

DRAFT

The Lee Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting

Parish Hall on Tuesday 22nd May 2018 at 7.30pm

Parish Councillors present:

- Colin Sully (Chair)
- D. Chinnery
- R. Fowler
- C. Little
- S. Morris
- C. Perry
- A. Weir

Also present: Jo Jordan – Acting parish clerk
CDC District Councillor – Nick Rose (part)
BCC Councillor – Tricia Birchley (part)
42 members of the public
5 invited speakers – details below in Minutes.

1. There were no apologies for absence.
2. The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 23rd May 2017 were approved.
3. Cllr Sully welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave details of the Parish Council membership, which had remained the same as the previous year. Cllr Sully felt that this is giving the parish some stability and experience to carry forward. There had however, been a change of parish clerk and our new parish clerk (Hayley Farrelly) will start work this week.

Cllr Sully informed the meeting that the Jubilee Well in Oxford St is presently being refurbished and will be completed around the end of this month. The Parish Council are also exploring the replacement/refurbishment of the children's fort in the playground and have applied for a grant for this work from the HS2 Community and Environment Fund.

Cllr Sully described the Parish Council role in the Planning Process and also advised that CDC is reviewing the Local Plan, which Cllr Rose confirmed is due for consultation by the end of the year.

Cllr Sully reported that the Parish Council had responded to the Secretary of State's consultation on the form of Unitary Authority in Buckinghamshire and that it had supported the proposal for two authorities to cover Buckinghamshire.

There were some general questions from the public.

4. Presentations were made by Dr Melanie Atkins (Chair of Governors, Lee Common C of E School) and Alison Siddle (Chair of Trustees, Leaside Pre-School) regarding future provision of nursery/pre-school education in The Lee.

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Following the presentations there was a lively discussion of some length with members of the public. Many speakers stressed the value of both establishments for the area as a whole, for parents and for children. However, it was also recognised that external factors, such as birth-rates and apprehension over the impact of HS2 on local travel, were clearly affecting all local schools and that both local establishments faced serious challenges in the period ahead.

Cllr Sully thanked Melanie and Alison for their inputs.

5. HS2 presentations were given by:

- (a) Vernon Loo – HS2 Ltd – Community Engagement Manager.
- (b) Chris James – Eiffage Kier – Community Engagement Manager
- (c) Charlotte Hughes – Fusion JV – Community Engagement Manager

Each of these three people gave an up-to-date presentation of their particular role and works in the development of HS2 in our area. All the information provided will be sent to the Parish Council and the Chairman agreed to put this information on to the Parish Forum and the Lee Parish Council website as soon as possible. The Chairman will also present a summary in the July Newsletter.

Several matters were raised by the public, including whether HS2 Ltd will consider local views on the design and development of HS2 in our area of Green Belt and AONB. It was felt that there is no mechanism for local views to be put to HS2 Ltd once the outline designs have been provided. Vernon Loo agreed to feed our concerns about this to HS2 Ltd and report back to Cllr Sully.

Cllr Sully advised that there will be future meetings between the companies concerned and the parish once further details are available.

Again the Chairman thanked the speakers and expressed the hope that this might be the start of a useful relationship.

6. The Chairman advised that the next Drop-In for the Parish Council will be at the Flower Show on 21st July 2018 where all will be welcome.

The Chairman thanked all the presenters for their input and the large number of local residents who had attended.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 10.05pm.

Chairman

Date

Jo Jordan
Acting Parish Clerk