



Cainscross and Ebley Allotments are being well run with the experience and enthusiasm of the Allotment Committees. Cashes Green Allotment has taken some time to get up and running, but with the help of the Community Pay Back Scheme they are starting to really take shape. I am also pleased to announce that Awards 4 All have given us a grant of £10,000 for Cashes Green Allotments to help with things such as compost bins, raised beds, communal sheds and much much more.

Jeni and her team are available during office hours 9am – 1pm Monday to Thursday but remember, they will be relocating to the park in early July. The Councillors who are all volunteers are also available to answer any questions you may have and the office are happy to let you have contact details for your area.

I would like to thank you all for attending this evening, I was going to pass to our Neighbourhood Warden Pete Tiley to tell you a bit about his role at Stroud District Council however he was unable to make it at the last minute.

**PM3/19** **TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM PETE TILEY, NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDEN AT STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Pete Tiley was unable to attend the meeting.

**PM4/19** **TO RECEIVE THE COUNCIL'S OBSERVATIONS ON ITS BUDGET FOR THE CURRENT YEAR**

The Council's budget for the financial year 2019/20 sees a precept request of £215,000 a 2.5 % increase on the previous year. This equates to an increase in a band D property of £1.77 per annum. The Council's general reserves are healthy and in line with the external auditor's recommendations We keep a small amount of earmarked reserves for specific projects and this year we have a slightly larger amount of ear marked reserves due to the Pavilion construction.

We always aim to give value for money and this year have been successful in gaining over 30,000 pounds' worth of grants. We intend to keep applying to different pots of funding to help us keep our precept down.

**PM5/19** **TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

Councillor Jenny Miles explained that she sits on the Planning Committee and is Vice-Chair of District Council. She has been involved with the planning application for the new Lidl store at Avocet Business Park. She feels it to be a good design and although planning has been granted, there is a slight delay as the Environmental Agency have questions in relation to flooding issues that involve the swale.

She mentioned that there will be some applications for home building on some of the garage sites in the District.

She has recently attended a presentation regarding the proposed new Football Stadium at Eastington which will go to planning in June. She has copies of the design and will drop some off to the Clerk at Cainscross Parish Council should anyone wish to take a look.

There are plans to build more social housing and to also work further with Community Land Trusts.

Finally, Jenny explained she has attended two civic events. The first for the Girl Guides AGM and the second the Citizens Advice AGM where Princess Ann was a guest.

**PM6/19** **TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

None in attendance

**PM7/19** **TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS**

Sunnyhill Residents Association – Read by Daphne Dale

I am Daphne Dale, Secretary of Sunnyhill Residents Association, Cashes Green, Stroud.

During the last year, we have enjoyed a huge success interacting with the community. We

have arranged several trips, shows and parties. We arranged trips to Weston Super mare, Warren Farm near Burnham on Sea which is an open air market and car boot, Cardiff City, Burnham itself and two trips to Wellesbourne Market. Ideas were given to us to have a local narrow boat trip called the 'Endeavour'. Therefore, we booked an outing from Ebley to Stonehouse, which was thoroughly enjoyable, seeing all the wildlife. We arranged various evening shows to the Bristol Hippodrome which was well attended and enjoyed by our residents with a fish and chip supper planned before the show. A 1940's tea party was held in the local community centre and again, well supported and everyone joined in with the 'sing-a-long', with a war time theme, even dressing up for the occasion. This was enjoyed by at least 80 residents and their families. October took on our usual event, our members Halloween Fish and Chip supper, with a few surprises! As autumn drew to a close, we arranged the Christmas Party in the Community Centre and I was pleased to say again, well supported. To see the old year out and welcome the new one, we held a dance and ploughman's supper. This year, other trips and events are already planned, please contact me for details. May I take this opportunity to thank everyone for their continued support in one way or another. It is always appreciated.

#### **Ebley Allotments**

The Clerk read the following report from Ebley Allotments;

Our allotments in Ebley are situated in Chapel Lane. There are over 100 plots of various sizes, rented to people of all ages. Most of the time, our waiting list is short and people are allocated a plot quickly. The allotments are often mentioned in the 4 wards magazine which frequently results in enquiries for plots.

The land is owned by the Parish Council and we run it by our own committee as Ebley Allotment Association. Every four years, the Council fix the rate for our tenancy. In the past they have said they are happy with the way we run the site.

Our annual social event is a summer BBQ for allotment members only. This is well attended and usually generates a small profit, which pays for sundries, including petrol for grass cutting. Our own volunteers cut the grass and trim the hedgerow to keep the allotments tidy. If we have excess fresh produce, we donate it to the local Food Bank. Bisley Allotments also take part in the scheme. We have an insulated box, where we leave food which is collected twice a week during the growing season. As far as we know, we are the only Allotments in the country that contribute fresh fruit and vegetables in such a way. We have been doing this for six years and recipients say they greatly appreciate the fresh produce.

Gardening not only cultivates delicious produce but also develops special friendship. There's always plenty of support for the novice gardener from more experienced growers. New plot holders can underestimate the amount of time and effort to manage a plot and if any drop out, it is mainly for this reason.

The climate can also be a huge challenge. We have to think about controlling pests and cultivating the best out of the space available.

