

Notes of the 2018 Remenham APM

Held in the Parish Hall on 10th May at 8pm (see minute 60/18)

Those present included David Cook, Angie & Ron Emerson, Richard Fletcher, Charlotte Geeves, Jayne & Nigel Gray, Sue Laing (SL), Jenny & David Law, Geraldine MacMillan, Gillian & Richard Murdoch, Jamie Presland, Frances & Tim Roche (TR), Marilyn Sermon, Pat Sly, Domnall Tait, Adeli & Andrew Walley. Refreshments were served.

The Chairman (John Halsall) welcomed those attending the Annual Parish Meeting (APM). He introduced the new member for Remenham, Ruscome and Wargrave (Graham Howe (who spoke about his interests in becoming involved in Remenham matters) and councillors John Merkel (his Deputy Chair), Franky Cookson, Chris Leeming and Darrel Poulos. He thanked Richard Fletcher for his contributions over many years. Notes on the 2016 and 2017 APM and the Remenham Parish Council (RPC) budget and income-expenditure were distributed. The Chairman thanked The Clerk for his contributions.

JH stressed the vital importance of the Greenbelt to Remenham. JH described the work being undertaken by the Campaign to Protect Rural Wokingham in defending the Ruscombe and Wargarve Green Belt in the light of work being undertaken by masterplanners to build a strategic development location. He said that progress was being made on traffic matters within Henley led by the leader of Henley residents Stefan G ably supported by Darrel Poulos. This included a Poynton traffic-pedestrian shared-space design which was being considered for Henley. He said the canyon effects made air pollution a problem in Duke Street, but an aid to resolving the pollution issue was to increase the green in Henley. He suggested residents should look at the green living wall opposite St.Mary's church. This will lower NO₂ levels and a great first start. He described the situation on Remenham Lane when events were taking place and plans to improve the situation. He said he had talked with the police about extending the 30mph restrictions to Middle Culham cottages and Conwys Bridge, and how vehicle speeds might be checked by volunteers. A question was asked about the effect of the recent Tough Mudder event on traffic queues on White Hill. JH mentioned the RPC work on ensuring that the Cumulative Impact of events in Remenham were taken into account in licensing events. He welcomed Charlotte Geeves (Henley Festival) to the meeting. She spoke of ways in which the Festival was trying to improve parking facilities and traffic flow in Remenham during the event. She outlined a scheme by which local Remenham residents could get complimentary tickets to hear the Henley Symphony Orchestra on the Saturday morning of the Festival. JH said that RPC had supported Remenham Farm Residents Association in objecting to a proposed classical Rewind event in Temple Island Meadow. The Chairman said that Pegasus had agreed to provide independent advice to RPC on planning matters. He thought they might add weight to any RPC comments on for example the polo pitch built at Malmesbury. He mentioned the situation regarding Bird Place Cottage and Thames Bridge House. He said that the outcome at Barn Cottage had been excellent. He described refuse collection, the contribution made by Steve Allender and the success of the dog waste bin (soon to be emptied by OCS and Steve Allender on 2 days of the week). TR asked about the cost of recycling. He said that it had been difficult to find a refuse point in Remenham. The Chairman described the financial position of RPC with reserves set aside for traffic, event and planning matters. He spoke of broadband options in Remenham. He said that RPC was to ensure that it was compliant with General Data Protection Regulations through the present or a new RPC website. He said that RPC had agreed to offer wifi connectivity if the Parish Hall Committee thought this would be beneficial to the community.

SL said that there was on 21st July a Ball at the Cricket Club with tickets and raffle tickets available. It was suggested this should go on the website to ensure maximum support.

Signed..........Chairman

13th June 2018