

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING FOR LONDON COLNEY
HELD AT THE PAVILION, MORRIS WAY, LONDON COLNEY ON
FRIDAY 5 MAY 2017 AT 6.30 pm.**

MINUTE NO.	DETAIL	ACTION
	<p>PRESENT. Councillors M MacMillan; K Gardener;H Pakenham; N Mahoney and D Gordon.</p> <p>IN ATTENDANCE C L Thatcher, Locum Clerk & L Casling,Grounds Manager plus 1 member of the public.</p>	
1	<p>MINUTES of the Annual Parish Meeting of 6 May 2016 were read, approved and signed as a true record of that meeting.</p>	
2	<p>MATTERS ARISING There were no matters arising.</p>	
3	<p>CHAIRMAN'S REPORT Councillor MacMillan presented his report, as follows:</p> <p>I am pleased that the work of the Parish Council goes from strength to strength mainly due to a commitment by elected councillors and a committed staff team.</p> <p>We operate as a team. We function with confidence because we are in touch with the community. We are committed to serving the community and providing Best value services.</p> <p>One excellent example of this is the prevention of cuts in services or a large increase in the parish rate, following the loss of government grant to the tune of £29,000. We are financially prudent while at the same time capable of preventing the equivalent of a 6 pence increase in council tax.</p> <p>Good Financial management by the finance committee under the guidance of Councillor Gordon ensures that spending decisions are taken with community outcomes as a key measurement. Our excellent bookkeeper, is invaluable at providing clear information on</p>	

which to make spending decisions. We have managed to contain a budget increase to 2 pence a week for band D households.

The people of London Colney are supportive of their parish council and the activities it provides. We know this by attendance at our various events.

Let me say that our Monday exercise group is set to break records with regular attendance of over 60 people. We have added health walks twice weekly, sometimes with 30 or so walkers.

A big thank you to Councillor Helen Pakenham for leading these health initiatives.

Whether it be the music festival, Larks in the Park, The lunch clubs on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Christmas events or our very successful November fireworks display: this parish council provides something for all ages and all groups.

The Parish Council seldom 'passes the buck' when it comes to thorny issues over which it has no control directly. Antisocial behaviour by a group of young people causing fear and concern amongst shopkeepers and the public has no place in London Coney life.

Representations to the police and our excellent PCSOs resulted in antisocial behaviour orders being produced. This council is to start talks with youth connections about putting youth workers on our streets funded by the Parish Council.

Other destructive acts cause public concern, but the impact is often reduced because of the actions by the chief groundsman. . Not many people knew about the graffiti on the millennium clock because of speedy action by Lee Casling to remove it. Much appreciation to him and his team for keeping the public spaces in great condition and in good working order. To the team in the office, we know that you have gone the extra mile on many occasions, especially since the ill health of the parish clerk. We are proud of you and the rest of the team for providing a good service to the public and to the council during difficult times.

Most London Colney young people are responsible and decent but a few cause big reputation damage.

We miss Irene, our parish clerk and send her good wishes for recovery during the current cancer treatment. I know that I speak on behalf of the full council and the public when I say, 'return to us soon so that we can benefit from your skills and warm personality'.

We look forward to the challenges of the forthcoming year with ability and optimism. We promise to try to give an even better service to the citizens of London Colney and renew our commitment to serving you to the best of our ability. We will be able to do this

	better with Dreda Gordon as our County Councillor. Congratulations to her .	
4	QUESTIONS The Chairman invited questions, but there were none.	

5	ANY OTHER BUSINESS. The Chairman invited any other business, but there was none.	
6	NEXT MEETING The next Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 11 May 2018	
	There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1844 hours.	

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