

**VIGO PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE 19th ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD ON 29th APRIL 2019 at 7.30pm IN VIGO VILLAGE HALL**

Present:	Cllr Pat Banks (in the Chair); Cllr Sue Connor; Cllr Mike Germain Cllr Roland Graves; Cllr Colin Talboys; Cllr Alan White.
In Attendance:	Mrs Joanne Glass (Clerk). Cllr Lesley Boycott (GBC, Deputy Mayor); Ms Mandy Cason (KCC Community Warden); Cllr Sheila Buchannan (Meopham Parish Council Chairman) Ms Carol Cox (Journal Editor). Mrs Carole Baylis; Mr Steve Edwards; Mr Robin Banks; Mrs Jess Talboys; Mrs Janet Jones; Mr Adrian Banks; Mrs Lorna Banks (local residents).

1] Apologies for Absence

AP01 Cllr John Goodban; Cllr Jim Haslem (Vigo Parish Council). Cllr Derek Shelbrooke (Gravesham Borough Council). Cllr Rosemary Dymond (KALC Gravesham Area Chair). Mr Ken Hill (Vigo Village Hall). Mrs Diana Knox (Local Journalist). Mr Roger Barber (Vigo School Head).

2] Chairman's welcome to Guests, Electors, Members of the Public and Press

AP02 Cllr Banks welcomed everyone to the meeting.

3] To confirm the minutes of the 18th Annual Parish Meeting (held on 30th April 2018)

AP03 The minutes were signed by the Chair, having been accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.

4] Chairman's Annual Report

AP04 The following report was read by Cllr Pat Banks, Chair of Vigo Parish Council:

Good evening everyone and welcome to another Annual Parish Meeting for Vigo. Another year has flown by, and this year marks 4 years since the last elections – where does the time go? Sadly, three members of our Parish Council have decided that they will not stand again for election – more about this later

The next election for our Borough and Parish Councils is on 2nd May. As I am sure you will have heard, Vigo Parish Council will be having an uncontested election – we have positions for 9 Councillors and only 6 people put their names forward for election, so we need of 3 more people to get us to a full compliment. If you, or anyone you know, would be interested in joining our happy band, then please chat to our Clerk or a Councillor at the end of the formal part of this evening – you could be co-opted and not need to stand for election.

So, why are we having this meeting? It is a legal requirement that we hold an Annual Meeting with members of the Parish. But that aside, this meeting provides an opportunity for your Parish Council to explain what it does and to highlight projects that have been carried out in the past year. It lets you, the Parishioners, find out where your money has been spent.

Also, at this meeting, we hope to have reports from other people and organisations that have links to Vigo. This will give a broader picture of what is happening in and around Vigo.

And you will have the opportunity to ask questions and raise issues that are important to you. We would just ask that you wait until the end of a report before doing so.

Vigo Parish Council ~ Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 29th April 2019

As usual, when the formal business of this meeting is complete, there will be an opportunity for parishioners to discuss individual concerns with councillors in a more relaxed atmosphere. You are all invited to join us for a glass of wine and hope that you will take this opportunity to chat with your councillors and volunteer to become a Councillor for the next term of office!

So, what has been happening in Vigo in the last year: There have not been any major new projects this year. The two major projects from last year, the CCTV and the Playpark have been finished and are now being put to good use. The CCTV does seem to continue to have a positive effect on behaviour in The Bay and the Car Park. The official opening of the Playpark took place on the last May Bank Holiday last year. The weather was super and there was a quite a gathering to see the Deputy Mayor of Gravesham (Cllr Lesley Boycott) cut the ribbon and let the children rush into the playground. The new playground and the zip wire do seem to be a great success. It is always a delight to see these being so well used. Even on quite miserable days, there are nearly always children there.

On a not so happy note, there has sadly been some vandalism of the new picnic tables. If anyone ever has any information they can pass on to our Clerk regarding acts of vandalism, we would be grateful.

