

HUNTS GROVE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

(A meeting of the electorate)

HELD AT HUNTS GROVE PRIMARY ACADEMY

ON MONDAY 16th MAY 2022 at 6.00pm

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS FROM COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Cllr Mark Ryder welcomed 10 residents to the meeting and introduced the guest speakers: County Councillor Stephen Davies, District Councillor Gill Oxley, Glenn Philcox Head teacher at Hunts Grove Primary Academy, Tim Fletcher from Sportily.

2. TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT INCLUDING FINANCES FOR 2021/22

Cllr Ryder gave his report, which is available on the parish council website at [Chairman's Report online](#)

- Introduced the council team.
- Three main themes emerged in 2021: Represent residents, one Hunts Grove and eliminate service charges, vibrant Hunts Grove.
- Forging relationships with other organisations involved in Hunt Grove.
- Community minded.
- 2021 priorities outlined.
- Council work in 2021.
- New website.
- Community events: Queen's Platinum Jubilee.
- Phase 1 Adoption of public spaces.
- Budget 2022-23.
- Development of village: Planning Hot Topics included missed thresholds, provision of amenities, and highways issues.
- Hunts Grove Master Plan: highlighted some key developments.
- Allotments: 55 plots near old farmhouse with 32 parking spaces. New application submitted to split the allotments and move 40% of the plots to a site across the motorway.
- Community building – currently a delay due to cost and new decision awaited by Stroud DC.
- Sports pitches overview.
- Neighbourhood Centre: Gloucestershire Highways has objected to the plans due to the proximity of A38 and new junction. The Parish Council have been discussing moving the Neighbourhood Centre back to the centre of the village (land south of Haresfield Lane) – Crest not agreeable at this time.
- A38 new junction: work starts summer 2022 and will take 12 months to complete.
- Farmhouse Triangle Planning Consultation: new application to consider.

3. HUNTS GROVE PRIMARY ACADEMY

Mr Glenn Philcox addressed the meeting. School remained mostly open throughout the Covid-19 pandemic and all school activities have resumed. The school is growing with 295 children on roll at the moment, including pre-school.

The school is a two form entry and there is some capacity in Reception but full in the other years. The school took part in the lantern parade to switch on the Gloucester Christmas lights. Year 6 won the mock trial event run by the Magistrates Service.

4. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

County Councillor Stephen Davies gave a report. The theme of the County Council budget is Build Back Better, with an increase of £37million on last year's budget. Each councillor is allocated £30k towards local highways schemes. Despite the increase, Gloucestershire County Council remains one of the lowest council tax counties in the country.

There are two schemes for supporting Ukrainian refugees, a local Gloucestershire scheme and the national scheme.

We are now living with Covid, but occasionally seeing some disruption in services.

The County Council is planning to provide extra school capacity for 2023 as there is a forecasted population bulge.

Gloucestershire County Council has launched a speed watch scheme to encourage "20 is plenty" and the Council is looking to adopt a residential 20mph limit as policy.

District Councillor Gill Oxley addressed the meeting, she is one of three district councillors for the Hardwicke Ward. Cllr Oxley offered congratulations to the parish council for all the work carried out and achievements in the first year.

5. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM ANY LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS

Tim Fletcher from Sportily updated the meeting on the activities of Sportily. They run Friday night community basketball session 10-16 year olds and a youth hangout session on Tuesday evenings for teenagers.

Sportily run in different areas around Gloucestershire and works closely with the churches and local communities.

6. TO RECEIVE QUESTIONS OR ISSUES RAISED FROM RESIDENTS OF HUNTS GROVE.

Q: Timescale for delivery of community facilities?

A: Nothing legally to compel the developers to deliver although the parish council is continually pursuing delivery and is looking at any options to move things forward. Community building has a cost cap, but to ensure that the building is multi-purpose and self-sustaining it may require additional funds to build, the council is exploring options.

Q: Will the abolishment of the management company happen soon?

A: The parish council has a legal team looking at this. The council wants to takeover from the Management Company to provide more equality across the village. The Service Charges paid by residents is admin fee as they are not yet managing any public areas.

Residents were urged to complete any consultations, petitions etc to make their views known.

Meeting closed at 7pm.