

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2016

Chairman's Annual Report 2015/16

I would like to start this Report by welcoming you all here this evening. It gives me great pleasure to produce this report on behalf of the Parish Council. This is the annual meeting of the Parish rather than the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, which is next month. So I respectfully submit this report and bring greetings from my colleagues on the Parish Council. It has been an eventful if not always satisfactory, year.

I would like highlight the Gold awarded to the Temple Cloud in Bloom. Sandra Blair and her team continue their great work in all sectors of the village to brighten and delight villagers and visitors alike. The Parish Council take great delight in grant assisting their efforts. For the third year running Pete Hutchinson was responsible for leading the Christmas Tree project. This has quickly become something the whole village appear to welcome and really look forward to. Pete was ably assisted by a doughty team of volunteers including Parish Councillors and our Clerk, Nigel Scutt. No tree would be complete without lights and again we have to thank the kindness and generosity of John and Nancy Hampson of the Old Court for supplying, free of charge, the electricity. They will soon be leaving the village, we wish them well and hope they have primed the new owners of the fine tradition they have been part of. The Parish Council financed for the village, the tree and lights.

Since May, we have a fresh Parish Council, which is virtually all new except for Yours Truly and the ever enthusiastic Tom Hemmings. I have been impressed by the commitment and desire to get "Stuck in" shown by the new team. All of whom have now undertaken training for their new role. I would personally like to thank each and everyone of them but in particular, Maria Musins. She has not only got to grips with being a new councillor but has also taken on the responsibility of being my Deputy, both roles she has taken on with enthusiasm and fortitude.

We must also say thanks to all the retiring councillors for all their hard work in the past. Many, like Pete, are still active in the community and long may it continue that they play an active and constructive role. It is also right we highlight the work of those who toil, mainly without recognition, for the good of us all. So, Thank You, to our village operative Andy Chick, out in all weathers keeping the pavements clean and clear; Kelvin Parfitt, who most see grass cutting but don't see the many other jobs he carries out and last but not least to our doughty Parish Clerk, Nigel Scutt. In fact kelvin likes us so much he decided to become a Parish Councillor himself just in case he had some spare time!

But no review of the year would be complete without mentioning the application to put 70 homes onto a field off Temple Inn Lane. The application was originally turned down by the Planning Committee of BANES. The land owner appealed and in September 2015 it went before a Planning Inspector who allowed the appeal! At all stages, the Village was represented by a team of Parish Councillors. This decision cost BANES approximately £100,000. The proposal came back before BANES Planners in January for the detailed application which essentially deals with design issues. At the first hearing, the Planning Committee were still not happy with aspects of the proposal in support of the Parish Council argument and deferred a decision for a month for more talks between the developer and the Parish Council. The plans present a real danger

of creating a “Village within a Village” for which we, will have to live with. Sadly, these talks were unproductive because the developer would not move an inch.

When the proposal came back to Committee on the 16th February, despite strong Parish objections and stated reservations by some BANES councillors, it was passed. At the time of writing we are awaiting the start of development, probably now June/July this year. This is a proposed 2 year build that does little for the housing needs of local people but will likely create traffic chaos taken in tandem with the proposed development of the Temple Inn site. As I said 3 years ago, we may not be in favour of this development but we must try to welcome our new neighbours for the benefit of all. As things stand, we are already 60% over the development target for this Parish as outlined by the Core Strategy of 2015. We now face some real challenges to ensure that this does not climb ever higher. The needs of Bristol and the Governments desire for greater devolution mean we will come under increasing pressure to take even more houses. At the time of writing Bristol has a shortfall of 29,000 homes over and above what has already been planned for. They are looking to their neighbours to fill that hole. BANES outside of Bath has huge swathes of

Green Belt which will not be built on. So the available areas which also have direct transport links to Bristol will come under greater pressure to take more. The village of Temple Cloud, sitting right on top of the A37 has direct transport links to Bristol. It also now has double decker buses running twice as frequently to Bristol.

I would suggest now is a good time for concerned villagers to get informed and take action, www.templecloud.org is a good start!

I would like to finish by thanking all the voluntary groups in our Parish for all their hard work and selflessness in making the Parish of Cameley the wonderful place it is to live. Despite all our problems we have all chosen to live here, whether we moved in in the past year or have been here all our lives, it is for us, Home.”

