



Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 26th April 2018 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall, Upper Boddington.

Present: Councillors Dennis Burton (Chairman), Joseph Street, Graham Dixon, Sally Jones and Pat Stewart, Officers Dr Malcolm Stewart, RFO.

Friends of Boddington – Mr Philip Freer

Also present: 22 members of the public.

Apologies received from:

Parish Councillors: Larry Gane, Jolyon New and Garry Willians

South Northamptonshire Council – Councillor Rosie Herring and Mary-Anne Sergison-Brooke

1. Introduction and Welcome

Cllr Dennis Burton welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the Councillors who were present.

2. Approval of minutes

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 18th May 2017 were approved and signed

3. Report of the Chairman on the activities of the Parish Council

Cllr Burton's Report is attached.

4. Invite County Councillor, District Councillors, Local Police, if present to report on matters relevant to Boddington Parish

County Councillor Ian Morris was expected but unable to attend. His report is attached

5. Invite a representative of Friends of Boddington to report on the group's activities

The report of Mr Philip Freer's Chairman of Friends of Boddington is attached

6. Open Forum – Informal session to allow parishioners and councillors to raise local issues and to get feedback from parishioners

A parishioner commented that they were pleased that the Council were supportive of the "Battles Over" event in November 2018, however if a beacon was to be lit could it please be lit on the Buckle or somewhere else between the two villages.

A parishioner commented that they had read the Friends of Jubilee Field share offer and asked who in the event that the land was subsequently sold at a profit would benefit as the shareholders could only ever have their investment returned. This is not a Parish council initiative and nobody present could provide a definitive answer other than to suggest the local community.

Discussion then took place on the Parish councils intentions with regard to the disposal in whole or in part of the Jubilee Field. The Chairman informed everyone that the PC's position was in the parish plan and that any disposal of the Jubilee Field would be for the benefit of the parish as a whole. A task force was currently looking into the various options but that was hampered by the disappearance of the file relating to the fields purchase.

A discussion also took place on the state of the roads and potholes. Parishioners were reminded to use street doctor to report potholes and the more people who did so the more likely remedial action would take place. It was also noted that NCC has financial difficulties and consequently the response from highways may not be as prompt as desired.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 8:45 p.m.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

DRAFT

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

26TH APRIL 2018

Chairman's Report

It has been a very busy time in the Parish since I reported to you in May 2017.

Some of you may already be aware that our Clerk, Ann Morton, resigned 3 months ago and completed her 3 month notice period earlier this week. I would like to thank Ann for her contribution to the Parish Council during her time with us.

We have been able to recruit a replacement for Ann during her notice period. I am pleased to inform you that Mrs Deborah Sanghera will be joining us on 1st May. We will be without a Clerk for 10 days, however, Cllr Pat Stewart has kindly offered to cover the work until Deborah commences her employment next week.

Two members of the Parish Council resigned during the last year. Mike Wakelin had served the Parish for over 10 years including 2 stints as Chairman. Olivia Davies also resigned. I would like to thank both for their contributions to the Parish Council and their community. Two new councilors were elected in their place. Sally Jones and Graham Dixon. They are both finding their feet and becoming increasingly involved with the Parish Council.

I am very pleased to announce the publication of the Boddington Parish Plan.

It is available to download from the Parish Council website. Alternatively, hard copies are available to borrow from the Clerk.

The Plan document sets out the Parish Council's developing strategy and action plans on areas including community, facilities and leisure, housing, traffic and road safety and green and open spaces. The conclusions, strategy and action plans are informed and shaped by the results of the Parish Plan Questionnaire which are included in full in the document.

The Parish Plan is, and will remain, a work in progress, evolving through experience and continued consultation with you, the Parishioners of Boddington.

I would like to thank Dr Malcolm Stewart for his outstanding effort in collating comprehensive background information on the Parish, the questionnaire results and our strategy and plans into this single document.

As a direct result of the Parish plan, and the discussions which have taken place during and since its completion, a number of projects are already under way.

The Village Hall Committee have started running a monthly film night for adults and more latterly a junior film club on Sunday afternoons. Both have proved to be a great success. The VHC have invested in a state of the art projection and sound system.