The regular duties of the Council continue as usual. A lot of time and expense is used in trying to keep the Village looking its best - overseeing the grass mowing, the tree care and the general maintenance of the village verges, paths and woodland. It is especially important to ensure that trees are monitored to ensure they are healthy and where safety issues are found, these are dealt with as soon as possible.

Litter is regularly picked from the main routes through the Village. Unfortunately, we do not have the money to pay someone to litter pick every side road and cul-de-sac. We would ask residents to take responsibility for their own roads.

The covenants that are enshrined in everyone's deeds also help to maintain the appearance of the Village. Some time is spent at each Full Parish Council Meeting discussing applications from residents asking for Covenant approval for changes they want to make to their property. In the vast majority of cases Covenant approval is given and should the proposed changes not be in keeping with the aims of the covenant, advice is always given.

Each year I remind people that the Council puts aside some money that can be used to support local groups and organisations. Grants of up to £250 are available. As has been the case for the last few years, the Grants in Aid budget has again been underspent this year. Please remember, if you are involved with a local organisation, it is very easy to apply to us for a grant, simply pop in to see our Clerk and she will give you a form, or if you can't pop in, then you can contact her by email or phone.

Ruts on the roadside verges continue to be a problem, but I think less than in previous years.

The problem with people parking on the verge opposite the Country Park has improved – the yellow cones do seem to have stopped parking on the verge. People do still park further down the road, rather than pay to go into the Country Park. Some local residents have very kindly been leafleting the cars parked on Waterlow Road and in side roads, to inform them of the excellent deal that is available from KCC, for a season ticket to park in several of their Country Parks. I am not sure how many car parkers have taken this up, but it may have persuaded a few.

Vigo Parish Council ~ Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 29th April 2019

The conversion of the Water Tower into a mobile phone station caused consternation among many people. Unfortunately, installing mobile phone masts is a permitted development right and there was little that could be done to prevent the work going ahead. The contractors have left the site in rather a mess, and we are chasing them to put it right.

Now I would like to thank firstly, Jo Glass, our Clerk, who has, as usual been our main support and guide. Among the many tasks she carries out for us are writing letters, making phone calls, finding answers to queries, keeping up with legal changes and keeping us all on the straight and narrow! As I have said before, without her knowledge and very able assistance, this council would definitely not function.

I would also like to thank Paul Agle, our services contractor, without whom the Village would not look nearly so good. The range of tasks that he carries out become greater and more varied with every year that passes.

Thanks also goes to our Community Wardens, Mandy Casson and Jacqui Fuller. Who are always proactive in the Village and give help and support in so very many ways.

Thanks to Carol Cox who continues to produce our excellent Vigo Journal, and to Bryan Sweetland, our KCC member.

And last but not least, I must, of course mention the other members of our Parish Council. Thank you to you all for the valuable work you do and for the help and support you have given me. Many, many thanks and I look forward to working with most, but sadly not all, of you again in the coming year.

So, who is escaping?! Firstly, our Borough Councillors, Leslie Boycott and Derek Shelbrooke who have always been ready with their help and support. Sadly, neither Lesley nor Derek are standing as Councillors for Gravesham in the forthcoming elections, so we will no longer be able to call on their services. We don't know who our new Borough Councillors will be, but they will have a lot to live up to. I would like to present you both with certificates to show our gratitude for all your support.

Now, also very sadly, we have to say goodbye to 3 of our Parish Councillors. These 3 people have all served on VPC for quite a few years. They have been active in the Parish Council and have always been willing to offer help and support when needed. So, firstly I would like to present Sue Connor with this certificate and plant. Sue has been on the Council for 8 years. She has always offered wise counsel and she has taken on the task of sorting out and uploading the 'Vigo at 50' material. I am hopeful that she will continue to be involved in this project.

Next is John Goodban, who has also served for 8 years. Again, a steady influence; John has been involved with the Council as our Finance Councillor, making regular checks on the Parish Finances. His services in this role will be greatly missed. Again I would like to present him with this certificate and plant.

