

## **The 2022 Annual Parish Meeting held at Colgate village Hall on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023.**

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

### **BRIEF REPORT OF PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS FOR 2022/23**

The 2011 census confirms that there are 1087 residents (male-541 and female 546). There are 398 households in total. 2021 figures yet to be released.

The electoral roll (2021):

Colgate – 543(545)

Faygate – 510(48)

Kilnwood Vale- 1977(1736)

Total electorate- 3020 (2766)

Increase of electorate in total -254

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

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### **The Council, Councillors and Employees**

#### **Councillors**

Cllr Marley (Chair)

Cllr Calvert

Cllr Crosdil (Vice)

Cllr Finnegan

Cllr Davies

Cllr Garley

Cllr Faith\*

Cllr Staff\*

Cllr Humphrey\*\*

\*co-opted during 21/22

\*\*Co-opted 22/23

With over 75% of the Councillors being voted into post, and with the Clerk holding the CILCA qualification, the Parish Council have the General Powers of Competency (May 2022)

Elections will take place in May 2023

Councillors have attended HALC meeting, meetings with WSCC and HDC, and other training courses such as planning and new Councillor 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**

Mr McGill joined the Council in 2021 as the Litter Warden and remains in post. 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. The Clerk is employed to work 12 hours per week.

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### **Achievements:**

The corona virus pandemic was still influencing the ways in which the parish Council conducted business during the year. However, normal return to work has more or less resumed.

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

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/263093597685939>

The website continues to be a good source of information.

[WWW.colgatefaygate.com](http://WWW.colgatefaygate.com)

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

CLlr Garley assisted and guided the community with the request for a temporary reduction to the speed limit on Old Crawley Road following a fatal accident.

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

Grant Application- Colgate Parish Council awarded the following:  
£1000 each - to Colgate and Faygate Village Halls and St Saviours Church.  
£500-Air Ambulance  
£800- Awarded to Colgate Village Hall to purchase a new clock.  
There were no CIL (Council Infrastructure Levy) grant applications received this year.

The Council used CIL monies to install two additional defibrillators heated cabinets located at Faygate Village Hall and the school at Kilnwood Vale (£868.20) which were purchased the previous year. In addition 2 new heated cabinets were purchased to replace the cabinets at Colgate Village Hall and the garage on Faygate road (£800) and installation thereof (£325.20). There are 4 council owned defibrillators available to the community in Colgate Parish as of 2023.



The Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) has recorded traffic speed and flow in both Faygate and Colgate villages over the year. Cutting back of shrubbery on Forest Road (towards Pease Pottage) was completed in November 2022 allowing the VAS sign to be positioned on this end of Forest Road which has enabled the Parish Council to collect data at all three sites.

Online banking was finalised.

Continued support and awareness of our armed forces past and present by displaying the Silent Heroes (Colgate Village Hall, Durrants Village and Kilnwood Vale School) in partnership with The Royal British Legion during the month of November.



The Council applied for a Community Highways Scheme for Faygate Lane pedestrian footways/access and speed reduction measures. This application was not successful.

Adoption of a Climate Change plan.

<https://v6admin.visionict.com/Sites/153/ UserFiles/Files/Climate Action Plan%20Final%202023.pdf>

It was agreed to create a recycling site at Colgate Village Hall as a pilot scheme. Volunteers from Colgate Village Hall Committee will be working with the Council on this project.

CLlr Finnegan has been liaising with Durrants Village over the use of facilities at the retirement home and has had the permissive path unlocked and tidied up so all Faygate village residents can access the path. Negotiations continue with regards to the library.

Unveiling of a road named after CLlr Sired (Sired Way, Kilnwood Vale) who retired last year after 47 years of public service.

Working with District Councillors and the police, Colgate PC organised a meeting which the PCSO attended to update on the racing of cars and bikes on A264.

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## **Finance**

The accounts remain in a healthy state and both the internal auditor, Mark Mulberry and external auditor, Moors signed the accounts off with no recommendation in May 2022.

The precept for 21-22-£26,939

The precept 22-23- £32,687

Annual returns can be found on this link

<https://v6admin.visionict.com/Sites/153/UserFiles/Files/AGAR%20sect%203%20Ac counts.pdf>

#### Council Infrastructure Levy

The Council used CIL monies to install two additional defibrillators heated cabinets located at Faygate Village Hall and the school at Kilnwood Vale (£868.20). In addition 2 new heated cabinets were purchased to replace the cabinets at Colgate Village Hall and the garage on Faygate Road (£800) and installation thereof (£325.20).

Cil monies were also used to cut back shrubbery on Forest Road to allow the VAS to operate (£659.33).

Total of CIL monies spent in 22/23- £2652-( C/f £4222 to spend before 2026.)

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#### **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.

15 Planning meeting were held during 22/23 (March to beginning March)

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

Development of Land North of Horsham continues.

The Kilnwood Vale development continues to grow.

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

Horsham District Council have not yet signed off on the Local Plan.

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#### **Action plan and development into 23-24**

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 Kilnwood Vale and will work towards making closer ties with the Kilnwood Vale 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 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 continue to be sited in both Colgate and Faygate Villages in the quest to slow traffic down.

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.

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 and Durrant Retirement Village.

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. Kilnwood Vale have asked if the noticeboard can be placed in the park area instead of the community hall area and Councillors agreed to this on 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 2023.

Provide a salt reserve within the confines of Kilnwood Vale so residents can refill the existing salt bins during inclement weather,

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

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

The Parish Council will look at ways in which they can implement the Climate Change policy.

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

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/263093597685939>  
<http://www.colgatefaygate.com/>

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

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### **Thank you.**

The Clerk and Councillors value the support and guidance of Cllr Nagel, Cllr Kitchen, and Cllr Hogben 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. Thank you to Dennis Cooper at Durrants village for organising the meeting room.

The Council have collaborated closely with several teams within WSCC and HDC this year and are grateful for their support. Stuart Card (HDC) and his team provide excellent support to Colgate Parish council with the fly tipping issues which are ongoing. He and his team deal swiftly with any reports of fly tipping for which we are grateful.

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.

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

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### **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. £800 to Colgate Village Hall for a new clock

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 2023.