

TWINEHAM PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT 2020/2021

Twineham Parish Council

Mrs. Annie Hirst (Chair)

Mrs. Frances Jones

Mrs. Caroline Murphy

Mrs. Jane Veaney

Mr. Charles Worsley

Mrs. Dawn Langston (Clerk)

Despite the fact that much of the past year has been spent in Lockdown due to the Covid-19 restrictions, this has been another very busy year for Twineham Parish Council.

Meetings and Visitors

Parish Council meetings were held “virtually” in May, July, September and November 2020, and in January and March 2021. Official visitors in the past year have included Councillor Joy Dennis, our Division Member for Hurstpierpoint and Bolney on West Sussex County Council (WSCC), and Councillor Judy Llewellyn-Burke, our representative on Mid Sussex District Council (MSDC). We are extremely grateful to them for all the help and support they give us. In addition, several residents have attended individual Parish Council Meetings.

Annual Precept

The Parish Council resolved a precept of £9209 for the financial year 2021/2022.

Rampion

It is with considerable relief to residents close to the construction of the cable route and the sub-station serving the off-shore windfarm that work was finally completed in September 2020, almost 4 years late. We have been able to access some Community Benefit Fund money to help with the building of the cricket pavilion, to fund 3 new fingerposts, some benches, a compost lavatory at the Church and (hopefully) an eco-hut at the school, for which we are very grateful.

However, the Rampion 2 project, which will extend the windfarm at sea westwards, will involve bringing a cable in at Climping to connect to the National Grid at the power station on Wineham Lane. This will involve the construction of another sub-station of some 11 acres, and the shortlist of sites is 2 sites in Wineham Lane and one at Oakendene on the A272. Members of the Parish Council have met with representatives of Rampion and made it very clear that, following the appalling management of the construction of the Rampion 1 sub-station, Twineham Parish Council does not wish to have to endure the construction of another sub-station in the Parish.

Planning Matters

The Parish Council commented on all the planning applications which have been submitted, keeping the best interests of the local residents in mind. Site visits were made where appropriate. The Parish Council does not take the final decision as this is the responsibility of MSDC. Sadly, our views do not always agree with those of Mid Sussex District Council!

Highway Matters

We are very aware of the number of potholes and do our best to get them repaired. Overgrown hedges are another concern.

EnviroTech

The Parish Council has been approached by a company called EnviroTech who wish to install 80 containers (each the size of a shipping container) for battery storage, together with various other items of equipment, on land to the south of Bob Lane on Wineham Lane. The Parish Council has met with company representatives twice and asked a large number of questions. A planning application is awaited.

Village Social

Past Village Socials have proved very popular and we hope very much to be able to have another one in the not-too-distant future.

Clerk to the Parish Council

Our Clerk, Mrs. Dawn Langston, has had a huge workload over the past year, and we are extremely grateful to her for her efficiency and good humour.

Thanks

I should like to thank everyone who helps with the life of the Parish, in particular during this past difficult year those who have helped with shopping. Thank you too to those who give us advice and to those who pick up litter (a lot has been picked up in Hickstead Lane lately).

Finally, I should like to thank all the other members of the Parish Council who give up a huge amount of time. Thank you to Mrs. Jane Veaney for overseeing the maintenance of the War Memorial and for ensuring that it always looks so nice. Thank you, too, to Mrs. Fanny Jones for writing the Newsletters, and to Mrs. Caroline Murphy for running the Twineham Oil Syndicate. And thank you to Mr. Charles Worsley for his help on planning matters.

Annie Hirst

April 2021