The installation of play equipment in Lower Boddington was identified in the Parish Plan questionnaire as a popular choice. After much discussion and investigation, this is getting closer to becoming a reality.

The Community Facilities and Leisure group have worked tirelessly visiting numerous playgrounds to help produce a vision for the further development of the CCPF. The first part of the project is to replace the existing play equipment. A substantial grant has been applied for from the Community enhancement fund from HS2. We hope to hear whether this bid has been successful quite soon.

We have recognized for some time that we needed to improve communication within the village. The Parish website has been updated and continues to be developed. However there remain a number of

parishioners who prefer to receive information through their letterboxes. The B&W has been with us for many years. It has a limited scope in its present form. So rather than replace it, a newsletter known as the Boddington Bugle has been commissioned by the VHC supported by the PC. It has an editorial group led by Mr. Steve Blundered and will initially be a quarterly production. However, depending on the support, it may well become a monthly production. The first edition will be delivered to all Parishioner's homes before the end of April.

I would like to thank Barbara Hornby for her many years work as editor of the B&W.

Our local roads remain in a shocking state of repair, made worse this winter by the exceptional bad weather. I would like to thank our local 'Snow Clearers' who made an excellent job of keeping our local roads passable.

As you are aware, Friends of Boddington represent the Parish on the HS2 Liason group. A Road Safety fund is available to communities affected by HS2 traffic to improve local road safety. Philip Freer and I have met with highways representatives to discuss our local needs. Philip will no doubt update the news on progress with this in his report.

We have also met different representatives of highways to discuss a safer entry into the Village Hall from Townsend lane. We are waiting to hear further on this matter.

Northampton County Council are responsible for the protection and maintenance of public rights of way. The Parish Council has written to land owners in the Parish whose land has a public right of way to remind them of their responsibilities.

However, in advance of receiving a letter, I am pleased to inform you that the owner of the field at the bottom of Townsend Lane near the beginning of the Millenium Way, has restored the footpath to its previous width. By doing so has improved not only the safety for walkers using this footpath, but also the popularity. We thank her for this.

The Parish Council have purchased the redundant telephone kiosk in Lower Boddington for the princely sum of £1. We will be supplied with a quantity of red paint and replacement Perspex windows to refurbish it, once the existing equipment has been removed. We will then require volunteers for this work. Once completed, it is possible that this could house a defibrillator.

Cllr Pat Stewart has been working with EON with regard to the upgrade of our Parish street lighting. A survey has been completed which identified a number of street lamp posts which are nearing the end of their lives. The orange street lamps are nearing the end of their lives and will no longer be manufactured after the end of 2019. A sample LED will be installed in Frog Lane and we welcome Parishioners comments on it. We will endeavour to ensure that a sympathetically warm white light is used. LEDs will cost a great deal less to run, their installation is guaranteed for 1 year and the actual bulbs carry a 10 year manufacturers guarantee.

The Parish Council has earmarked funds in the reserves for lighting this year and will continue to do so. The cost of replacing the current street lighting is a significant 5 figure sum.

During the last 12 months a group of Parishioners known as the Friends of the Jubilee field, applied to South Northants Council, for the Jubilee Field to be designated as an Asset of Community Value. The Parish Council objected because the field was already owned by the community. The Parish Council believes that as the whole Parish pays for the field, it should have a say in its future. Nethertheless, SNC felt that they had to register the land as an Asset of Community Value. The Parish Council discussed whether it would appeal. It decided not to, despite having solid grounds for an appeal, as this was not the best use of public funds.

In December 2017, the Parish Council wrote to SNC, giving formal notice under the Localism Act 2012, of its intention to 'dispose' of the Jubilee Field in whole or part. This triggered a 6 month moratorium, during which time the Jubilee Field could not be disposed of other than to the Friends of the Jubilee Field.

I believe that FOJF have issued a Share issue document in order to raise funds for this purpose. I am not going to comment on that document other than to say that the PC has a duty to obtain Fair Value for any disposal of the field.

The FOJF also say that they "continue to seek a meeting with the Parish Council to explore these important questions, but have been rebuffed". Myself and Cllr Larry Gane did in fact have an informal meeting with 2 representatives of the FOJF at the end of 2017. We were unable to answer certain questions at the time or organize a further meeting for reasons they well know.

