

**NORTH MYMMS DISTRICT GREEN BELT SOCIETY**  
**Minutes of the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held at**  
**North Mymms Memorial Hall, Welham Green**  
**on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

**Welcome**

Gary Mabbutt, President, welcomed local councillors, members and residents and our Speaker, Planning Consultant, Jed Griffiths. After 44 years the Society still had a strong voice and at this time was in need of an even stronger voice to uphold the Green Belt. He thanked the committee and asked anyone present who could assist in any way to come forward and join. Help was always needed especially with the Local Plan at its present stage. He urged members to use the website to keep up to date.

**Minutes of the previous AGM**

Minutes of the 2019 AGM, proposed by Nigel Matthews and seconded by John Salmon, were agreed and signed with no matters arising.

**Chairman's Report**

Nigel Matthews thanked those present for supporting the Society and added a special welcome to local councillors.

It had been a busy year with a new government renewing its commitment to the Green Belt whilst increasing pressure on local authorities to build more houses. Apart from the Local Plan there had been two significant local green belt issues. An application to build behind Mymms Drive – refused by Council but now up for Appeal – and an application to expand Chancellors School which was granted against much local opposition. However, the Council decided that exceptional circumstances were justified.

Thanks to Martin Connolly the committee review the local planning lists and our responses are on our website. Thanks to Az Khan who has made progress with the website. Some present will have received notice of this meeting by email also thanks to Az. Although not abandoning our traditional green form of delivery to every house, our intention is to keep the website up to date, and send newsletters via email – so please make sure we have yours.

Please “Like” us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter and retweet our Tweets!

Nigel thanked the committee, particularly Carol our Secretary and Noreen our Treasurer who helped Alex to keep track of our members. Thanks too to our supporters who deliver our leaflets and finally thank you to Gary Mabbutt who still finds the time in his busy schedule to be with us.

### **Treasurer’s Report**

Noreen O’Sullivan presented the Financial Statement for the year to 31 December 2019 ?

She pointed out that the Local Plan had used some of our reserves.

There were no matters arising. Accounts were proposed by Alex Brown and seconded by Sue Harrison.

### **Election of Officers and Committee**

The Officers and Committee were proposed en bloc by David King and seconded by Harry Ragg

Chairman Nigel Matthews, Secretary Carol McCarthy, Treasurer Noreen O’Sullivan; Membership Secretary Alex Brown. Committee members; Claire Taylor (Vice President), Martin Connolly, Philip Elgar, Az Khan and Simon Polidri

These were approved.

### **Appointment of Independent Reviewer of Accounts**

The Appointment of John Salmon as an Independent Reviewer of Accounts was proposed by Nigel Matthews and seconded by Jan Reichman

### **Update of Local Plan Consultation with Planning Consultant Jed Griffiths,MA Dip TP FRTPI**

Jed explained that there had been six stages so far with the Inspector asking Council to supply sites for 16,000 dwellings. The Council asked for sites to come forward and had 140 replies. Representations were made, Councillors were lobbied with complaints of significant harm to Green Belt, strategic gaps decreased between settlements and environmental harm. The Council is putting forward a plan for 14,000 dwellings.

At present most sites which would encircle Welham Green have gone.

WeG3a for 68 dwellings (access?) and WeG10 for 120 dwellings (surface water?) remain with Marshmoor for 80 dwellings (science park)

BrP 1 for 104 dwellings at Bell Bar makes a revision of the green belt (extension of Brookmans Park) BrP 4 for 250-300 dwellings – against as good quality agricultural land, woodland and countryside gap.

LHe 4/5 is still in. HS24 – members need to comment.

LHe3 – rejected by Council.

Jed urged everyone to respond to the Consultation either by email, on line or by letter.

A question and answer session followed. ( See attached sheet)

The Chairman thanked Jed who was warmly applauded by the audience. He reiterated that the community must respond to the document individually. Local people can see what the issues are and it is important to show these. For instance the traffic problems at WeG10 and BrP1. We will provide information through our website. There were 10,000 responses last year. We need 10,000 again.

The President asked anyone who had pictures of local problems to let us have them. He thanked everyone for coming and their questions and urged people to be proactive and join the committee.