

Cancelled due to the Corona virus. Instead the report was distributed and posted on the website.

The 2020 Annual Parish meeting was held at Colgate School at 7.30pm.

BRIEF REPORT OF PARISH COUNCIL BUSINESS FOR 2019/20

Village	2018/19	19/20
Colgate	540	563
Faygate	431	451
Kilnwood Vale	948	1257
Total	1919	2271

Total increase of residents by 352

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

Kilnwood Vale and Durrant Village continue to grow.

The Council, Councillors and Employees

An election was held in May 2019 where the following councillors were re-elected:

Cllr Marley (chair)

Cllr Calvert

Cllr Crosdil (Vice)

Cllr Sired

Cllr Finnegan

Cllr Davies

Cllr Garley

Currently the council is two councillors short and the vacancies have been regularly advertised.

With over $\frac{3}{4}$ of the councillors being voted into post and the clerk has CILCa means the Parish Council have the General Powers of Competency (May 2019)

Councillors have attended HALC meeting, meetings with WSCC and HDC, planning courses, GDPR workshops, financial courses 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.

Mr Paige has been employed by the council and continues to provide good value for money. Mr Paige's works 4 hours per week. The Parish Council will continue to meet the increased costs of Mr Paige's salary from the precept since the HDC grant could not be increased.

Councils meetings were held monthly except August and December. Planning meetings were held on an ad hoc basis.

Achievements:

Working in partnership with Horsham District Council, fly tipping notices were installed at site where fly tipping is more common. Colgate PC work closely with HDC on removing rubbish as soon as possible and provide evidence to the District Council allowing them the opportunity to investigate the fly tipper and hopefully leading to prosecution.

GDPR compliance has continued to be developed and the council is now compliant in all areas with the new GDPR regulations. GDPR-info were engaged to support the council in this matter.

Progressed to the next stage of getting a crossing on the A264. Feasibility to take place 18/19 and additional feasibility in 19/20. This project has exceeded the community Highways budget; however, the Parish Council will continue to campaign for a crossing on the A264.

Continue to develop the Parish Online, a web-based mapping system.

Pilot the use of Facebook as another way of engaging with the residents of the parish. There are 21 members to date. In March the website had 135 visits.

Community Speed Watch continues to be successful.

An application to reduce the speed limit is being considered by WSCC and the police. A partial reduction on Forest Road has been agreed.

Stillwell Road – in memory of Cllr David Stilwell a road in Kilnwood Vale was named after him. A fitting tribute to a community minded man who is still much missed.

The PC supported WSCC and Colgate school with to upgrade the PROW to allow pupils attending the school to have an alternative route to school to avoid the busy Forest Road. The school have confirmed the PROW is well used.

A Silent Hero was purchased from the Royal British Legion to commemorate 100 years since the end of WW1. The silhouette will be displayed annually in November

throughout the Parish. This year Durrants Village hosted the silhouette and the PC want to thank them.

Grant Application-Age UK were awarded £300

A strong relationship with Durant's village continues and its residents, strengthened by working together on the crossing point over A264. Kindly Durrant Village agreed for bimonthly councils meeting to be held at the Club House on the Durrant Village site for 19/20. The Council want to thank Durrant Village for hosting the council meeting at the village.

The Council have worked with HDC and other stakeholders on the new community hall facility in KWV and a new contact has been made at KWV which hopefully will develop into a strong relationship with the new development. Furthermore, staff at Crest Nicholson, Kilnwood Vale supported the PC with the opening of Stillwell Way and provided refreshments after the event for which the PC are grateful

Colgate PC has secured monies for a noticeboard to be installed outside the new community hall. This will be carried over until the community centre has been built in Kilnwood Vale

Investigations into a Vehicle Activated Sign were underway but with the Corona Crisis at the end of March this was put on hold.

Online banking was very near to completion when the Corona virus struck, and this too had been put on hold.

Finance

The accounts remain in a healthy state. The Clerk will settle the accounts which will then be audited by Mark Mulberry accounts in May 2020 remotely due to the Corona Crisis. The external audit is Moore Stephens.

The precept 19/20 is £21490

In summary and subject to audit and Bank reconciliation 19/20 Accounts are:

Receipt-£23522

Paid out-£8843-inc VAT

19/20 carried over figure of £18939

Total funds in bank - £20243as at 31st March 20

VAT refund of £471.27 due in 19/20

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 takes no part in the granting or refusal of permission. Finally, during 19/20 paperless planning was rolled out to all PC.

19 Planning meetings were held during 18/19 but 27 in 19/20 (one online)

This reflects the increase in home improvements and alterations to residential properties and increase in new residential developments.

Action plan and development into 20/21

At the end of 19/20 Corona Virus struck the UK leading to a lockdown where Parish council had to adapt to social distance and restrictions on movement. Normal life and Parish business had to change drastically. Meetings were done remotely, and business was curtailed. New policies were adopted. It is hoped that during 20/21 life will gradually return to normal

Colgate Parish has seen an unprecedented increase in residents over the last few years and the Council must adapt to meet the increase in workload and budget requirements.

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.

Community Speed watch will continue.

Colgate Parish Council will continue to offer their Grant Applications 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.

Colgate Parish Council will continue to work closely with WSCC and HDC and share minutes and newsletters with Colgate Village School.

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' every increasing asset.

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

Review the occurrence of fly tipping in the parish with a view to working with HDC to reduce this issue.

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

During the coming year the council will review the installation of Vehicle Activated Signs to monitor speed along Forest Road and possibly Faygate Lane.

Resume the development of online banking

Thank you

With the unprecedented event 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 were suspended and any urgent decisions were made via e mail and then remote meetings.

The Clerk and councillors value Councillor 's Kitchen and Cllr Hogben support and guidance over the last year.

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

The Litter Warden, Mr B Paige continued to give good service to the whole community and was appreciated by the Council. He has been invaluable in highlighting the increased fly tipping the parish.

A thank you must also go to Colgate Village Hall Colgate School and Durrant Village for the use of their venues for the Council's meetings. 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 for displaying the agenda on the Colgate and Faygate noticeboards.

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 to decrease 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.

The Parish remain members of the following institutions:

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

Prepared for the Chair by the Clerk 1st June 2020

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