Last but definitely not least is Roland Graves He has been a member of VPC since the very beginning, which means he has been a councillor for 19 years! So, I guess you could say that he really has done his duty for the Parish. Roland has always been a great support to me and the other councillors, with a calm and considered approach to any problems. He always seems able to find the right words for any situation. I really don't know how we are going to manage without Roland. Please accept this certificate and plant in grateful thanks for all you have done.

4b] KALC Community Award Presentation to Mrs Janet Jones
AP05 Cllr Banks read the following:

Vigo Parish Council ~ Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 29th April 2019

"I have a very pleasant duty to perform and that is to ask Lesley, in her role as Deputy Mayor, to make a presentation to a lady who is and always has been involved in so many areas of life in Vigo. That lady is Janet Jones. I will leave Lesley to say a few words about Janet's roles in the Village and to tell you a bit more about the certificate."

Cllr Lesley Boycott, Deputy Mayor read the following:

"The Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC) Community Awards Scheme is an opportunity to officially acknowledge and recognise those who have contributed to the local community. The award is supported by the High Sherriff of Kent, the Chairman of Kent County Council, the Mayor of Medway and the KALC Chairman.

Vigo Parish Council were pleased to successfully nominate Janet Jones for the KALC Community Awards Scheme 2019.

Janet has lived in Vigo for many years and has been a stalwart of the community during this time. Janet is always busy, having been a School Governor, a member of the Village Hall Management Committee, as well as running various social clubs such as the Craft Club and the Go Club.

Alongside this, Janet was instrumental in the formation of the Vigo Youth and Community Forum, and spent a long time trying to secure a permanent base for the youth of Vigo. It was through the Forum that the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) also known as the Ball Park, was created.

The remaining funds raised by the Forum were put to good use in paying for the Aerial Runway / Zipwire on the village green, which is much used and appreciated.

I have memories of Janet, to me Snowy Owl, when I was Mother Goose at the school holiday "fun schools". Well the children had fun – it was har work for all the people who ran them!

Janet is well known in the village and is thought of fondly by those who she tirelessly supports, especially the older members of our Community."

Mrs Janet Jones was then presented with a framed certificate, and a rose plant.

5] To receive reports from County and Borough Councillors

AP06 The following report was read by Cllr Lesley Boycott, Deputy Mayor

All good things must come to an end eventually and now is the time for me. For the past 12 years it has been my privilege to serve the residents of Meopham South and Vigo as their representative on Gravesham Borough Council.

During this time, I have tried to help as many people as possible to achieve their aims and make their lives a little easier. Not always an easy task and not always as successfully as I would have wished due to constraints which pop up and influence outcomes.

However, during my time I have been able to help with funding, in the days when we Members had grants, a new fridge and storage for the hall kitchen, equipment for Cubs & Brownies, and with help from Cllr Garside we contributed a sizeable sum of the Scouts to help with the refurbishment of the Scout Hut. The Vigo Rugby Club received financial help to solve their boiler problems (we can't have cold showers after all the effort on the field!) and to improve their security to protect their premises from unwanted visitors.

It has not always been possible to achieve everything requested but I have raised issues in a variety of forums, such as the Joint Transportation Board, Finance &

Vigo Parish Council ~ Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 29th April 2019
Planning to try to overcome problems raised in the village.

Being a Councillor is not just one person working for you, but joining with others who work for the good of the ward, such as the wonderful Mandy Cason who works tirelessly to improve life for as many as possible and the Rural Police Team who have a mammoth task in a very large area, to name a few.

Your Parish Council has supported myself and Cllr Shelbrooke and I wish to thank them for the work they do on your behalf. Being a Parish Councillor is not easy, indeed it is very time consuming and Councillors and their indefatigable Clerk work extremely hard to ensure the village remains a very pleasant place to live.

