-house book group
- Summer Reading Challenge
- Ancestry Services
- Chat Service

Adventure Dolphin Centre

Clive Williams, Chairman of Adventure Dolphin Charity, gave a report. He noted that the charity had been formed 15 years ago to raise funds to rebuild the club boathouse which was then built by West Berkshire Council with the introduction of paid members of staff employed by the council. The charity continued to operate with volunteers at weekends and evenings. Over the years, the model was not sustainable and having considered various commercial enterprises to assist with balancing the books, all of which were deemed unsuitable either physically due to the constraints of the building or due to covenants on the land, it was decided to ask the Charity to step up to operating the building and activities full time. This was a big ask of the Charity who are in the process of signing a new sublease with West Berkshire Council and Pangbourne Parish Council. Following a huge undertaking by the committee and facility management team, lettings have been turned around in a year and it is hoped that the ADC can make the new model a successful one. It is hoped that the "Outdoor Academy" run by Dave Hooper will be in place soon with day courses running between 8am and 5pm during the week. He is also experienced, having worked with social service teams at WBC to provide activities for a wide variety of additional needs and welfare support groups. It is hoped that the rolling three-year sublease will soon be signed between all parties to allow the group to flourish into the future. Currently there are over 200 members and growing.

Pangbourne and Whitchurch Sustainability Group (PAWS)

Jackie Hoskins gave the following presentation:

Pangbourne Parish Annual Meeting

In case you are unfamiliar with who we are and what we do:

Pangbourne and Whitchurch Sustainability group try to encourage the development of a sustainable local community, and to help to reduce carbon emissions in line with the Government targets to keep Global warming to 2 ° C. We give advice on subjects like plastic reduction and encourage and helping to increase biodiversity in the local environment.

This last year we encouraged the Pangbourne Fete Committee to go for a plastic free Fete and they agreed. To make it happen, the Committee provided bio-degradable plastic for all the stalls and then PAWS manned the recycling and rubbish bins to make sure that all items were disposed of properly. This was very successful.

We held 2 Workshops to show people how to make sustainable beeswax wraps that can be used to keep food fresh rather than using plastic wrap or throwing food away. These were well attended and participants went home with at least one piece of colourful wrap.

We have collected sufficient funds to give a sizable donation to the Pangbourne Village Toilets to help them install a drinking fountain and bottle filler outside the toilets in the Station Road Car Park. It is hoped that this fountain will provide fresh water and bottle refilling and so reduce the number of plastic bottles of water sold and thrown away.

Fracking has been a national issue this year and so we found a film, The Bentley Effect, that highlighted the problems associated with fracking in Australia. We showed this to a full house in November. Following the film Prof. Sir Brian Hoskins, a recent member of the Climate Change Commission, agreed to give a summary of the pros and cons of fracking and then answered members' questions. An 'animated' discussion followed.

I mentioned last year that the very rare butterfly, the Hairstreak had been found in this area. Over the winter we worked with the Parish Council to get an agreement to plant some disease resistant Elm Trees to encourage the population growth of these butterflies. In February, we organised a tree planting session. The trees were provided by the Butterfly Conservation group, and their local organiser, Peter Cuss, directed the operation on the Meadow. This area was chosen to make a link for the butterflies from Whitchurch Maze to the Moors area of Pangbourne where they can also be seen on June evenings on the few elms that are growing there. We hope to find new areas to plant more trees next year.

Over the Spring this year we have been reviewing the provision of recycling and rubbish collection in Pangbourne. Since the charge for the Green Garden Bins was introduced last September, we understand that a number of residents have been experiencing difficulties as they do not have the resources to pay the £50 per year for the bins. However, they are aware that food waste and garden waste can be recycled and they do not want to put this waste in the black bins. We fully agree with this view.

From the review we drew up a number of suggestions that we have sent to the Pangbourne Parish Council and West Berks District Council. We already have an arrangement to work with the Parish Council on our suggestions.

We are working with this year's Fete Committee who want to provide another plastic free Fete, and PAWS will once again oversee the bins.

However, the group is not doom and gloom. We take a positive view that things can change and we also hold an annual Barn Dance in October where we can let off steam and a Sustainable Christmas party.

So, we have had a good year: reducing carbon emissions, reducing plastic, increasing biodiversity and a dance and party thrown in!!

If you would like to join us, we will be delighted. I just need an email address to keep you informed with our events.

Jackie Hoskins - Chair Pangbourne and Whitchurch Sustainability group (PAWS)

Rector of St James the Less Church - Heather Parbury

Heather Parbury, the Rector of Pangbourne, with Tidmarsh and Sulham, extended an invitation to all present to attend services at any of the Churches within the ecclesiastical parish.

She noted that the new District Councillor, Gareth Hurley, will now be responsible for the same geographical area in the civil parish as is already the case for the ecclesiastical parish having now taken Tidmarsh and Sulham parishes under the same District Member for representation at West Berkshire Council.

Noah's Ark continues to operate every week and anyone with young children is welcome.

Monthly teas continue in the village hall when possible

Guides, Brownies and Rainbows continue to use the Rectory Garden and various groups such as the Scouts and Pangbourne College make use of the St James's land and buildings.

