

Little Baddow Parish Council

Annual Assembly 2019

The Annual Assembly was preceded by an exhibition of 12 clubs, societies and organisations from the village.

The Annual Assembly of the Parish Council was held in the Memorial Hall on Wednesday 15th May 2019 commencing at 7.30pm. The following members of the Council were present:

Previous Chairman: Dr N Cooper

Current Chairman: Cllr P Irvine

Councillors: Mr. K Bonsor; Mrs. M Coates-Jones; Mr. J Scott; Mrs. B teal and Ms. D Ginn

Dr Cooper welcomed Madam Mayor of Chelmsford City, Cllr Yvonne Spence, her consort County Cllr John Spence and Chelmsford City Councillors Ian Wright and Bob Shepherd.

Dr Cooper thanked the local village clubs and societies for their representation and exhibits, with specific note for the work of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Total attendance was approximately 60 people

Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Parish Councillors approved the minutes of the last meeting held on 18th April 2018 as a true and fair record of the meeting.

Chairman's Report

Dr Cooper confirmed that he had not stood for re-election as a Councillor at the recent local council elections and so had also stood down as Chairman of Little Baddow Parish Council.

Dr Cooper thanked Bob Shepherd and Martyn Richmond as two retiring Councillors for their support for the Council and village. He thanked previous Parish Clerk's; Roger Upward and Graham Harris for their work and support. And lastly thanked Jackie Rymill for her work as the Caretaker of the Memorial Hall over many years and John Sheriff for his work as a handyman to the village.

Dr Cooper then introduced Cllr Peter Irvine as the new Chairman of the Council; Claire Mackintosh as the incoming Hall Bookings coordinator and Liz Cole who will be taking care and cleaning of the Hall.

Following the approval of a grant the Council have appointed Kevin Evans as a Handyman who will work one day a week on the many tasks and jobs arising in the village, his workload will be administered by Cllr Barbara Teal.

To complement the existing Defibrillator sited in the Sports Pavilion, Dr Cooper announced the installation of a second Defibrillator in the village; the work will be completed on Thursday 16th May and it will be sited in the vacant Red Telephone Kiosk on North Hill opposite Wickhay Cottages. Fund raising for a third Defibrillator is proceeding well with over 50% of the costs already raised; this will be sited in the Memorial Hall.

Reports (Inc Charities)

The Assembly was informed that the written reports including the Financial overview were in the Spring Newsletter with copies available in the Lobby. Additionally, there were reports from Charities available.

Charity Presentation

Dr Cooper was delighted to receive on behalf of the village a generous donation from the Rapid Relief Team towards the third Defibrillator. A team from the RRT were at the Assembly to make the presentation and discuss their work with residents.

Presentation of Community Awards

Dr Cooper was very pleased to make the Community Awards to Jan Yule, Bob Shepherd and John Robison in recognition of their work for the village. The Brownies presented Mrs. Yule with a flower arrangement.

In taking over the chairing of the meeting, incoming Parish Council Chairman, Cllr Peter Irvine made a Community Award to Dr Nic Cooper in recognition of his many years as a Councillor and for the past 4 years as Council chairman.

Chelmsford City Council – Guest Speaker

On behalf of Chelmsford City Council Madam Mayor, Councillor Yvonne Spence spoke about her enjoyable year as Mayor and term as a City Councillor.

Madam Mayor was delighted to be invited to the Assembly, highlighting the local community values that were part of Little Baddow village and how she sees this as core to the work of all Councils.

Using the Chelmsford 'City Life' magazine to illustrate the many aspects of the work of the City Council and the exciting projects being delivered. Notably the new Leisure Centre at Riverside.

Introduction to Parish Councillors

Chairman Cllr Peter Irvine introduced the Councillors that were elected at the recent Local Council Elections and the incoming Parish Clerk; Ian Wardle.

Public Question Time

There were several questions and contributions from the residents attending:

A resident asked of Madam Mayor if there could be more celebration of Marconi during the year. County Councillor John Spence was able to give a brief overview of celebratory plans by Essex County Council in 2020 that will include references to Marconi.

Speeding on the Ridge and in other parts of the village was raised. Cllr Barbara Teal gave an update of the work of the Speed Watch team and that they will be out with the Speed Guns gathering evidence in the next week. This evidence will be shared with the Police and Essex Highways to gain support for possible traffic calming measures and additional signage.

Parking at Papermill Lock was another significant issue for residents; some voicing concerns about encouraging more traffic through building ever larger car parks. County Councillor John Spence spoke of the need to balance access to the riverside, which is a much-needed recreation area for the wider population, and the wishes of village residents to reduce incoming traffic. He said that he would support the development of a larger car park and yellow line parking restrictions in the Papermill Lock vicinity to alleviate the issue, unless residents advise otherwise.

Vote of Thanks

The Chairman thanked Madam Mayor for her attendance and the Brownies presented her with a flower arrangement. Thanks, were also made to the Brownies and the Little Baddow WI for providing the refreshments.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

Chairman

April 2020