Tony Hooper

District Councillors Report

I would like to start by expressing my appreciation of Cameley Parish Councils support during this last year which has been a big year for me as leader of the Council. Before going on I would like to give special mention to Kate Atkinson for her sterling work as chair for the past few years and wish her luck in her new role with the village hall.

My first year was certainly a baptism of fire starting with having to find further cuts in the budget, facing calls for a mayoral referendum which I was pleased to see was rejected by 80% of those who voted.

As you may be aware that I have been heavily involved in talks about a Joint Spatial Plan involving all four local Councils and how we are trying to steer progress to urban areas with the infrastructure already in place and for this Devolution should help us.

After many months of negotiations between Government and the four West of England authorities - comprising of B&NES, North Somerset, Bristol and South Gloucestershire - a draft deal has been secured which, if approved by councillors, would devolve significant powers and funding from Westminster to our local area. The aim being to unlock an extra £30 million a year of Government investment in the West of England, funding that could support the delivery of much-needed infrastructure improvements for our local area. Importantly, this funding is not ring-fenced. It would be free for us to spend on local priorities - such as improving transport, delivering more affordable housing, upgrading broadband connections, or improving local flood defences. This

funding is also just the tip of the iceberg – an additional transport budget would also be handed down to our local area, and it would also put us at the forefront of accessing further Government investment. However, this deal is about far more than just money. It is also about the ability to take more decisions at the local level, rather than by officials in Whitehall. For example, it would give us greater control over public transport, allowing us to franchise local bus services and making it easier to introduce a West of England-wide Smartcard system. Importantly though, this would not mean the recreation of Avon. I would never countenance such a move. Not a single power or responsibility currently exercised by B&NES would be handed over to the regional mayor; these proposals are solely about handing powers down from Westminster, not up from our local council. There are safeguards in place to protect the absolute autonomy of each of the authorities within the partnership and all the services currently delivered by B&NES would remain our responsibility, and all our assets would be protected. Negotiations are on-going. Finally I would like to thank those present for listening to me and hope that together we can move forward.

Tim Warren

Cameley Playing Field

Report from Village Hall Committee (VHCtte) for period 01/04/2015 to 31/03/2016

As in previous years the VHCtte administered the playing field and changing rooms on behalf of the Parish Council. The field has been available as a recreation ground and playing field throughout the year. Rental Income has been received from the Junior and Senior football teams. In addition members of the senior team carried out work in the changing rooms, football pitches and adjoining areas.

Also, as in previous years, the costs of administering the Playing Field were more than the income received.

In February 2016 the Parish Council turned down the VHCtte's request for funding to contribute to their running costs. As a consequence the VHCtte had no option but to issue detailed invoices to the Parish Council for in date years to re-imburse the VHCtte for expenses incurred on behalf of the Parish Council.

For 2015/16 these expenses were just under £160 and for earlier years totalled £1466.

Kate Atkinson

Temple Cloud Village Hall

Report for period 01/04/2015 to 31/03/2016 for Annual Parish Meeting.

Temple Cloud Village Hall Project Committee is a registered charity and operates in accordance with its trust deed, charity commission rules and general and charity law. During the year the Village Hall Project Ctte continued to provide a safe, warm and welcoming meeting space for various groups and individual bookings at a modest hourly cost, kept in line with other local halls. Of note are the weekly baby clinics provided by Sirona, popular Pilates classes and use by local groups such as Coffee mornings, regular Bingo sessions and WI.

The Big Blue Bus parks in the car park to provide another play and meeting space to local parents and young children; during this year Chew Valley Children's Centre moved their toddler group to the school in the hope of attracting more attendees.

The school has use of the hall and provides a contribution to hall running costs, while Temple Cloud in Bloom maintain and beautify the areas around the car park in exchange for their use of the village hall. We would like to thank the volunteers for their hard work as the car park surrounds have been much improved by their efforts.

The Parish Council have used the hall for their regular monthly meetings, coffee morning, and other meetings such as those discussing planning issues, exhibitions and Neighbourhood Plans on an unpaid basis for many years. When the P.C. turned down the VHCtte's funding request in February the VHCtte was informed that a charity should not subsidise a public authority, so the VHCtte invoiced the PC for their use of the VH.