Parishioners must understand that a Parish Council is the lowest tier of government and no group can just meet with the PC any more than they can meet with SNC or even the House of Commons. Furthermore they cannot meet with the full Council to negotiate. The PC had offered for representatives of the PC to meet with the FoJF if they provided an Agenda of what they want to discuss. But any decisions must be referred back to the full PC and Councilors must be given proper notice and time to consider and debate before taking a vote. That meeting did take place as mentioned previously. That is how our democracy works and this Council has endeavored to be transparent in the way it conducts business. Furthermore the PC members serve the whole parish and have to be fair and impartial and cannot give any potential buyer a preference.

The Parish Councils position on the Jubilee Field is set out in the Parish Plan. The Parish Council have also formed a working group whose task it is to gather information in order that the Council can fully investigate the potential sale of the Jubilee field in part or whole. Valuations will need to be done along with a housing needs survey.

Unfortunately, a major sticking point is the Conveyancing document from 2011. It is very difficult to interpret, and we are awaiting legal advice. It is not helped by the fact that supporting documents and contemporaneous notes from the transaction appear to be missing. Only then will the Council make a final decision as to whether it will sell or keep all or part of the Jubilee Field.

It would not have escaped your notice that the Precept has been increased by 16% by the Parish Council with SNC approval. This is the third double digit rise in as many years. We aim to redress our previously poor financial position by earmarking funds for projects mentioned above and highlighted in the Parish Plan.

Finally, 2 weeks ago, a meeting was held here organized by the Friends of Boddington. Present were members representing HS2, Fusion and Effiage Kier. The meeting was Chaired by me. I am pleased to say that 80 residents from both villages attended the meeting. I will now pass you over to Philip Freer, Chairman of Friends of Boddington, who will update us on the current position, and will be pleased to answer your questions in the Open Forum session.

Thank you for your patience and continued support.

Annual Report to Parish Council – provided by Cllr Ian Morris

NCC Budget and Inspection

The County Council underwent a Best Value Inspection examining the financial management arrangements in place at the request of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Right Honourable Sajid Javid. The Government's Inspector Max Caller, identified a number of areas that required improvement and found the County Council to be failing in its Best Value Duty.

The County Council has for a long time been under severe pressure from the growth in population and the costs of social care that have been increasing year on year. Northamptonshire has one of the lowest Council Tax Rates of any county and an historically low level of reserves.

As a Council we have always ensured that the most vulnerable in society are protected. Almost two-thirds of what we spend each year goes on social care to support vulnerable children and adults. This is a national issue but with the county council having historically low reserves and income, the transformation and savings that were required to deliver a sustainable budget position in many ways overtook us. The National Audit Office has recently backed up our view that social care is underfunded, with estimates of £2BN being cited. The Government has recently announced its intention to publish a Green Paper on the future of social care by the summer. It will be interesting to see if they set out any intention to address this significant national issue.

The previous Leader Councillor Heather Smith has resigned and Councillor Matt Golby has been elected as the new leader. Cllr Golby has acted quickly to acknowledge our failures to provide Best Value and has written to the Secretary of State setting out our intention to comply fully with the Commissioners he is likely to appoint to oversee the governance and decision making at the County Council. Matt has also announced a new Cabinet and as a leadership group Cabinet is committed to exploring every avenue available to protect our services and stabilise our budget position.

Unitary Council

The recent inspection of NCC had a key recommendation. That is reorganisation of local government into two unitary authorities. What this means is in effect all 8 councils in the county being dissolved and replaced with two new councils which would provide all services currently split across county council and district and borough councils responsibility.

The County Council has for some time wanted to see a removal of a tier of local government. The vital role of parish councils will continue but you would only be dealing with one tier council above rather than two.

The County Council wants to be a willing partner in the discussions that will ultimately lead to a proposal submitted to the Secretary of State. We want local communities to have their voice heard and be able to feed into the work on unitary councils. We believe that residents and central government alike want to see efficient and cost effective services. Local Government Reorganisation can help deliver these outcomes and help safeguard local public services in the county for the future.

