

The 2021 Annual Parish Meeting held at Colgate village Hall on 14th March 2022.

Covid 19 overshadowed much of 21/22 with restrictions being relaxed again in March 2022.

BRIEF REPORT OF PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS FOR 2021/22

The 2011 census confirms that there are 1087 residents (male-541 and female 546). There are 398 households in total.

The electoral roll 2021(2020):

Colgate -545(563)

Faygate -485 (451)

Kilnwood Vale-1736(1257)

Total electorate-2766(2271)

Increase of electorate in total -495

Kilnwood Vale development continues to grow at speed with total electorate exceeding the total of number of electorates in both Colgate and Faygate collectively.

The Council, Councillors and Employees

Councillors

Cllr Sired retired from the Council in January 22. He was thanked for his long public service of over 47 years.

Two new members were welcomed to the council in 21/22, Cllr Staff and Faith.

Cllr Marley (Chair)

Cllr Calvert

Cllr Crosdil (Vice)

Cllr Finnegan

Cllr Davies

Cllr Garley

Cllr Faith*

Cllr Staff*

*co-opted during 21/22

Currently the Council is one Councillor short, and the vacancy is being advertised.

With over ¾ of the Councillors being voted into post and the Clerk holds the CILCA qualification means the Parish Council have the General Powers of Competency (May 2021)

Councillors have attended HALC meeting, meetings with WSCC and HDC, and other training courses. The Clerk and Councillors will continue to attend courses and workshop to ensure the Council is up to date on all new regulations.

Employees

Sadly, Mr Paige passed away during 21/22. He had been Colgate's litter warden since 2017 and is greatly missed.

Mr McGill joined the Council in 2021 as the Litter Warden. Mr McGill works 4 hours per week. The Parish Council will continue to meet the increased costs of Mr McGill's salary from the precept since the HDC grant could not be increased.

The Clerk has been with Colgate PC since 2012 (10 years in May 2022). The Clerk is employed to work 12 hours per week.

Achievements:

The Council welcomed Alex McGill into the position of Litter Warden.

Continued the use of Facebook as another way of engaging with the residents of the parish. There are sixty-five members to date.

An additional application to reduce the speed limit on Forest Road between entrance to Roffey Park to the 30MPH sign west of Colgate has been approved by WSCC and the police. (March 2022)

An additional Silent Hero (female silhouette) was purchased from the Royal British Legion totalling three figures which are assets of the council. One of the two silhouette was displayed in November at Colgate Village Hall and one at Durrants Village and the new silhouette was hosted by Kilnwood Vale School. The Council thanks all those that hosted the silhouette.

Speed gun purchased by the Council and is regularly used by the Community Speed Watch Team.

Colgate PC have continued to liaise and work alongside HDC community hub to assist those who were shielding or vulnerable during lockdowns since March 21. Cllr Davies

and the Clerk collaborated with the volunteers, the vulnerable and HDC throughout this year.

Continued with business as usual despite Covid, by making use of remote meetings and social distancing.

Grant Application- Colgate Parish Council awarded the following:
£1000- to Colgate and Faygate Village Halls and St Saviours Church.
£500-Air Ambulance

Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) was purchased, and associated infrastructure was installed to allow the use of the VAS. This will assist the Council with data on the speed of traffic on Forest Road and Faygate Lane.

Online banking was finally approved by NatWest bank and will be set up to start April 22.

The Council approved the new CIL Grant Application process for local community and charity groups.

Approval of grant from Sussex Heart charity for two new defibrillators located at Faygate Village Hall and Kilnwood Vale school (Feb 22) funded from the CIL monies.

Reviewed Faygate Lane pedestrian footways/access and carried out a consultation with the residents. This did not proceed any further due to landownership issues.

Finance

The accounts remain in a healthy state. The Clerk will settle the accounts which will then be audited by Mark Mulberry accountants in April 2022. The external auditor is Moore Stephens.

The precept 21/22- £26939

Planning

The District Council has a duty to refer all planning applications relating to the Parish to the Council to give the opportunity for comments in the light of local knowledge, but we take no part in the granting or refusal of permission.

14 Planning meeting were held during 21/22 both remotely and face to face

Potential new development in the Parish - Land West of Ifield is still being considered.

Development of Land North of Horsham continues

Water neutrality policy has impacted on the approval of all planning applications within the district.