This year the Church has been working with a local adult football team to promote the Reading Churches League which plays on a Saturday.

Recently the Church hosted a concert by the Masai Warriors which was a great success.

The Rector commented that it takes considerable work to operate the three heritage buildings and church yards within the parish and a Church Warden is elected by parishioners from within the faith community. Jill Palfrey is the current Church Warden and was thanked for her hard work, however as with everyone, more volunteers are always welcome.

Pangbourne Fete Committee

Claire Pincock reported that this year's event is in planning and thanked Angela Cullinan for her help ensuring a smooth transition as the operation moves across to the new committee for its first year.

Dave Probert was also thanked for his continued help and support.

Thanks were also extended to the Parish Council for their assistance on the day and in advance.

Pangbourne Tennis Club

Richard Raines spoke as Treasurer of Pangbourne Tennis Club. He too reported that there were a number of new members on the club committee and that they wanted to ensure that the club was welcoming and inclusive.

Anyone can join the tennis club or just pay and play and enjoy casual games.

He stated that he had huge ambitions for the club and wanted to see the membership thriving over the coming years.

Already membership has been growing with the youngest member 3 years old and the oldest 80+, with junior memberships doubling.

"Back to Tennis" courses are being offered and a series of Open Days are planned, along with fundraising quizzes and BBQs.

Expensive re-surfacing needs to be planned in for the courts over the coming years and it would be great to see the disused court at the end eventually put back to use.

Pangbourne Valley Flood Forum

Provided an informative display this year instead of a full report

Pangbourne Village Agents



West Berkshire Village Agents – Connecting the Community

Report for Pangbourne Parish Council AGM 16th May 2019

The Village Agent is a local Volunteer who can help you find the right information and advice. Do you or someone you know have problems that affect health, wellbeing or an ability to remain independent?

The Village Agent scheme is a free scheme which has been operated by the Volunteer Centre West Berkshire for 6 years now and has helped many residents in the area. A trained and trusted volunteer will call and then provide face to face support. They have the time and the knowledge to be able to solve some of life's problems and assist in finding help; when you do not know where to start to look.

The scheme helps link anyone who is over 18 and feeling socially isolated; to the many services available that can help people to get out and about in their communities or to live in their own homes for longer.

In the year April 2018 to March 2019, we assisted 359 clients throughout West Berkshire.

All our Volunteer Village Agents help out visiting clients throughout the whole area. Pangbourne is fortunate to have its own Village Agent, David who has been very active visiting clients not only in Pangbourne but in many of the surrounding parishes.

7 Parishioners in Pangbourne were assisted by our Village Agents, 6 in Tilehurst, 1 in Tidmarsh, 3 in Purley on Thames, 1 in Upper Basildon, 5 in Beenham, 4 in Burghfield. Our busiest area is Thatcham with 114 client visits.

The main issues in the Pangbourne area were needing assistance with completing forms particularly for Attendance Allowance, loneliness and practical help within the home.

The age range for all our clients remains predominantly over 50s but 20% were aged 18-50 during this period. We made 619 referrals to other organisations during the year and assisted with 172 forms of practical help.

If anyone would like to join our team of volunteers, full training is given and we would love to chat to them.

If you would like to know more about the scheme, call our direct line



01635 581001 and speak to Gill or email gillian@vcwb.org.uk



Charitable Incorporated Organisation number 1156302 est 1974

9. OPEN FORUM

- A question was raised regarding provision of more recycling facilities in the village and District. Comparisons were drawn between WBC and South Oxfordshire Councils.
- A question was asked regarding the future closure and relocation of Pangbourne Police Station
- A question was asked regarding the provision of CCTV by the Parish Council at its open spaces due to the reduced number of police available for the area.
- A question was asked regarding the recent article in the Pangbourne Magazine relating to the provision of youth facilities. Several residents offered their services to help get something off the ground.
- A question was asked regarding adequate parking provision within the village.
- A question was asked regarding pedestrian access to Pangbourne Hill Cemetery
- A comment was made by a member of the public that this had been a very informative evening and that the finances had been presented in a very open and transparent manner.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Chairman..... Date.....

PANGBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL

Bank Reconciliation

Financial year ending 31st March 2019

Prepared by R Elkin RFO, Clerk to the Council on 10th May 2019

Balance per bank statements as at 31 March 2019	
Current Account	£142,767.98
Deposit Account 1	£77,693.03
Deposit Account 2	£34.83
	£220,495.84
Less unpresented Cheques at 31/03/19	
	(£3093.34)
Plus Uncleared Deposits	
	£2542.00
End of Year Write off (unpresented Chqs)	£1382.70
Net bank balances as at 31 March 2019	£221,327.20

The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book (receipts and payments account) for the year, as follows:

CASH BOOK – Expenses as at 31st March 2019

Receipts in the year	£209,549.83
Payments in the year	(£164,631.80)
Closing Cash Book Balance as at 31 March 2019	£44,918.03

RECONCILIATION as at 31st March 2019

Opening Balance	£176,409.17
Cash Book – Expenses Balance	£44,918.03
Closing Balance per Cash Book as at 31 March 2019	£221,327.20