

Parish Conference 22nd Feb 2017.

Items of interest.

There were several items on the agenda but I am only picking out the ones I thought were especially relevant to us.

1. The first item was about the poor response times and general lack of communication from RBWM when parishes have sent in emails or phone calls about issues residents have raised. It was agreed that procedures will change so that RBWM will send a response with a named contact within a week and give some indication of the expected time frame for an answer. This will be revisited at the next meeting in June.

Planning has been the area with most complaints. It is a very complex area in the Borough (why especially here?) Most authorities would deal with planning with half or one full time member of staff (that's what he said) but we have several. Spend in this area has been significantly increased.

The dedicated PC phone line has not been used much. 230 calls in 12 months, average wait 38 seconds, 5.2% abandon the call.

A new contact sheet was handed out but unfortunately someone picked mine up so I cannot pass it on to you.

This first item was then underscored by a presentation by Ken Elvin, which had been agreed beforehand as an agenda item but was not on the agenda.

2. There was a discussion about the progress of the parishes with their Neighbourhood plans. John was able to give feedback to the other parishes that there is only a little wriggle room if the Inspector kicks out something that is in their plan.

3. Jennifer Jackson gave a presentation on the Local Plan and its related Infrastructure Delivery Plan which seems to be taking up an awful lot Planning's time.

The first stage consultation on the new Local Plan has been done. They are now reviewing the comments from that.

In order to progress onto the second stage Regulation 19 consultation they must have made an Infrastructure Delivery Plan. This involves assessing which resources we already have, what will be needed and making a delivery plan for the difference. This may involve working with other agencies such as Thames Water which can be difficult due to different planning timeframes. For example the development of Maidenhead Golf Course with 2000 homes will generate the need for 1 or possibly 2 Junior Schools, maybe a Senior School, Healthcentre, Community Centre, Open Space etc. as well as sewage, water, gas, electric, broadband, roads.