Libraries

The response to our latest budget consultation was phenomenal, the largest ever. It is fair to say that the majority of feedback was provided on the various proposals for the library service. In running any business one must look at all areas if reducing expenditure is required. What was clear was the high regard and value our residents place on these facilities. The traditional model of libraries as a place to borrow books or read the newspaper is long gone. There are so many other important services provided from our libraries that it was easy to understand why the public were so concerned. Cabinet and Members shared that view and rejected the option to close all but 8 libraries.

We announced plans for a Libraries Strategy. The strategy will be developed over the next three months, with all libraries in the county remaining open until August 31st 2018. Community groups and parishes

who wish to establish an independent library will have until the end of May to submit a formal expression of interest to purchase or take on the leasehold for their local library. Individual project plans, including timetables for implementation and business plans to demonstrate affordability, will be worked up for each proposed independent library.

For viable project plans, libraries will continue to be staffed until September 30th 2018 enabling the sale or transfer of lease for the building to be completed. In cases where no formal expression of interest is received, staffing would be removed by August 31st. We encourage any parish with an interest in finding out more or helping to support a local library develop a proposal to contact us.

Positive News

With all the headlines on our budget position, we often forget all the vital work that goes on in the County. Our staff are fully committed to providing the best possible services to communities and residents, a feature noted by the Inspector.

Shared Lives

Despite our adult social care service being highly pressurised, the Council Council's Shared Lives service has recently won national recognition as best practice. The Care Quality Commission found the service which provides long and short-term support in a family home environment for adults with disabilities to be 'outstanding' in January this year.

Jeremy Hunt, the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care wrote to the County Council to express this thanks. Mr Hunt said "From visiting organisations throughout the country, I know that the immense amount of hard work that will have been behind this outcome cannot be underestimated. It is greatly appreciated, not just by me, but by all who will be benefiting as a result. It should be particularly pleasing to you to have been recognised for your outstanding safety, care and leadership".

Women's Tour

After hosting the Grand Depart of the 2017 Women's Tour, the race returns to the county for the fifth time. This year will see Daventry host a finish for the first time with the stage also including a spectator friendly finishing circuit for the first time, while Rushden makes its debut on the route of the UCI Women's WorldTour event.

The world's top female cyclists, potentially including Northamptonshire sisters Hannah and Alice Barnes of the Canyon//SRAM team will be there. The new route will take in the south of the county, passing through Wollaston, Salcey Forest, Silverstone and Weedon Bec. We see attendance growing every year and always a huge boost for the local economy and people taking to their bikes.

Fostering

We are on target to exceed last year's record 379 children in care successfully placed with foster parents. The role foster parents play in providing a safe and secure home and family environment for some of the most vulnerable children in our county is invaluable. The positive effect this on the personal and emotional wellbeing of children in care is profound. We thank all our foster parents and encourage anyone thinking about becoming a foster carer to contact our Fostering and Adoption Service.

Agency Social Workers

Northamptonshire County Council has reduced its proportion of agency staff from 45% to 29% in the past 12 months, saving a substantial amount of money spent on higher cost social workers.

Agency staff can play a vital role in filling vacant social worker posts but the authority has been working hard to increase its proportion of permanent staff in order to provide better continuity of care for vulnerable children and families. Since January last year, the number of permanent social work staff has

increased from 202 to 248 in December, while the number of agency staff in social work roles has fallen from 210 to 144 over the same period.

The success has been achieved through ongoing recruitment campaigns, including an overseas recruitment programme, as well as a scheme to encourage costly agency staff to convert to permanent social workers. The conversion scheme has seen 34 agency staff become permanent.

The council's Social Work Academy is also having a positive impact on the permanence of the children's services workforce, and is now working with its sixth intake of students. The academy, which launched in October 2014 to recruit the best-quality social workers from universities, offers graduates reduced caseloads, hands-on learning, high levels of support and mentoring, and extensive training and qualification opportunities.

Economy

We have seen the Government announced support for the Oxford-Milton Keynes-Cambridge growth corridor and associated road and rail links, which would be the focus of new housing and economic expansion. The blueprint for the proposal by the National Infrastructure Commission incorporates parts of Northamptonshire. The investment in the roads and rail will help improve journey times and increase capacity but we also want to make sure Northamptonshire is fully included in this initiative that could see significant inward investment. We have a strong local economy with historically the highest employment rate in the East Midlands. This is a hardworking county and we want to ensure it continues to be so in the future.

