

COLWICH PARISH ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF THE COLWICH PARISH ASSEMBLY, CALLED UNDER THE PART III OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, HELD ON THURSDAY 23RD MAY 2019 AT ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH, COLWICH COMMENCING AT 6:30PM.

PRESENT: Cllr Billingsley (Parish Chairman) and Revd Mr Michael Lennon (Parish Clerk).

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Cllr Bloor; Cllr Dunn; Cllr Fletcher; Cllr Walters; Cllr Wells; Cllr Brown (SBC); Yth Cllr Browning.

PUBLIC: 46 members of the public were present.

MINUTES

- 1. APOLOGIES** were received from Cllr Harris; Cllr Cooper (SBC); Haywood Under 5s; St John's School; Anson School; Hazeldene House Surgery and RNLI.

RESOLVED to accept the apologies.

PROPOSED Cllr Fletcher

SECONDED Cllr Wells.

- 2. MINUTES OF THE COLWICH PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD ON 21ST MAY 2018.**

RESOLVED to accept and sign the minutes as a true and accurate record.

PROPOSED Cllr Wells

SECONDED Cllr Fletcher.

- 3. There were no MATTERS ARISING FORM THE MINUTES.**

- 4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the Parish Assembly and encouraged everyone to take a copy of the Annual Report.

The Chairman noted the work the Council had been undertaking to investigate the impact of HS2 on the parish as a whole and not just the immediate impact on Great Haywood e.g. the impact of the temporary closure of Tixall Road, the additional vehicles that would likely use Meadow Lane as well as run-off water from the HS2 embankment. The Council spent over 100 hours preparing a petition on its concerns and presented these to the House of Commons Select

Committee on 1st May. The Chairman thanked all those who contributed, especially Cllr Dunn and Cllr Whitfield.

The Chairman noted that the link path between the Memorial Hall and Surgery had not been forgotten. Meetings have been held with the Surgery and Painsley Academy with further ones planned.

Plans are with the Borough Council for new toilets at the JPF and the Youth Council are looking to install new play equipment aimed at teenagers.

The Chairman mentioned that a new “Chairman’s award” had been established in 2018 to recognise individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the people and fabric of the parish. This award, which is additional to the Citizen of the Year award, is open to anyone in the parish including members of the Council and their families.

The Chairman announced that this year there are two winners, Anne Clendon BEM and Amyas Stafford-Northcote, who between them had served on the Parish Council for approximately 80 years.

Anne Clendon BEM and Amyas Stafford-Northcote were presented with certificates and a shield each.

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.

What is the progress with the traffic calming measures along Mill Lane?

We are assured by Cllr Francis (SCC) that the works should be going ahead this financial year i.e. before the end of March 2020.

7. PRESENTATIONS

The Chairman invited Lisa Thomas to give a short presentation on the Little Laura charity which the Council and Youth Council’s charity of the year 2019.

Lisa noted that the Charity started with a walk on the Chase and has grown since to include a library at Marshlands and outdoor play equipment. The Charity is not just about donating money but is very much hands on e.g. it built a sensory garden at Marshlands and renovated the farm at Walton Hall school. All of their work is due to friends in the village who have made things possible in memory of Laura.

9. THE CITIZEN OF THE YEAR 2018/19.

The Chairman summed up “the Charity was set up in memory of Lisa’s daughter Laura. Lisa’s entire family’s indefatigable courage is an inspiration to us all.

It is for this outstanding contribution that it gives me great pleasure and humility to announce that the Citizen of the Year for 2019 is Lisa Thomas.”

Lisa Thomas was presented with the Citizen of the Year shield.

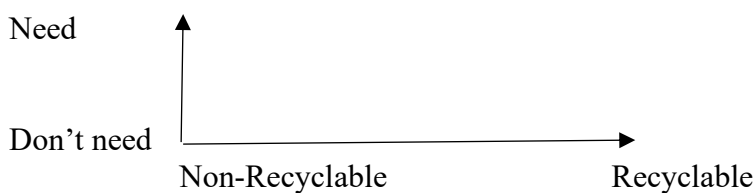
5. CHAIRMAN OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL.

Youth Cllr Browning gave a short summary of the work of the Youth Council in 2018/19 and looked forward to the planned Music Showcase in July to raise funds for Little Laura.

7. PRESENTATIONS.

- i. Dr Sharon George, Senior Lecturer in Green Technology and Environmental Sustainability, Keele University gave a presentation on the environmental work she had undertaken across the globe including her visits to Bangladesh and the example we can learn from them in using everything, making what we need from scratch with very little use of plastics. Dr George mentioned that 90% of the plastic in the ocean comes from 10 rivers. This plastic is broken down into microplastics by the action of the waves and sunlight and so enters the food chain.

Dr George mentioned the “axis of evil” of plastics



The ideal is to only use plastics which are needed and recyclable and so may be categorised as an acceptable necessity, have a point and not really evil.

Dr George’s top 5 “evil” plastics are: Cigarette Butts; Baby Products e.g. wet wipes, nappies; Gimmicks from joke shops including party bags and pet toys; Pointless Packaging and Pens.

8:30pm – 8:40pm interval.

- ii. **Teresa Walters “Sisters against Plastic”.**

Teresa Walters described how she worked with her sister, Mary Strong, to see how far they could reduce their plastic use in one year. They decided to reduce one extra item per month. The items chosen ranged from moving to bars of soap rather than liquid soap; eco-eggs and refillable sachets for laundry products; change in other toiletries. They held a challenge to host a dinner party using the least amount of plastic. They involved their primary school children on the basis that children seeing adults making a change will adopt these and change the world.

Over the year they went from a large delivery container of plastic waste to a small pile.

8. PHOTOGRAPH OF THE YEAR 2018/19.

The Chairman announced that the winner of this year's award was Paul Henshall.

10. CLOSE.

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming and especially our guest speakers Dr Sharon George and Teresa Walters for their presentations, The Chairman gave a special mentioned to Rob Horton, Plastic Free Colwich, for his efforts in supporting the Clerk.

Next year's event is scheduled for Thursday 21st May in Great Haywood.

Assembly closed at 9:15pm.