

## Notes from the Annual Electors Meeting held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2025 at 7:03pm at Bray Village Hall

### Present:

Bray Ward:	Cllr S Eginton, Cllr K Elvin (Chairman), Cllr M Pierce
Fisheries Ward:	None present
Holyport Ward:	Cllr R Tavinor, Cllr D Wilson
Dedworth Ward:	Cllr N Pellew
Oakley Green & Fifield Ward	None present
Speakers:	Mr Ben Crampin, RBWM Flood Risk Manager
Clerk / RFO:	Ms E Cope
Members of the public	10

### Introduction and Welcome by the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting and thanked everyone for taking the time to attend.

### Annual Report presented by the Chairman, Bray Parish Council

The Chairman introduced the Councillors prior to starting his report.

Bray Parish lies south of Maidenhead from Harvest Hill in the west to Dedworth and the Willows in the east. The southern boundary pretty much follows the Drift Road. The Parish comprises some 4,500 dwellings containing approx. 6,500 inhabitants.

The Parish is predominantly rural, changing to urban as you get nearer to Maidenhead.

Development contained in the adopted Borough Local Plan (BLP) will increase the number of dwellings, in the parish, by a further 1500 plus units. In addition, the Golf Course development of a further 1500 homes, although not exactly inside the parish boundary, will impact further on Harvest Hill, the A308 Windsor Road, and the A330 Ascot Road that are within our parish boundary. Bray Parish Council (BPC) has from the very start of the BLP always been concerned about the impact the increased development would have on the road network south of Maidenhead and takes the view that the local infrastructure as it stands will not cope. BPC will continue to raise these concerns at every opportunity. To give BPC some hard facts to back up our concerns we have for some years now monitored on a monthly basis the air quality in the parish with detectors situated at 13 sites. This compares very favourably with the mere 5 sites that RBWM monitor over the whole borough. Our findings can be found on our parish website.,

The function of this report is to give a brief overview of what the parish council does throughout the year.

The tasks fall into two broad categories regular ongoing tasks, and one offs

Regular tasks include grass moving, hedge cutting and planning.

Hedge cutting and grass moving are carried out on a regular basis by out contractors working from long term contracts that are administered by our staff in the Parish Office.

BPC is a statutory consultee on all planning applications in our area and the Planning Committee meets every month to consider and comment on plans received. BPC cannot give planning approval but does give local input into the RBWM planning process.

This year the largest and most controversial application has been the Holyport Studio application which is now on the desk of the Deputy Prime Minister for her adjudication, which is expected towards the end of this month. President Trump, with his latest batch of tariffs on non-US made films, may have some effect on the outcome, but who knows?

One off tasks, undertaken in the past year have included:-

Renewed Allotment path on Bray allotments, repairs to Bray War Memorial, conservation work to the Windsor Road Cemetery wall, upgraded surface to Bray tennis court, new piece of play equipment in the Jubilee Field play area and relined spaces in Bray car parks. Upgraded play equipment in both Aysgarth Park and Springfield Park play areas, refurbished parish notice boards and three "Tommy" statues for our three village halls.

Whilst the parish council does not own or manage the village halls, each hall's managing committee does have a parish council representative on the board.

Jobs for this coming year include:-

Improve the road surface in the Windsor Road Cemetery, planting three native saplings and replacing two litter bins on Holyport Green. It is to be hoped that the new bins will prove to be seagull proof. The Cemetery Chapel will have some electrical work to modernise the system and so conform with the latest regulations and the 61 heritage lamp posts will be surveyed and hopefully repaired although we have some asbestos problems that will need working on.

The parish council hope to adopt the soon to be disconnected phone box adjacent to the Holyport War Memorial and work to the overflow system for Holyport Pond, to remove the frequent flooding issues.

Parish council land continues to be well used with the football club using Gays Lane Field and the Cricket Club Jubilee Field on a regular basis, one off events on parish land have included the following; Bray Fete, Holyport Fair, Horton's Steam Fair replaced Carters on Holyport Green, Lee James Children's Fair and the Paul Archer (no animals) circus are two newish events that are planned to return this summer.

The latest Newsletter is now available in its new A5 colour format. Our thanks go to Jon Davey in the Parish Office for his work on this publication which has been well received by our residents.

The Newsletter is available from the parish office or online. It is our aim to provide every household in the parish with a hard copy of our newsletter delivered to the door, but to do this we will need more delivery volunteers, so if you can deliver some newsletters for us two or three times a year, please contact the parish office. Our thanks go out to our existing volunteers who stepped back up after the problems associated with deliveries during Covid.

Newsletters are also available from boxes located around the parish: The Book Exchange Stroud Farm Road

Windsor Road Chapel Gates, Broome Farm Housing Estate, Oakley Green Nursery and the bus stop opposite Bray Village Hall

This year has seen two new co-opted councillors join BPC. Cllr Mike Parkinson is representing Holyport Ward and Cllr Steve Giddings, Bray Ward and we wish them every success in their new roles.

The parish office is currently looking to recruit a Clerk's Assistant to replace Dawn Hampshire who has moved on to take up a position at the local agricultural college and we thank her for what she achieved while working with us. Dawn looked after the administration of the Cemetery and our two allotment sites together with other duties.

The redundant public telephone box adjacent to the Olde Red Lion public house will soon be converted to house a defibrillator, which will make four in the parish provided by BPC. Our thanks go out to local resident John Pointer who regularly inspects and maintains our defibrillators.

Thank you

Cllr Ken Elvin

#### [Presentation by RBWM Principle Flood Risk Manager, Ben Crampin](#)

The Chairman welcomed Ben to the meeting, inviting him to speak.

Ben advised that he was Flood Risk Manager for RBWM and lead for the Flood Liaison committee. The Teams primary focus is sustainability and climate change.

The Flood risk team includes two other Officers.

The Flood Liaison committee includes regular meetings with all Parish Council's within the Borough and residents affected by flooding.

The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (RBWM) is designated as a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010. This means they have specific duties and powers related to local flood risk, including managing flood risk from surface water, groundwater, and ordinary watercourses. Their responsibilities include maintaining a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy, investigating instances of flooding, and regulating works within ordinary watercourses. Main rivers are managed by the Environment Agency.

The Borough have a duty to maintain, but limited budget for expenditure, they have legal powers for enforcement, improvements to highway drainage, and bid for external funding. The Borough is not responsible for the prevention of flooding, with the exception of RBWM owned/managed infrastructure.

External flooding to property is classed as small-scale investigations. Internal flooding to property, road closures etc. are classed as large-scale investigations.

Residents and community groups are advised to use the online report-it function.

CCTV investigations include Fifield Road, The Fifield Inn, where collapse and other issues have been discovered and advised or acted upon.

There are currently 3 projects to slow water movement, with applications for national funding. Natural management of flooding risk is active.

RBWM is working with the parish council to resolve the flooding issues around Holyport green and the pond.

Residents questions, a lively session with agreement for RBWM, Bray Parish Council and a resident to meet.

#### [Open Forum](#)

The Chairman invited those in attendance to ask questions. As there were no questions those present were invited to partake in the light refreshments provided.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.10pm.