This was done in early March 2016 for past years and last week for the financial year 2015/16.

During the year outside lights were added to make exiting the hall in the dark safer. Plans are in hand to add lobby doors, however these are dependent on a capital grant being made available.

Work was started on repairing the potholes in the car park during the year and will continue during the current year. Materials are being supplied by **Oakus** and the VHCtte would like to put on record our thanks to this successful local business for supporting the community in this way. To ensure the safety of the public and to prevent damage to the car park, particularly by 'boy racers' at night, the VHCtte has closed the car park when not in use by renters of the hall. This move was discussed with the local police team, the school, and hall renters, all of whom understand the situation and the reason for this action, and have been very supportive.

At the AGM in September the Treasurer and the Secretary, Naomi Wear & Nigel Scutt, resigned. The VHCtte is very grateful for all their hard work over the years. There were additional volunteers to join the ctte and we are hopeful that with a rigorous policy of ensuring value for money in costs incurred and accurate timely invoicing, where needed, we should be approaching a 'break even' position on running costs. This is in line with nearly all Community Halls where halls are asset rich and cash poor. The delay in granting planning permission for the TIL development has meant a loss of £80k for the V.H. intended to complete the side area. As a consequence capital improvements are dependent on outside grant sources, this year the ctte is looking to replace some tables showing signs of wear and install a noise limiter to reduce the nuisance value of late night functions, and will be looking for grants. In particular over the next couple of years replacing the hall floor will be a priority. The hall is fully licensed for live and recorded entertainment, and alcohol consumption and sales so there is potential to increase revenues by additional party bookings and the ctte are looking for potential hirers to run events such as health improvement classes.

Kate Atkinson

A Report on TEMPLE CLOUD in BLOOM

Temple Cloud in Bloom began in 2014 and we decided to enter the In Bloom competition. First year we won Silver Gilt and last year we won Gold. This year we are taking a break from competition to devote all our efforts in to making the village look good without the hard work of a competition to enter.

At the beginning of last year we created the crescent shaped verge by the Square where we planted (in the pouring rain) 3 dwarf flowering cherry trees and then lots of colourful plants.

Then we managed to get the rusty old bollards replaced with sparkling new ones and also the leaning and rusty Manchester bollards by the pelican crossing and rusty litter bins were also replaced.

We cleared the overgrown verge at the side of the village hall car park and planted apple trees and flowers.

We've cleared the overgrown bushes at the back of the Wells bus stop and beside the entrance making it easier to get into and out of.

We painted the bench but it is still in need of an additional plank on the seat.

Then we turned our attention to the doctor's surgery, we cleared all the weeds along the wall and painted the railings a shiny black.

Smartened up the wall around the pub by planting pretty flowers.

We hold a plant fair each spring and last year had a stall at the Cholwell Dog Show and the Clutton Village Show.

We were featured in the Clutton & Temple Cloud calendar for June.

We also help tidy the turning circle at the school and help the gardening club if/when asked. We cleaned up the Finger post on the village green and cleaned and painted the wooden bus shelter. We also decorated it with bunting and placed a hanging basket on it.

We have begun a new flower border at the southern entrance to the village and are gradually removing the plants from the pub car park border and replanting them in the new border.

We were very impressed that so many gardens in the village seemed to be joining in with In Bloom and we decided that we would hold a Village Competition this year in July. We will shortly be delivering entry forms to every home in the village. There are 4 categories and there will be trophies for winners and runner up prizes too. Please enter – it wouldn't be a competition without competitors. We are very fortunate that Mary Paine MBE has agreed to judge the entries and we will hold an evening prize giving in the village with lots of cake.

Not only do we plant flowers and arrange for new street furniture to be installed but we also litter pick, sweep the pavements, weed the edges of the pavements and clean street signs. It is all in an effort to make this village as presentable as it can be. There are only a few of us but we do what we can. Any help you can offer would be brilliant. So, if you know of an eyesore in the village, don't keep it to yourself and don't ignore it, either do something about it or report it to the PC who should be able to do something about it.

Sandra Blair