Action plan and development into 22-23

Advertise for a new Councillor into the vacant post left by John Sired.

The Council continues to promote community cohesion between all the communities within the parish. The Parish will remain stakeholders in the development of the new community hall in KWV and will work towards making closer ties with the KWV community.

Speed /parking/traffic remain a concern to the residents and the Council will strive to improve traffic issues. Parts of Forest Road have been awarded a reduction in speed limit to 40mph. The Council continue to campaign for a reduction to the speed limit along the whole of Forest Road. The newly acquired speed gun will continue to be a useful tool in reducing the speed of traffic along Forest Road. As will the new addition of the Vehicle Activated Sign which will be sited in both Colgate and Faygate Villages in the quest to slow traffic down.

Cllr Garley will assist and guide the community with the request for a temporary reduction to the speed limit on Old Crawley Road following a fatal accident.

The Council will continue to support Community Speed Watch and the use of the speed gun.

Colgate Parish Council will continue to offer their Grant Applications Scheme and CIL application scheme where charities and groups that enhance the wellbeing of the local community within the Parish can apply for a grant up to £1000.

The Council will strive to ensure the Winter Maintenance Plan is fit for purpose and ensure the salt bins are ready for use.

The Council intends to ensure that Councillors and the Clerk are fully up to date on legal and Council matters by ensuring Councillors and Clerk are offered a wide range of training and personal development. Councillors will continue to attend various meetings of local associations.

Continue with the everyday business of a Parish Council in an effective manner.

The Council intend to complete a Community Highways Scheme for Faygate to improve the issues raised by residents along Faygate Lane.

Online banking to become the primary method of banking

To install and provide training on the two newly acquired defibrillators located at Faygate Village Hall and Kilnwood Vale School.

The Council will continue to monitor the shrubbery along Grouse Road.

Colgate Parish Council will continue to work closely with WSCC and HDC and share minutes and newsletters with Colgate and Kilnwood Vale Schools and Kilnwood Vale Community Group.

Expand community cohesions especially within the developing areas of the Parish. Funds have been ringfenced to provide the new community area in Kilnwood Vale with a noticeboard fit for Parish business.

Councillors will have continued to perform risk assessments of the Councils' ever-increasing assets.

The Council will review existing policies and develop new policies where appropriate.

The Council will develop the website to ensure it is accessible for all and continue to monitor the success of the Facebook page.

Attract more volunteers in Faygate Village to help with the speed reduction scheme on Faygate Lane by creating a Community Speed Watch group and help with siting the VAS.

Thank you.

With the unprecedented events that came with the Corona Virus the PC want to thank every volunteer who came forwards to help the more vulnerable members of the community. The PC also want to thank the residents for understanding that during the crisis, Council meeting converted to virtual video meetings via Zoom and Teams.

The Clerk and Councillors value Cllr Nagel, Cllr 's Kitchen and Cllr Hogben support and guidance over the last year.

A big thank you to both Colgate Village Hall and Durrants Village for allowing the Council to hold meetings at their respective venues.

The Council have collaborated closely with several teams within WSCC and HDC this year and are grateful for their support.

The Litter Warden, Mr McGill continues to provide good service to the residents and is appreciated by the Council. He has been invaluable in highlighting the increased fly tipping in the parish and assisting with leaf clearance.

The Councillors are also grateful to all those residents who attend the Council meetings.

The Councillors also want to thank Deborah Luxford for volunteering to coordinate the Winter Maintenance Plan and posting the agenda.

The Council also want to thank Lyndsey Williams for offering to maintain the Colgate Community noticeboard.

Thank you to all the Community Speed Watch Volunteers who are making a difference in decreasing the speed of the traffic on Forest Road.

Support for Local Organisations

During the year, the Council made grants to Colgate Memorial Hall, Faygate Village Hall, and the Parochial Church Council and paid £10 for newsletters from the Gatwick Conservation Group. £500 was awarded to the Air Ambulance.

The Parish remains members of the following institutions:

- Action in Rural Sussex (Airs)
- National Ass. Of Local Councils (NALC)
- Horsham Ass of Local Councils (HALC)
- Society of local Councils and Clerks (SLCC)
- West Sussex Ass. Of Local Councils (WSALC)

Prepared for the Chair by the Clerk 1st March 22.

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