We have seen great success of the Northamptonshire Growth Hub – which has so far helped more than 4,000 businesses and the County Council's Superfast Northamptonshire programme has so far brought superfast broadband to 68,800 homes and businesses.

A45 Development Link Road

Work on the A45 Daventry Development Link Road, which started in 2016 is progressing well. The road will form a new 3.5mile long single carriageway which will improve transport links between the towns of Northampton and Daventry, and improve access between Daventry and the M1 motorway.

The project will also relieve communities in Flore, Weedon and Upper Heyford of through traffic as well as supporting future growth in the Daventry district. Construction of the scheme is due for completion in the Summer 2018.

Teach Northants

Our Teach Northants campaign has been a huge success in attracting new teachers to the county. This year we have seen 5,000 applications and 2,300 jobs advertised across our 357 schools. There are currently 237 vacancies available in schools across the county. We encourage any promotion of the benefits of a career in teaching in the county that parishes can provide.

Winter service

We saw significant snow fall this winter across Northamptonshire. The gritting teams totally 125 staff from Northamptonshire Highways and Kier WSP worked around the clock to keep key routes open. The Beast from the East saw our vehicles on gritting runs that were the equivalent from Northampton to Rome, with the cumulative runs the equivalent of here to Beijing.

The council will be working hard to repair road surfaces damaged by this particularly hard and wet winter. Nationally, local government estimates it would cost £9BN to bring all carriageways up to standard. We will need to continue to prioritise ad hoc repairs to the criteria we specify but anyone who needs to report a pothole should continue to do so via the Council's Street Doctor website.



Report to the Annual Parish Council Meeting – April 26th. 2018

Congratulations to the current Parish Council for providing effective, efficient and accountable local government for the parish and for planning to deliver the wishes of the residents as identified in the Parish Plan. In the coming years, there are major issues to be addressed for the wellbeing of all residents and for the future development of our Parish. With the vision of the current PC, the village is in safe hands.

The aim of the FoB report is to provide a resume of the past 12 months and to inform you of the present situation, the future plans for the months ahead and an insight into what happens before construction commences in 2019.

Without doubt over the coming years due to the construction of HS2, the residents of Lower and Upper Boddington will face the biggest challenges, disruptions, and inconveniences we can ever imagine.

Since formation in March 2017, Friends of Boddington has proactively worked with HS2 and now Eiffage Kier, the contractors for our sector of HS2, rather than against them for the best interest and outcome for all the residents of Boddington.

FoB has already achieved several wins.

The diverse skill base of Friends of Boddington is impressive and one of the main contributing factors to the successes.

The FoB team is focussed with the following aims:

1. To deliver transparency and keep the Parish Council fully informed of all developments
2. To minimise disruption for residents during and after the construction process
3. To be involved and influence on-going decisions
4. To deliver the best possible outcome for all residents
5. To ensure that the finished development has minimal impact on the landscape

The main issues addressed by FoB over the last 12 months:

- Established an excellent working relationship with HS2 Ltd. Lydia Smith and now Nisha Meyer, Community Engagement Manager HS2, have attended several FoB meetings to discuss our concerns.
- On July 17, the consortium Carrillion Eiffage Kier was appointed the contractor for construction of HS2 in our sector by the Government. Carrillion subsequently went into liquidation leaving Eiffage Kier as the joint contractors. FoB has established a positive relationship with Chris James,

Community Engagement Manager for Eiffage Kier. EK have the responsibility for 80kms of construction from Aylesbury to Southam. This will involve 17 viaducts, 75 bridges, 22 road diversions, 5 green tunnels and 24 million cubic meters of excavation. Chris James has attended the last three FoB meetings.

