

Little Brook Ward Meeting

Held on Monday, 29th January at 7.30pm in Evenley Village Hall

Present

Evenley Parish Council

Cllr Mike Baul
Cllr Spencer Burnham
Cllr Jean Morgan
Cllr Jeff Peyton-Bruhl
Cllr Charles Reader
Cathy Knott (Clerk)

Croughton Parish Council

Cllr Jean Coles
Cllr Penny Forbes (Chair)
Cllr Chris Fox
Cllr Pamela Gelder
Cllr Brian Tomlin
Mrs Ann Le Druillenec (Clerk)

Aynho Parish Council

Cllr Andy Anderson
Cllr David Dean
Cllr Stephen Brook (Chair)
Cllr Leslie Leighton

Cllr Rebecca Breese, NCC

Cllr John Townsend, SNC

Lt Col James Roche, Deputy Commander for the 422 Air Base Group

Sqn Leader Paul Atherton, Commander for RAF Croughton

Julie Scott, Community Relations Adviser

Sandy Roche, wife of Lt Col James Roche

1. Welcome and apologies

Cllr Jeff Peyton-Bruhl, vice-chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

Apologies had been received from:

Evenley Parish Council

Cllr Cathy Ellis (Chair)

Croughton Parish Council

Cllr Rodger James
Cllr Mike Tadman

Aynho Parish Council

Cllr Fi Burge
Cllr Jeremy James
Cllr Bob Mann
Cllr Chris Reynolds

2. To Approve the Minutes of the Ward meeting hosted by Croughton Parish Council on 17th July 2017

It was proposed and agreed to approve the Minutes.

3. Matters arising

No matters arising.

4. To receive Reports:

To receive an update from Lt Col James Roche, Deputy Commander RAF Croughton and Sqn Leader Paul Atherton, Commander RAF Croughton

Since the last meeting in July, the infrastructure contract has been delayed and changed which will enable local contractors to carry out work and designs (to begin in May and continue for five years).

Communications with the local resilience forum have started and all interested stakeholders are aware of the work. The whole base falls within Northants county boundary.

During the first construction phase there will be three to four extra HGV movements per hour via the main gate (no different from previous construction projects).

Contractors will be bused in, in order to control security and save time.

During the second phase, the entrance on the A43 will be used, again with three to four extra HGV movements per hour.

Although the land belongs to M.O.D. the US investment is huge. It is thought that there will be an increase of 800 personnel plus their families moving to the area. Ten percent of housing will be supplied on the Base and Caversfield. Ninety percent will be dispersed around Brackley, Bicester and Banbury.

Assurances were given that HGV's will not be allowed to travel through Croughton.

There are opportunities for employment with current vacancies for civilians at the Base.

Cllr Peyton-Bruhl thanked Lt Col Roche and Sqn Leader Atherton for the update and added that it's great news the Base is expanding as it brings more people to the area and is a great opportunity for local businesses.

To receive an update from County Councillor Rebecca Breese, NCC

The last seven to eight months have been very difficult with many consultations advising of proposed cuts. The consultations are now closed with a cabinet meeting imminent. 5,500 individual responses have been received and the situation the county council faces is severe. The cause of this is due in the main to historic underfunding, adult social care (due to an ageing population) and the amount of looked-after children increasing. A decision is expected on 16th March with possible outcomes including a sale of assets (although NCC doesn't have many), a referendum to raise council tax, intervention (inspectors will take over the running of the council and non-statutory organisations would go), or a unitary council.

Regarding the state of Evenley's verges from the recent diversion; Cllr Breese reported that Ian Morris, the portfolio holder, is looking into what they can do to restore them.

Questions/Answers

Regarding concerns around the lack of bus services, this will be dependent on consultation responses. Data and guidance is needed for parish councils to know how much to budget for proposed cuts they may become responsible for.

Cllr Peyton-Bruhl thanked Cllr Breese.

To receive an update from District Councillor John Townsend, SNC

The budget within SNC is currently working compared with the problems of the whole county. A new draft local plan is in process with comments being analysed over the next two months. A draft submission local plan will then be produced and put out to consultation again in late spring. A new local plan is forecast to be available in the middle of 2019.