The Allotments are somewhere people feel connected to the earth and nature and this generates a feeling of satisfaction and wellbeing. It is also an alternative way of keeping fit and being in the fresh air.

Our Allotments are an important part of many people's lives in Ebley. It is an oasis in this busy world and provides health benefits to body and soul. We appreciate this facility and hope it will remain for generations to come.

#### **Cainscross Allotments**

Steve Moss, Secretary of Cainscross Allotments reported that they have had another excellent year and that the allotments are in a good state. He invited members of the Council to come and look around. He commented that between the Parish Council and the Allotment Association, a new fence has been erected, tidying up the area between the car park and the Allotments. There are usually only a few vacant plots but these are normally snapped up quite

quickly. Steve mentioned that they had recently carried out a controlled bonfire to burn any rubbish that is not compostable. Over all a very good year.

#### **The Woman's Institute**

Doreen Tucker read the following report;

We have enjoyed a variety of talks covering an interesting range of subjects; Swallows, Swifts and Martins, the Wandering Cook, Pearls and Jewellery, a Bookbinding demonstration and the history of the Cotswold Player.

As usual we have had our popular Cheese and Wine evening, complete with a beetle drive. For our birthday in July we went by coach through lovely countryside, to The Suttons WI in Herefordshire for a delicious home cooked supper. Their hall is attached to the local primary school and has a lovely garden where we could walk or sit after the meal.

We had another craft evening in September and enjoyed chatting while we produced some lovely lavender bags, cute broaches from felt, a hat pin-cushion or a knitted small toy penguin. Our competitions were quite well supported throughout the year and it was interesting to see how many people owned lovely pieces of pearl jewellery. At Christmas we put on a lovely spread for our party of ham, cheese, potatoes, salads and lots of yummy puddings; with wine, chocolates and mince pies to finish. We also had a fun quiz and listened to Christmas music. Although membership numbers had a slight dip in 2018, we have been pleased to welcome five new members for 2019.

#### **Cainscross Youth Forum**

The Clerk read the following report from Rachael Hill, SDC Youth Work Officer

My apologies for being unable to make it in person.

As I'm sure you are aware, the Cainscross Youth Forum is one of nine Local Youth Forum Groups that exist across the Stroud District and feed into the Stroud District Youth Council (SDYC), allowing young people to have a voice in their local and wider communities.

Over the past year the Cainscross Youth Forum has gone through several changes with regards to members, as original members moved on to University and for other personal reasons. As such, myself and the continuing members have had a focus on recruitment, and have increased the group membership from one, to a steady group of five young people between the ages of 13 and 17. During their fortnightly sessions this group have been taking part in training covering youth voice; what it means to be a youth representative; group work; and team building. This training has then enabled them to work in partnership with Randwick Scouts in delivering and taking part in a community litter pick through the Cashes Green area on the 18<sup>th</sup> of April 2019. Strong links with the Cashes Green Community Centre, where the group meets fortnightly, also helped to make the event possible.

Alongside the community litter pick the youth forum decided to expand on their role as youth voice representatives and have launched a survey asking young people who live in the parish how they feel about their locality, what they like, and what they would change. The results from this survey will help the forum to develop their next community project based on young people's feedback. There are currently paper copies of the survey available, and digital copies will be sent out via social media to schools and other groups and organisations around the area. If you would like to receive a copy of the survey please get in touch with Rachael Hill, SDC Youth Work Officer.

Moving forwards the youth forum is still open to any new members, the optimum size for a youth forum group is 8 to 10 Young People. They have also recently done their SDYC elections and are pleased to announce that they have two voting and two deputy representatives from the group that will join the SDYC monthly meetings and represent the views of young people in Cainscross Parish. They are also planning a drive around the Parish with the Neighbourhood Warden to help them better connect with parts of the Parish they have spent less time in.

If you know a young person who would be interested in joining the Youth Forum, or if you would like any further information about Stroud District Council's Local Youth Forum Groups or Stroud District Youth Council, please feel free to get in touch.

**PM8/19**

**TO CONSIDER ANY RESOLUTIONS OF WHICH WRITTEN NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

None

**PM9/19**

**TO CONSIDER ANY ITEMS RAISED BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

A member of the public raised concerns regarding damage being done to the card /paper recycling boxes. He explained that his box was frequently damaged and he had asked the recycling crew why this is. It was explained that to get the wet paper / card out of the boxes, they had to bang them on the lorries hence they are often damaged. He was further perturbed that he then had to pay for a replacement. The Clerk agreed that this has been an issue which she has addressed with District Council. They have now agreed that recycling boxes can be picked up free of charge from the Council but if delivered there will still be a charge. Councillor Novoth felt that if the boxes were getting broken by the operatives, then they appear not to be fit for purpose. It was agreed the Clerk will write to the District Council regarding this issue.

The member of the public then raised concerns regarding the highway adoption of Bridgmead. He explained that they have been trying to get it adopted for 12 years to no avail. The Clerk agreed to contact Highways.

Another member of the public commented that there was a very disappointing attendance this year. The Clerk agreed that it was not as good as usual but informed him that eight out of the present ten Parish Councillors were in attendance and things had not been helped by the speaker letting us down at the last minute.

Commented [JM1]:

The meeting closed at 7.40pm

Signed

Dated