- Friends of Boddington represents the Parish Council at the Northants HS2 Liaison Group meetings held quarterly at The Forum, SNC Offices, Towcester and reports back to the Parish Council. The meetings are chaired by Ian Morris, our local councillor. As we are all aware, Boddington is located on the borders of Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire and Warwickshire. In the FoB opinion, Boddington is considered by NNC and SNC as a backwater in the big scheme. This is a major concern especially as Ian chairs the meeting and little influence has been received by him regarding our claim for a grant from the HS2 Road Safety Fund which £1.650M has been allocated to NNC by HS2. The Road Safety Fund offers an opportunity to apply for funding to install speed restriction signs on the Banbury Road in Lower Boddington and on the Warwick Road in Upper Boddington. I will elaborate further on this issue later.
- HS2 Ltd. has created two funds, the Community & Environmental Fund (CEF) and Business & Local Economy Fund, which are available to local communities to help compensate for the disruption that will be caused by the construction of HS2. Friends of Boddington established with HS2 Ltd that the residents of Lower Boddington will be demonstrably disrupted by the construction of HS2 and therefore the Boddingtons satisfy the criteria of CEF.
- FoB realised the importance to directly communicate with the residents of Lower Boddington to be aware of issues to be addressed. FoB send a personal invitation to every household in the village to attend a BBQ on July 7th. The outcome of the event was positive. The main concerns of the parishioners regarding the impact of HS2 and the amenities that the majority of parishioners deem important for the Boddingtons.

Impact of HS2 were:

- Access to the parish during construction
- Noise
- Loss of views to the countryside
- Pollution
- Structural damage to properties

Important amenities:

- Footpaths
- Play park in Lower Boddington
- All weather sporting facilities
- Village shop
- Bigger car park for the Village Hall

The data received was analysed and used in our recommendation to Boddington PC for an HS2 CEF

- In September, a resident contacted FOB and asked if we can help prevent the possible occupation by travellers on the land that was used by the Fir Tree nursery as suspected travellers were spotted on the land. FoB contacted HS2 Ltd. *HS2 stated that they do not own the land at Fir Tree Nursery and are we are in the process of purchasing it, but it is still in the current landowners ownership as it stands.* On 22 September I had a meeting with Tommy Gilchrist, Parliamentary Assistant to the Rt. Hon. Andrea Leadsom MP, expressing our concerns regarding Fir Tree Nursery. He realised the serious implications to the Boddington Parish and agreed to take the matter further. Andrew Leadsom contacted HS2 directly. Our pressure was rewarded. The sale of Fir Tree Nursery was completed by early October and following our security concerns, HS2 installed videoed alarms internally on each house, and blocks. Concrete blocks are installed around the access to prevent anyone getting into the area and CCTV monitors the property. The HS2 Property Team are taking the threat for illegal occupation by travellers very seriously.
- This leads to the major concern of land sale by HS2 which are surplus to requirements. FOB intend to identify the land agents who are dealing with property matters at HS2 Ltd. Our concern is that as HS2 Ltd increasingly become a remote landowner in our parish, it will be important for us to have that contact with their property team, particularly on matters such as security and land for potential purchase by the PC for long term investments and benefit to Parish, such as Fir Tree Nursery. In the coming years, the threat won't be from the occupation of land by illegal travellers but by legal travellers who legally purchase surplus land. Tommy Gilchrist, Parliamentary Assistant to the Rt. Hon. Andrea Leadsom MP, has been in contact regarding the above and has requested to be kept updated with the situation.
- The HS2 Road Safety Fund was announced on 24th November. £1.650m has been allocated to Northamptonshire, based on the level of HGV movements during the 'busy' period highlighted in the Environmental Statement. The funding will be available until 2026, but NCC's view is that it would be most advantageous to deliver these schemes before construction starts, or as early as possible in the construction period. NCC will have to agree a timing schedule for releasing the funds with HS2 Ltd, who will administer the funds. NNC wants to assurance that the proposed schemes contribute to the overall aims of the fund to leave a legacy, improve road traffic risk and safety improvement. Examples of schemes are; traffic calming measures, safer pedestrian crossings or safer junctions for cyclists, pedestrians and drivers. The funding will be ring-fenced for improvements close to the HS2 route. I had a meeting with Dennis Burton and Steven Barber of NNC Highways on January 8th 2018 to discuss road safety issues in Lower and Upper Boddington for the Boddington PC application to the HS2 Road Safety Fund. FOB has not been contacted by Steve Barber since the onsite meeting, but FoB pressure has insured Boddington is included in the fund. I attended the HS2 Northants Liaison Group meeting held on 9th. March with FoB members, Malcolm Stewart and Steven Allonsby-Briggs. The HS2 Road Safety Fund section of the meeting could only be described as shambolic. It was stated, NNC will be unable to determine any allocation for 18 months due to resourcing issues and the Section 114 notice. The

authority is facing challenges securing resource and that there are lead-in times for design and delivery.