The area is a hive of activity with a lot of building work going on in Brackley, Towcester, Silverstone, the M1 (with two applications pending for rail freight terminals north of Blisworth) and HS2 work.

Cllr Townsend advised he wouldn't be standing again in the 2019 elections.

Questions/Answers

Concerns around Recycling were allayed. Everything is meticulously separated.

There is an increase in fly-tipping due to new rules in the disposal of rubbish and recycling.

Cllr Peyton-Bruhl thanked Cllr Townsend.

5. Parish Council News

Aynho Parish Council:

A new clerk will be starting next week (Hayley Prinsloo).

Gigaclear have provided a free connection to the village hall.

We will be taking part in an airspace consultation for Oxford Airport which is looking into modernising airspace to ensure airspace is used as efficiently as possible. Consultation details:

<http://www.oxfordairport.co.uk/the-airport/public-consultation-2/>

Aynho formed part of a Channel 4 broadcast this afternoon for Village of the Year.

Croughton Parish Council:

Ongoing traffic problems through the village involving bad driving, speed, HGV's and tractors. The parish council are trying to find ways of managing this better and are open to suggestions.

Evenley Parish Council:

Evenley community were winners of the ACRE Newcomers Best Village competition 2017 and runners-up in the Small village category for 2017.

We achieved an LCAS foundation award in December (through the Local Council Award Scheme).

We are in the process of setting up a roundabout safety campaign due to the amount of accidents on the Evenley roundabout. The council have taken over the speedwatch campaign but are struggling to find volunteers. We have formed a Highways/HS2 committee to apply for Hs2 funding.

New planters have been put at the two entrances into the village and lots of new bulbs have been planted around the village. We have also recently replaced five streetlights.

Cllr Morgan and the clerk attended an Emergency Planning session last week and advised NCC are hoping to sign up every parish in Northants to increase the resilience of communities in emergency situations.

Croughton PC advised they have a plan in place and will send details to the clerk.

Cllr Charles Reader has recently joined the council and we are in the process of co-opting for a further member.

Gigaclear have almost finished installing broadband throughout the village.

We are in the process of purchasing a piece of land from South Northants Homes.

We are awaiting news regarding the boundary between Brackley and Evenley (as part of the community governance review). A report is due to be published on 20th February.

6. To discuss Northamptonshire County Council's proposed cuts including bus services

Already discussed under item 4.

7. Rural Health Network – an idea for discussion – Cllr Andy Anderson from Aynho

The NHS is looking to empower and educate people to take more control of our own health. Cllr Anderson proposes to set up a network to help with defibrillator/CPR training, first aid, community care and transport, etc with the involvement of local GP's and other organisations. Aynho will pilot the scheme.

Cllr Morgan from Evenley advised we have "helping hands" operating in the village which helps out with meals and transport.

Councils agreed that this is a good idea and would like more information.

8. Speed Watch reports and portable VAS devices

Croughton PC asked for advice on portable devices. Aynho PC advised they had three, with a fourth coming soon. They are attached to brackets at certain locations (seek advice from Highways/Police as to where they should be placed).

Swarco have a good range of signs and offer a good service. Data can be retrieved via a connection to a laptop.

Cllr Baul (Evenley PC) advised it was a good idea to have funds put by for maintenance as repairs can be costly.

9. To discuss new data protection regulations effective from 25th May 2018

Cathy (Evenley clerk) is attending a training session in April and Ann (Croughton clerk) is attending training in March. The training will cover the changes and updates being made, the most significant of which is “the right to be forgotten”.

Each council will need to create a “data protection officer” role.

Cllr Brook (Aynho Chair) didn’t think the changes will be too onerous.

10. HS2/Highways report – Cllr Spencer Burnham from Evenley

Brian Sinclair (an Evenley resident and member of the HS2/highways committee) and Cllr Burnham have been attending the HS2 liaison group meetings over the last year. The next one will be on 9th February where Groundwork Ltd will give a presentation and a discussion will be held on the Community and Engagement funds available. Minutes of these meetings can be found on the Evenley village website:

<http://www.evenleypc.org.uk/home/noticeboard/hs2-notice.html>

A new Road Safety Fund is also being made available through Northants County Council.

11. Date of next meeting to be held in Aynho on Monday 23rd July 2018.

The meeting closed at 9.40 pm and refreshments were served.