



Minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting held at 7.34pm on Monday 18th May 2022 at Braywood Memorial Hall

Present:

Bray Ward:	Cllr S Cross, Cllr K Elvin (Chairman)
Fisheries Ward:	No Councillor present
Holyport Ward:	Cllr L Kneen, Cllr L Walters, Cllr D Wilson
Dedworth Ward:	No Councillor Present
Oakley Green and Fifield Ward:	Cllr N Marsh
Clerk:	Ms. E Cope
RFO:	Mrs S Cook
Speaker:	Mr T Wigley
Members of the public	7

1. Introduction and Welcome by Chairman Ken Elvin.

The Chairman welcomed everyone for attending the meeting.

2. To approve the minutes of the Annual Electors Meeting held on 13th March 2019.

Councillor Elvin requested an amendment to the minutes of the meeting held on 13th March 2019, referencing an article in the Maidenhead Advertiser dated 28th March 2019 "Royal Borough leader Simon Dudley announced the Council will transfer ownership of Jubilee Field to the Parish", noting that to date disappointingly this has not been completed. A copy of the article was available to view, and the amendment was approved.

3. Presentation by Thomas Wigley on Air Quality within the Bray Parish Area, followed by a Q&A session.

Cllr Elvin introduced Tom Wigley, a resident of Windsor, who has completed extensive research on Air Quality within the area. Tom thanked Cllr Elvin and welcomed the Cllrs and residents for their attendance, inviting them to ask questions at the end.

RBWM AQMA recordings, the Bray Parish Interim Air Quality report, produced by Kent University, and information from the World Health Organisation (WHO) all contributed to Tom's research. He noted that surprisingly RBWM currently only record Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) and PM10 particulates at one site (Stafferton Way, Maidenhead).

Compliance for the original RBWM target dates (NO₂) 2005, Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂) 2000 and PM10 2004, have recently with adoption of the Borough Local Plan (BLP) been moved to 2032.

An engaging talk, with feedback from all present. Lively discussion which included lack of adequate public transport systems, increasing traffic levels with continued and further expected gravel extraction along the A308 and from Water Oakley Farm, works which began Spring 2022. Cllr Elvin asked for consideration of up to 160 HGV movements per day over an

expected 10-year period. Widely considered to double during periods when inert materials are brought to site (years 4-7). Cllr Elvin noted that BPC suggestions to move the gravel by conveyor belt over of under the A308 were dismissed.

Tom expressed concerns including the new M4 Smart Motorway, effectively increasing lanes from 6 to 8, potentially increasing further daily movements, and therefore increasing pollution levels.

Residents questioned why respiratory diseases, particularly in young children living or attending school within areas of high concern, seem to remain un-reported.

Tom commented that Maidenhead Great Park have recently filed for a legal challenge of RBWM's Borough Local Plan, along with asking residents to sign their petition asking for RBWM to increase measurements of air polluting and health damaging particulates.

<https://rbwm.moderngov.co.uk/mgEPetitionDisplay.aspx?ID=2163&RPID=8125846&HPID=8125846>

Reporting that RBWM's approved Borough Local Plan commits to building 15,948 new homes, including 2,600 on the green belt land of Maidenhead golf course. Trees and vegetation help to improve air quality but building on the golf course will remove that vital green lung.

Increased road traffic created by the cars of thousands more residents, as well as 10 years of major construction traffic, will make air pollution much worse than it is now. Without proper air pollution measurements, RBWM cannot take appropriate action to improve air quality, and protect the health of the residents it serves.

To conclude no one solution would resolve the issue, however all felt strongly felt that the proposed levels of development to be damaging to residents and future generations.

Cllr Elvin welcomed resident and local farmer William Emmett and invited him to provide an insight into the ongoing gravel extraction at Water Oakley Farm.

William confirmed the physical extraction site to be 100 acres, noting however lower than expected levels of extractable gravel. Extraction is projected to continue until 2030, at which point the site will be returned to agricultural land, with the infill of inert materials.

William also expressed concerns over the lack of regular verge cutting within the Borough, asking BPC for help to encourage RBWM to resume their regular schedules. Highlighting the invasion of non-native species such as Giant Hogweed, which are being actively encouraged by allowing to seed not only along roadways but into gardens and fields.

The Clerk confirmed recent contact with RBWM, as yet no response to our request for an update on cutting schedules.

4. Annual Report presented by Ken Elvin – Chairman Bray Parish Council.

Cllr Elvin reported the imminent retirement of long-standing Clerk Susan Cook, wishing her a well with her future endeavours. Hand over to the new Clerk Esther Cope is well under way. Jennifer Bailey, Assistant Clerk retired in February 2022, her replacement Dawn Hampshire starting 20th May.

Post covid-19 plans are to continue refurbishment of the Bray Fire Engine. Once completed the hope is to loan for display in the Maidenhead Heritage Centre.
Cllr Elvin detailed work completed within the parish, including

5. Open Forum.

Residents were invited to pose questions of the Cllrs and Tom Wigley. Friendly but lively discussion took place, along with a selection of light refreshments were enjoyed by all the end of the meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Unapproved