

# Winkleigh Parish Council

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

### MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING FOR WINKLEIGH

Held at Winkleigh Community Centre on

**WEDNESDAY 1st MAY 2019 at 7.30pm**

*The Annual Parish Assembly was opened to the public by Cllr Alice Turner (Chair) and authorised to discuss all Parish affairs. All members of the public present were informed they may express an opinion, make a statement or ask a question, however, only Local Government electors for the Parish will be entitled to vote on any issue raised at the Meeting.*

*Voting on a question is done by a majority of electors present at the meeting and the decision of the person chairing the meeting as to the decision is final unless a poll is demanded LGA 1972 ss 18(2).*

*No votes taken at this meeting are binding on the Parish Council, although they may be considered at the next meeting of the Parish Council.*

**Chair – Cllr Alice Turner,  
Minutes taken by Melanie Bickell (Parish Clerk)  
Members of the public attending - 44**

**1.19 MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL MEETING – 2nd May 2019** signed as a true and accurate record  
**Matters arising from foresaid minutes** – bench in the square will be replaced hopefully within the next month, the bench to be installed is longer than the previous bench so we need to ensure it is safe for road users as well as members of the public to use

**2.19. GUEST SPEAKERS:**

**a) Acorn Developments South West Ltd – Great Well Park Proposed Development – Mr Dave Weeks**

The turnout for the public consultation held in April is appreciated and the feedback received that the proposed development was over density and people want a smaller scheme. To move the woodland walk and reduce it to make a fit trail or walking exercise area at the back of the site. The biggest feedback was to engage with Wallingbrook Health Group and maybe make provision within the site for a Health Care Centre. We propose to write to the Health Care Centre to see if there is an expression of interest with a view to coming back to the Council end of June and present a more detailed plan on how we see the site being developed

There will be ongoing site survey work over the next 4 weeks, which will include ground contamination reports, geotechnics working out where the water goes, putting in sewage, flood alleviation and working out where the surface water will run off to.

The carparking is a good idea but if we include the Health Care Centre there might be a provision for more carparking spaces

The affordable housing element of 30% being affordable properties will be realised, there will be a detailed plan so the viability will not be challenged by TDC and will prepare and raise the s106 agreement prior to the application being submitted

Highways and traffic monitoring reports have been ongoing on over last few weeks. The final plans for the site are a couple of months away from being finalised, and in the meantime we hope to meet with the neighbourhood planning group once all of the survey reports are received to explain how the site is going to work, show you all of the evidence of the technical surveys and see what is actually happening with the site, prior to preparing a final master plan for the site.

Questions taken from the public

Q. The proposed road into the site was closed over 40 years ago by Highways as it was dangerous then. There is even more traffic on the roads now so the danger must have increased. The entrance has to be by the cemetery with traffic calming and pelican crossing

A. There was massive feedback due to the visibility splay there and the bus stop and it would make sense not to have the entrance to the site there, we are talking about traffic calming on the way in to Winkleigh with a small splay and pelican crossing from the bottom of our site to the woodland walk area. I was not aware that Highways were looking at opening up Old Chulmleigh Road again to access the site, this has not been brought to my attention.

Q. How many houses are on the local plan that was ratified last year and are you reducing down to that amount

R. 55, until geo-technical report has been received, we cannot say what the final number of houses being developed on that site will be. The 55 is an indicative value and is not set in stone. The feedback is for 30% affordable viability the site can deliver 70 houses

Q. Can the village take it? The additional pressure on roads, schools, sewage, doctors

R. We are talking about a new Health Care Centre and additional parking but there has to be a trade-off

Q. Is the 30% affordable houses a movable figure, is that because the number of houses hasn't been agreed or are you just trying to get as low as possible the number of affordable houses

R. 30% is the policy from TDC, whatever the final number of houses are built, 30% will be affordable

Q. Would the residents prefer the Neighbourhood Plan Group which only has 3 Cllrs on it to meet with Acorn Developments on their behalf or would they prefer a more public open forum

Q. Local Plan suggested that vehicle entrance to the carpark would be from the village only, with no access to the development to ensure the carpark was for the benefit of the village and not the development overspill except for pedestrians.

R. There would only be one entrance to the carpark, but we would take into consideration the access to that entrance.

Q. The Devon Bank which runs along the border of the development, can you confirm you are looking for people to purchase the bank?

R. We are looking for people to take ownership of the bank rather than purchase and we are consulting with the 11 houses that back onto that stretch of the bank. Mr Turner has gifted the bank and the cost to the 11 houses will be the legal deeds formalities and will give the 11 houses privacy and reassurance

Q. Do the surveys that you have had done include wildlife, biodiversity, archaeological and any other surveys that should be done before any building takes place?