For the past year I have had the honour to be Deputy Mayor of the Borough which has taken me throughout Gravesham to attend a variety of events and enabled me to meet so many hardworking volunteers in all walks of life. My first duty was to open the playground here in Vigo and that was very special.

The time has now come for me to take more time with family and relax. Thank you for all your support these past 12 years. I wish my successor as happy a time as mine has been.

AP07 The following report had been received from Cllr Bryan Sweetland (Kent County Councillor for Gravesham Rural):

It continues to be a very busy year at Kent County Council. The annual budget has been agreed which has resulted in the council tax being increased by just under 5% this year. That sounds like a big increase, but the council tax element is just under 3% and then there is the 2% adult social services care charge which the Government introduced a couple of years ago. Again, this year our funding for central Government has been reduced by around £50M.

Over the last few months, I've had a number of meetings with Highways England, Kent County Council Highways and the Borough Council on the plans to build the Lower Thames Crossing. Together with our MP, Adam Holloway and Bob Lane, I've met with Tim Jones from Highways England, he is the Project Director for the LTC. We had a fairly positive meeting and he explained some of their plans which included the enormous construction site that will be built adjacent to Thong and close to the Southern Valley Golf Course, which will close, probably within the next two years, if not sooner. The site will be the base for around 2000 construction workers, and this is quite worrying for local people. The only positive opportunity I can see and something that I've been pushing for is that these new jobs should be offered to local people. There is also an opportunity for dozens of new apprenticeships to be created for local young people.

However, I don't think many people really realise the extent and size of the construction site at the moment. I, together with representatives from the Parish and Borough Council will continue to protect the interests of local people as much as we possibly can.

Over the last 12 months I've been asked by several Parish Councils to fund quite a lot of traffic monitoring on local roads which may be useful to provide statistics as to the direction of traffic, the speed of traffic and whether the vehicles are cars or lorries. We can use this when challenging some of the Highways England assumptions.

We must not forget that KCC has many other responsibilities, such as services for young people and older people, social services, schools, libraries, trading standards, planning, recycling, responsibilities for flood risk and so on. My role as a County Councillor is also changing. I'm more and more involved with school appeals, school

Vigo Parish Council ~ Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 29th April 2019
transport appeals and planning issues. I'm always happy to meet with local groups and parishioners to discuss any issue concerning the Country Council and when necessary I will attend Parish Council meetings if there is a specific issue that I can help with. Recently I facilitated a number of events hosted by Matthew Scott, Kent's Police and Crime Commissioner. I hope that these events have proved useful.

I have also been involved in the fight to protect our precious greenbelt. I am disappointed that the Borough Council haven't pushed back on some of the housing targets handed down by central Government. I'm also concerned that the necessary infrastructure funding is not going to be there to support the new houses that are being planned. I also don't think it's necessary to build on huge areas of our greenbelt. For example, if Gravesham agrees to the house build targets the Government would like to see, there will not be enough senior school places in the Gravesham Rural areas. The same will apply for other important public services as well.

On a positive note, our local schools in Gravesham Rural are all improving with many achieving OFSTED ratings of good or excellent. This has been largely down to the hard work of the teaching staff and Governors supported by Kent County Council.

My job is made so much easier by having six excellent Parish Councils and several Community Associations. As a County Councillor I am in Maidstone for about 2 days a week. I chair two committees covering Policy and Resources and Property. I also serve on several other committees including Personnel and the Kent Fire and Rescue Authority.

I am always available for any parishioners who need help or advice with any of KCC services and my contact details are at the bottom of this report.

As a KCC Member, I have a discretionary grant available which next year is being reduced from £20,000 to £15,000. Wherever possible, I discuss with local groups or Parish Councils where best to allocate the funding which is usually spent on community projects or small-scale Highways work that might need doing.