FoB has written to Esme Cushing to express our concern. At the HS2 liaison meeting FoB members stressed that funding was needed now, particularly given the imminent Boddington Cutting Heave trial and that a timetable of 18 months was not acceptable. I have written to Julie King, HS2, Director of Community Engagement with a copy to Andrea Leadsom MP, regarding the road safety issues that must be addressed now and to take our case to a higher level. EK have been contacted by HS2 for their input.

- **CEF application.** Following FoB recommendations, Boddington PC have submitted a Community and Environment Fund (CEF) local application up to £75. The criteria for the CEF fund is to add benefit over and above committed mitigation and statutory compensation to communities along the route that are demonstrably disrupted. The CEF fund aims to leave a sustainable legacy to an affected community. Our application to develop the Charles Cowper Field is excellent and news regarding the funding application should be available after May 16th.

FoB arranged The HS2 Early Works Activities Boddington Cutting & Ground Investigation Public Meeting on April 11th. 2018

PRESENT: Parish Council 4 councillors: Dennis Burton, Joe Street, Larry Gane, Pat Stewart,

HS2: Nisha Mejer – Community Engagement Manager Paul Cooper – Project Manager

Eiffage Kier: Chris James – Community Engagement Manager Simon Matthews – Interface Manager

Nathalie Hansen – Design co-ordinator Bob Meadows – Project Manager Jonathan Tranter – Apprentice engineer Sarah McKee – Communications Manager

Fusion: Shelley Browne – Community Engagement Manager

Friends of Boddington: 10 members: Philip Freer, Mike Baldwin, Ed Preston, Anne Wadland, Nicola Thomas, Steven Allenby-Briggs, Rowan Adams, Rosemary Bowden, Malcolm Stewart, Susie Freer

Attendees: 91 people attended. • 41 Lower Boddington • 39 Upper Boddington • 5 Aston le Walls • 1 Priors Hardwick • 1 Byfield • 1 Appletree • 2 Crick • 1 – late arrival, did not sign in.

Dennis Burton chaired the meeting:

The aim of this Public Meeting was not to debate the past, but to inform about the present situation, the future plans for the months ahead and an insight into what happens before construction commences in 2019.

HS2

Nisha Mejer explained her job specification and stated the area she covers - from Brackley to Southam.

Eiffage Kier:

Chris James gave a summary of EK. They have responsibility for 80kms of construction from Aylesbury to Southam. This will involve 17 viaducts, 75 bridges, 22 road diversions, 5 green tunnels and 24 million cubic meters of excavation.

Chris explained Heave details: The main aim of the Heave test is to inform engineers of ground movement to minimise over engineering. Confirmed the preferred route for heavy vehicle movement is via the Banbury-Southam road through Wormleighton. Road construction on the access road to the Heave site is starting May 2018. The Heave dig will start in the summer.

Chris stated that the HS2 main line construction will start next year. He emphasised that the aim of EK is to minimum local disruption with the movement of heavy goods traffic to use the 'Yellow Brick Road' along the trace. Trying to communicate with localities and he stated that with FoB there are better communication here than anywhere else on the sector.

The meeting was a success.

That has all been the past now to the future.

- The Boddington Cutting Heave Trial will commence in May. As a result of FoB pressure, the preferred route for traffic movement is now from the Southam road via Wormleighton to the construction site. The main traffic movement will be over a 2 month period as material to construct the access road is brought to the site. The construction machinery will be on site under 24 hour security.
- October 2018, FUSION will begin preparing the ground in readiness for EK to commence construction in May 2019. This could be described as scorched earth. The trace will be fenced and stripped of all vegetation, hedgerows, buildings and trees.
- Work on the Chipping Warden relief road will begin. This will allow EK access to the trace and construct the Yellow Brick Road. YBR will be completed early in the construction phase with the aim to reduce potential of lorries on public roads as recognised as this not environmentally friendly and the amount of soil/debris on road would create hazards.
- The civil works in our area should be completed by 2022.

Thank you for your patience. I am happy to answer questions.