R. The ecology we are doing a 1 km sweep of the area, the geo-tech is carrying out a full survey before South West Water are given our report and comment on what will be required for the site. We will have to take into consideration any costs involved with s106 Agreements, for example if we have to upgrade the mains then as the developer, we will cover the cost. We will present the findings to the Parish Council prior to submitting our final plan

Q. Are you proceeding with a footpath from Ash Plants Close?

R. We are in discussions with the landowner regarding putting access through and will come back to parish to speak how it is to be resolved. We are trying to keep pedestrian access for the whole of the area, and we are aware that the connectivity is a problem for the village and incorporated into the Village Design Statement

Q. Play areas are woefully inadequate, not enough open space near residents own houses, most people with children want better quality of life for children to play outside in front of their own houses

R. The previous plan had 2-3 cluster play areas and will be brought along for parishioners to see at the next meeting, but feedback was received that people wanted a financial commitment towards the Sports Centre play area rather than individual areas

Q. Eco-housing, does that mean the energy will come from underground or solar panels?

R. No, because they are formed from a concrete shell they perform as a passive house 5, which is airtight and watertight and therefore the running costs are much less than a traditional build

Q. Will you be providing electrical charging points for cars for every house

R. No

Q. Water survey, will it include the ditch along the Devon bank to determine if there is water moving within that ditch and how will maintenance of the ditch be carried out if houses are built up to it?

R. The geo-tech survey will check out all areas of moving water and the survey will be made available and will be a fact-finding mission for everyone. The developer will work with the farmer/landowner to provide access in the final plans and there will be soakaways for the new builds. There is a dyke that takes away surface water from the nearby field.

This can be taken away and the ditch can be filled in if necessary.

Q. Who is going to maintain the banks and hedges that are not backed onto these houses, and the woodland and carpark?

R. The Parish Council will take ownership in accordance with s106 'Wishlist' agreements

Mr N. turner stated that Winkleigh is desperately in need for a carpark as an overflow for the village square, which has arisen time and time again, dating back years, the Parish Council could be missing an opportunity for the benefit of a carpark for the benefit of the village square not the development. I recommend that the entrance to that carpark is from

Old Chulmleigh Road and have nothing to do with any access through the new development so its use is purely as an overflow of the square and I am only too happy to give the land for that. If the people of Winkleigh don't take this on board it could be another opportunity lost

Q. What parking arrangements per average dwelling/garage is planned?

R. The site is large, the plot sizes are quite generous so at least 2 cars per driveway and higher end dwellings double-detached garage. There should be no need for parking on the roadway but cannot prevent it.

**b) WINKLEIGH SOCIETY – Working together – Mrs Penny Griffiths**

The Winkleigh Society aims and objectives are

- To promote high standards of planning & architecture in or affecting Winkleigh;  
Members of the Committee do respond to planning applications and in particular ensure that planning applications are put into the context of where they are (referring to the landscape, traditional core or modern parts of the village). We are not against different styles, but it is about being aware of the context and local distinctiveness and local materials. We were very happy with new bus shelter which was built with local materials, stone and wood from Winkleigh Timber and fitted into the local context of the village and flags up distinctiveness of the community. We also regularly put articles in Distinctly Winkleigh all about what is happening
- To inform the public about the landscape, history, architecture, traditions and culture of Winkleigh;  
We have held a pop-up museum, a resilience evening, we try and do evenings of interest. Distinctly Winkleigh is now up to 68 pages regularly and we do try and elicit letters, local history stories, things that matter to people and people commenting on what is happening in the village. We do want more ideas and letters to reflect what is happening to all ages of Winkleigh. We try to engage young people in the village and had a recent story competition for them, making history relevant and proud of where they live. Following the traffic survey carried out by Hamilton-Baillie funded by the Parish Council for the Neighbourhood Plan and they said that the trouble with Winkleigh Village is that it is 'tucked away' and needs to be flagged up much more. we had an art competition "Winkleigh through my eyes", and there is going to be a scare-crow trail through the village this year during the Winkleigh Fair and we hope it might stir up people in vehicles to take notice as they drive through the Village
- To secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest in Winkleigh;  
It is up to all of us to care about our village and do something about it. The Parish Council do a lot, Winkleigh Society try and do something as do other groups but its everyone's contribution not somebody else's problem.
- To enable Winkleigh people and businesses to benefit from initiatives and activities that can enrich the lives of people in Winkleigh  
Distinctly Winkleigh is completely self-funded and a lot of work is taken behind the scenes to get local businesses to advertise in Winkleigh by placing adverts. There is a lot of new business on the airfield and we will be compiling a new business directory. On the airfield there is memorial site commemorating the sacrifices made during WWII, it is a small site maintained by Torridge, but we would like a permanent banner/flagpole to bring attention to it and let people know it is there

Our contact details are on the back of Distinctly Winkleigh if you wish to contact us or place an advert, please do read it and if there are any artists/interested parties please get in touch with your art to flag up the village and get involved.