Over the last year, I have used the grant funding to:

- Help fund an educational summer camp for 1st Higham Scouts
- Funded various traffic surveys across Gravesham Rural (including the A227)
- Helped with the renovation of Harvel Village Pond
- Sponsored the "Picnic on the Green" at Meopham
- Refurbished the Memorial Hall kitchen at Istead Rise
- Provided a number of public access Defibrillators / AEDs around our villages
- Provided road signs (No HGVs etc) Yellow Salt/Grit roadside bins, verge posts etc.

bryan.sweetland@kent.gov.uk

6] **To receive reports from the Police and the Community Wardens**

AP08 The following report had been received from PCSO Rebecca King, and was read to the meeting:

My name is Rebecca King and I am the Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) for the wards of Istead Rise, Meopham and Vigo. Throughout my shift I spend a large amount of time patrolling each of these wards in order to deter crime and anti-social behaviour and will be a visible presence as much as I can. I also work closely with the

Vigo Parish Council ~ Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 29th April 2019
Kent County Council Wardens to ensure that relevant information is passed over and we are both aware of issues and concerns raised by residents.

Vigo is part of the North Kent structure which comes under Gravesham Community Support Unit and I am pleased to say that current crime statistics suggest that criminal activity is low at this present time which is reassuring.

Crime often leaves victims feeling uncomfortable in their own homes, something that nobody should have to feel. Local police officers and PCSOs will continue to work hard to identify offenders and gather intelligence but would also like to take this opportunity to encourage you to take measures to help protect your property by taking the following simple but effective measures-

- If you are out of your home ensure all windows and doors are shut and locked, even if you are just in the garden.
- If you have not got one already, consider installing an alarm or security lights as they act as a deterrent and ensure you display stickers to advertise CCV is in progress.
- Keep valuable items and keys out of sight and away from windows and doors.
- Security mark your valuables, this makes them less desirable to thieves and can also help us to trace stolen goods. You can also register your valuables on immobilise.com which is a national property database.
- Record all serial numbers of your property, for example IMEI number on your mobile phone – on most mobile phones you can obtain this by simply typing *#06# also record serial numbers on televisions, laptops and other electrical equipment.
- Be vigilant with people knocking on your door for any reason, for example, offering to carry out work on your driveway / roof, claiming they are Police officers or claiming to be from your bank – be sure you always ask to see the person's identification and if something doesn't feel right, then don't let them into your property or hand any money over to them. If you think that the person isn't who they say they are then phone the company, they claim to be from but don't call the number given to you by them as this may not be real. If they claim to be from the Police, then please don't hesitate to contact the Police and they will confirm if they are legitimate.
- Ensure you don't give your bank details to anybody over the phone or online and don't hand your bank card over to someone if they come to your door. If somebody asks for this, then contact your bank via telephone or visit the branch and contact the Police.

To finalise, we will continue to endeavour to attend community events such as fetes and please keep an eye on the Kent Police website and our social media such as Twitter, for any upcoming crime prevention events and Police surgeries in the area.

AP09 Ms Mandy Cason, Community Warden, gave the following report:

Fridays: I attend the Pop-in group which is held in the small hall. I had arranged for a

Vigo Parish Council ~ Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 29th April 2019
representative from Age UK to attend who spoke about the services they can provide and has offered a free taster day at their Centre in Gravesend.

I support and promote the Rural Pop up café monthly talking to residents on local concerns they may have and advise on how to prevent becoming a victim to scam / bogus callers. I provide reporting avenues along with personal /security advice and details provided on supporting agencies.

I hold a talk time/surgery on Tuesdays 2-3pm at the library, this allows local community members to come along discuss any concerns they may have or just meet up have a cup a tea as a social activity.

I have made referrals for members of our community to the Care Navigator Service and have conducted joint visits when requested to assist with benefit advice, home adaptations, hospital transport and home help.

I have made a number of referrals to Kent Fire and Rescue for a free home safety and advice visit where smoke detectors are fitted if needed free of charge.

I have reported to Kent Police crime related incidents, nuisance motorbikes as well as speaking to youths regarding Anti-Social Behaviour and encouraged residents to report incidents to Kent police.

