

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

21st April 2016

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I would label this as a year of consultations. Following various issues with the Planning Department over communications we had a productive meeting to understand both our concerns and set out a way forward. Since the meeting the Parish Council has been pleased to see reference to the Fishbourne supplementary planning document in planning decisions whilst fully appreciating other considerations that Officers have to take account of.

The concerns with regard to the Shingle Bank are getting to a very serious stage and the Council are pushing for a solution. A signed copy of the S106 agreement with regard to the development of Fishbourne Quay was located and it is now on the computerised planning records. However no practical progress has been made although there appears to be goodwill on all sides.

The Wightlink planning application was reviewed in detail and a number of amendments have been secured as detailed in my report to the April Parish Meeting. The most important being the removal of spoil from the holes to be drilled for the foundations of the piers and a traffic management plan to be agreed with Wightlink as a part of the S106 agreement. A team of people worked on this and the Parish Council is grateful to both local residents and our ward Councillor – Ivor Warlow.

During the year seventeen planning applications have been reviewed by the Parish Council and we have commented on each application with guidance from the Planning sub-committee.

The Council has also been in discussion with Island Roads along with other town and Parish Councils and we appear to be starting to make some progress, all be it at a very slow pace. The Parish Council will pursue this relationship in the hope of achieving a much better understanding between the two bodies.

Discussions with both the Bestival and Festival management have taken place and we now appear to have a good working relationship with both organisations who are keen to avoid previous problems.

The parish council has again remained within its budget and we have managed to increase our reserves in anticipation of the need to contribute towards local services, both within our own Parish and also possibly towards services provided by neighbouring Councils.

The Parish Council provided a temporary war memorial again in November 2015. Consultations are taking place over a permanent memorial but in the meantime we anticipate continuing with the current arrangement.

The Parish Council has continued to produce Quarterly Newsletters, but we are in desperate need of an editor.

Looking to the forthcoming year the Council

- will continue to address the problems of residents' parking at the lower green.
- is still in discussion with Island Roads and IWC concerning safety at the traffic lights and is hoping for an early resolution to this ongoing problem.
- continues its association with Wightlink and Quarr Abbey and maintains the good relationships already established.

The Council holds Parish Surgeries every Tuesday morning at RVYC from 10.00 a.m. when at least one Councillor and the Clerk attend, usually with Cllr Warlow from IWC, to enable our residents to meet the Councillors and raise any issues they may have.

The meetings diary for the new Council year will be published next month.



M. Hector
21.4.16