**c) WINKLEIGH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – Public 6-week consultation – Cllr Adrian Mercer, Chair of NP Group**

This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row I have given an annual update on the progress of the Winkleigh Neighbourhood Plan and I am quietly confident that this will be the last occasion. We are making good progress with the plan. We have been focusing on the writing of the plan and the 4 main chapters which are the economy, housing issues, traffic/transport/movement and biodiversity/environment of Winkleigh parish. There is also an important section regarding the implementation of the plan and how the plan will be used both by the Parish Council in conjunction with the Local Plan by TDC in working with local developers such as Mr Weeks who we heard from earlier.

Many of the things Mr Weeks talked about is covered in our neighbourhood plan but the issue is our plan is not yet finalised and approved and therefore is not a legal statutory document at the moment, but in a years' time, we will be having a different conversation with developers, having a statutory basis upon which we can state exactly what we want and the Parish Council will have a greater say.

The full draft neighbourhood plan document will be available online and a small number printed but this is a very weighty document to plough through so we have produced a summary document which will contain the key areas of the Neighbourhood plan, and this summary document will be mail shot to every household and business in the Parish by Royal mail during week commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019 for a formal public consultation commencing 10<sup>th</sup> June to the 29<sup>th</sup> July for your comments to be received. The summary document contains a pull out questionnaire which we would ask

you to fill in and return to us either by post or using one of the many ‘drop-boxes’ that will be situated throughout the village, locations will be on the questionnaire, or alternatively you can complete the questionnaire online using survey monkey or download the form from our website and email it back to the clerk. Full details will be published week commencing 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019.

Colleagues on the neighbourhood plan group, Angie Findlay and Penny Griffiths have been carrying out some interesting work with the school and Chulmleigh Academy to gain the views of young people, we have carried out a business survey over the last 12 months and undertook a widespread consultation exercise consulting with every household within the parish. We have had meetings with TDC planning and been through a screening process to ensure our draft plan is legal, decent, honest and truthful, with organisations such as Natural England and Historic England to ensure in terms of statutory requirements we are meeting our obligations with the plan.

Following the public consultation, the neighbourhood plan group have an obligation to read, tabulate and record every single comment which we receive on the plan, be it from a formal organisation such as TDC or an individual, and all valid and relevant comments must be responded to, to say we accept the comments, we don't agree and why or how their comments will be addressed within the final plan. The final plan will then be written to take into account the comments received during the public consultation and by placed before the full Parish Council for their approval, it will then be sent to TDC for their approval, who in turn will send the approved plan to a Secretary of State Planning inspector for an independent examination who will make a formal judgement on it and finally there will be a referendum for everyone in the Parish to vote on the plan.

In terms of what Mr Weeks (Acorn) was discussing earlier this evening in terms of charging points, playgrounds, ownership of banks, responsibility of car parks are covered within the NP and when the plan is passed, we will be on a much firmer foundation in terms of having those discussions with developers but we are not at that stage at the moment. When the plan is finally approved (we have been working on it for about 3 years whereas other Parishes have taken 4-6 years so we are making good practice), the plan will be a substantial achievement for the parish council, for those of us who have worked on it and for all parishioners as well because it will give a legislative foundation with which to influence developments for the Parish in the future

#### Questions taken from the public

Q. Does the Neighbourhood Plan incorporate the other 140 plus houses which have outline planning permission?

R. it does but those planning applications have already been lodged and outline planning permission approved because we don't have a neighbourhood plan yet

Q. Surely if these 140 go ahead, Bideford cannot justify having another 75

R. Kristian Evely (Planning Officer TDC) The 5 year housing supply as part of the Local Plan, wasn't in place when the outline planning permission was given for the 140 houses and the District Council had to legally ensure that there were sufficient housing being provided, now we have the Local Plan in place with an identified 5 year housing supply, we should be limited to the sites that are already planned for and approved

Q. Winkleigh has exceeded the quantity we agreed and asked for. The government quota has been exceeded by TDC over the last 3 years

R. Kristian Evely responded that TDC had not exceeded the government quota.

### 3.19 REPORTS

#### **Chair of Winkleigh Parish Council Annual Report – Alice Turner**

Thank you to everyone attending and giving presentations and reports tonight.

- **Finance:**

Successful grant applications for the 2018/19 financial year were paid in April 2018 as follows:

C.A.B - £250 towards volunteer advisers including training.

O.D.C.T.G - £400 towards continuation of their current services including the Ring and Ride bus service, voluntary car service and wheelchair accessible transport.