On 20th February I attended a meeting in the village hall organised by Kent Police to promote Neighbourhood Watch and the Crime Prevention Panel were present for local residents to purchase security items.

On 19th March I attended the Kent Police / Community meeting also held in the village hall.

I have reported the following:

- Road potholes/defected street lighting.
- Water Tower: I have spoken to youths and their parents when informed they had been climbing the tower and raised this with Southern Water.
- Residents had complained about vehicles that had been driven over the grassed area whilst the scaffolding was being removed from the Water tower, this had made the adjacent footpath muddy and slippery. Again, I informed Southern water site liaison manager of this and updated the Parish Council.

7] To receive any reports from Local Village Bodies and Organisations

AP10 VIGO VILLAGE HALL:

Mr Ken Hill (Treasurer) had provided a copy of the accounts to the year ended September 2018, and the following report was noted:

Income was £21,711 down by £1,794 compared with year ended September 2017. Expenditure at £26,079 was up by £2,588. The end result was a deficit of £4,367, this compares with the previous year's £3,629 surplus. Although the deficit is disappointing the expenditure includes a total of £5,376 spent on capital projects. These capital projects were £1,710 for a new circuit board to keep the electoral wiring up to date and the radiators in the main hall were all replaced at a cost of £4,026. The old radiators were noisy and were permanently blowing out air whether the heating was on or not.

Vigo Parish Council ~ Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 29th April 2019

Our total cash worth at the end of the year, taking into account, debtors' creditors' and prepayments was £15,238, this figure includes the £7,000 that the Trustees have decided should be held in reserve for emergency repairs.

800 CLUB: We sold tickets to the value of £1,500 which was 168 more than last year. We paid out £600 in prize money. Although ticket sales were up, it is disappointing that the 1,500 tickets were purchased by 72 households, remembering that there are around 800 houses in the village.

Looking forward to 2019/20, during the year we will repair the men's urinal flushing system which at the moment is wasting water by permanently flushing.

The committee realise that we need to attract new hirers and to increase our fund-raising efforts.

8] Tree Warden's Report

AP11 Much of this annual tree report appears in previous reports mirroring the continual management process for trees.

There are plenty of factors that have an effect on our trees. The strong winds of recent years being the most obvious. Although by constant monitoring and subsequent action the number of VPC trees damaged by wind has reduced, we should never be complacent.

Winter, this year, has been relatively uneventful. However, this Spring has been extremely dry which may have an effect on the trees later in the year, although it has been an exceptional year for tree blossom.

Through the tree management process, trees are constantly monitored. Those requiring works are prioritised for attention with safety again being the main criteria.

On specific issues VPC always seeks formal arboreal advice and VPC will always listen and act on sound advice.

Phythora in Sweet Chestnuts, Chalara in Ash trees and Birch Polypore are all present in our woods.

Tree works carried out this winter included the following:

- Removal of a number of young and semi-mature ash trees in various locations as a result of Chalara.
- Birch trees with Birch Polypore at the rear of the village green were removed for safety reasons.
- Removal of overhanging limbs following residents' requests. Upon inspection considerable squirrel damage was noted on hornbeam, willow, sweet chestnut and maple.
- Ongoing coppicing of sweet chestnut due to Phythora.
- A number of alders have died. These were mainly semi-mature and have been removed. Fortunately, the mature alders around the car park appear to be in good health.
- The recent storms have uprooted a number of birch trees, although healthy in appearance, their root structures were poor and decayed. This makes it difficult to identify any potential hazard.
- Essential crown cleaning and reduction works have been carried out at various locations.
- Large woodland clearance works were carried out to the rear of Beech Mast

Vigo Parish Council ~ Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 29th April 2019
including a full crown reduction of a large maiden beech street tree.

- A large group of dead ash trees were removed from the rear of Highview.

Around 30% of the global landmass is forest cover. Some 13% of the UK is woodland (approximately 3 million hectares) of which around 1 million hectares is native woodland. Some 60% of Vigo is woodland.

9] Finance Report

To receive the Financial Statement of the Parish Council's Audited Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2018.

AP12 The Financial Statement of the Parish Council's audited accounts for the year ended 31.03.2018 was noted by all present. This would also be available on the Parish Council website.

To receive the DRAFT actual vs budget spend for the year ended 31 March 2019.

AP13 The draft spend for the year ended 31.03.19 was noted by all present. This would be available on the Parish Council website.

Cllr John Goodban, Finance Councillor, then read the following report:

Our Parish Clerk, Jo Glass, is the Responsible Financial Officer and again has managed the accounts very well. You will see that there are explanations for the over / under spends on the draft budget spend for the year ended 31.03.19.

I am the Finance Councillor, who basically checks the accounts before they are audited.

Please note that the balance sheet is only a draft copy still, as it has not been approved by our auditor.

The balance column shows the overspend in red and the underspend in black. Please look at the notes to the side for further explanations. You will see that we have a very healthy balance of over £28,000. For the second time we have ring fenced some of our reserves and you can see those figures in green. This is to ensure that there is money available in these areas. The Emergency Tree Fund speaks for itself. Fortunately, we have not had to dip into it. The Parish Council continue to support the village hall by putting some money aside every year (when possible) to assist with any major projects they may have in the future. The total ring-fenced money is £11,300 which still leaves us a surplus of over £17,000.

The grounds maintenance and grass cutting accounted for 56% of our overall expenditure and Paul Agle has again done a superb job. He did a lot of work in preparation for the Play Park, which has cut down on overall costs.

It must be noted again that we would be spending out considerably less if the mindless vandals stopped ruining our village. For example, the ruts in the grass, litter, play equipment damage and graffiti. Please report any of this to the police on the 101 number or online.

However, some things to highlight:

All the money allocated to the Youth has gone toward funding the Play Park project. The remaining money from the Youth and Community Forum was kindly donated to the Parish Council and funded the zip wire.

The playpark budget does need some explanation. Because of the cut off points for the annual statements it looks as though we have an underspend of over £8,000, but in the previous year we had an overspend. We need to look at the Play Park receipts and payments sheet to see that we have an overspend of just £526.92. The precept

Vigo Parish Council ~ Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 29th April 2019
for the current year 2019/20 has absorbed this, together with two loan payments of £1000 each and interest of £89.50. The play park must be seen as a five-year project. The VSW was there to fund a Volunteer Community Warden, should anybody apply. As nobody has, most of this money has been added to purchasing defibrillators. Our CCTV system has incurred further expense, not originally budgeted for. This was due mainly to damage from squirrels, which has never happened before, but the repairs made are, we are assured, squirrel proof. Money for this is largely offset by the underspend in the "Repairs and Reinstatement" category. CCTV has reduced the level of vandalism.

The other large over/under spends are all explained, but if anyone has any questions or needs further explanation or clarification, then please ask at the end of my report.

Other matters:

The Grant in Aid is there to support organisations. It is disappointing that organisations have not in the main come forward to seek financial help. So please spread the word that the council has a little money to donate, usually up to £250 at a time. As you can see £700 has been left unclaimed, despite us advertising this in the Vigo Journal.

The journal has shown a loss, partly due to a reduction in advertising revenue this year.

11] Questions from the Press & Public.

AP14 There was some discussion about parking in Lower Timberbank, especially as a result of school pick up and drop off. Residents were encouraged to speak to the school regarding this as they may consider putting a note in one of their newsletters.

AP15 Mrs Jones asked if there were plans to replace any of the trees that had been cleared in the Croftside square. It was agreed that this would be looked at, with a possibility of Rowan saplings being planted.

12] Any Other Business (at the Chairman's Discretion)

AP16 None.

The Meeting Closed at 8.30 pm