Other donations made during 2018/19 were: £75 to the Royal British Legion for a wreath to commemorate Remembrance Day.

The Parish Council were within budget last year and the increase in precept this year is to fund the village hall and Sports Centre grant applications for the benefit of the community otherwise we would have had a minimal increase in the budget simply to cover annual cost increases.

- **Neighbourhood Development Plan:**

The group have been working hard behind the scenes to develop the draft Neighbourhood Plan for Winkleigh, there will be a public consultation period which will be advertised on the Parish Council Website and on our Facebook page. Thanks to all those who are part of the group for their work on behalf of the Parish.

The Neighbourhood development plan should, hopefully, be going to TDC for final consultation and then a referendum later in 2019, if at least 51% of those who vote say ‘yes’ Winkleigh will be able to formally adopt the plan, which will then be a statutory planning document.



- **Council Vacancies:**

There are vacancies on the Parish Council which we will hopefully be able to fill by Co-option. Being a Councillor is not just about attending meetings, there is plenty that goes on behind the scenes, for example, asset inspections including the cemetery and Bungalow, various training courses and conferences on a wide range of topics, the work and tidy group are often out and about helping to keep footpaths tidy and help improve the appearance of the Village. So if you or someone you know might be interested in joining the council please contact the Clerk, Melanie Bickell by email [winkleighpc1@btconnect.com](mailto:winkleighpc1@btconnect.com).

- **The Council's "Email Me" list:**

For those of you who were not aware the council has an "email me" list which the clerk sends out information that might be of use or interest to parishioners i.e. Council minutes, agendas, road works notices etc. for more information or to sign up to this list please email [winkleighpc1@btconnect.com](mailto:winkleighpc1@btconnect.com).

- **Projects which have been undertaken this year:**

This year has seen the completion of the new bus shelter on Exeter Road, thank you to all those who played a part in this, from supply of materials to those tasked with demolition of the old structure and the building the new shelter. Many of you may have seen the display which was up in the 3 Halls noticeboard on the side of the shop back in November to commemorate 100years since WWI, this is a display which the Council hope to be able to put up each year.

- **Looking forward to 2019-20:**

The Council is looking forward to an increase in powers which we will have access to once the Clerk has completed her CiLCA qualification, the additional staff costs this year have been as a result of the time that she has spent on completing the various modules in the course and creating the new policies needed to ensure that the council is meeting its legal obligations.

This year the Council is hoping to achieve the installation of new gateway signage for the Parish in order to celebrate our history and maybe encourage drivers to slow down.

The Parish Council is looking at adopting the Winkleigh War Memorial, this will enable us to ensure that it is kept in good condition for generations to come.

- **Finally:**

Thanks are due to TDC/DCC for the Community Together Funds/TAP fund which has run in recent years, the parish Council have been lucky to receive contributions towards the costs of the defibrillator (twice), replacement of the village hall fire-door as well as the footpath booklet, which details several walks in and around the Parish.

I would like to extend my thanks to Betty Boundy for her service as our district Cllr, to District Cllr David Hurley who has filled in for Betty when her health would not permit her to represent the ward and to County Cllr Andrew Saywell for all his hard work.

I would also like to thank all those who have served as Cllrs during this last year for the time and effort that they put into council business.

Thank you to all the parishioners who attend meetings, are our eyes and ears providing feedback on local matters, as well as those who help support activities and groups within the Parish in whatever way they can.

Special votes of thanks must go to our Clerk, Melanie Bickell for all the hard work that she puts in behind the scenes to allow the council to function effectively and for us as Cllrs to be able to do our jobs and last but not least to Cllr Sue Ware who is stepping down at the end of this term of office for her help and support as Vice Chair this last year.

### **County Councillor – Andrew Saywell**

Great to be at an annual parish meeting and see so many members of the public in attendance.

The main issues County wide are;

- **Finances**

They are in a relatively good position and are projected to come in on budget for the previous financial year, despite our children services department overspending by about 10-11 million pounds in the last financial year, I know that sounds like a lot of money but the turnover for the County Council was 1.2 Billion to give you an idea of scale and other departments came in on target or under budget and we have had a relatively mild winter which has helped save with the highways network, but importantly with our adult social care services.

- **Highways**

Not surprisingly, most of the issues I have been working on in Winkleigh over the last year have been highways related, everything from potholes to blocked drains, carparking, street lighting. The main problem area over the last 2 years I have been your County Councillor, was the state of roads in Hollocombe area and I am pleased to say that after quite a lot of lobbying, a lot of schemes and works have been done in Hollocombe, from patching, jet patching and resurfacing and we have more or less solved the main issues in that part of the Parish. Looking ahead several roads within the village I would describe their condition as being somewhat 'Ropey', and I did have a discussion with my local neighbourhood highways officer and several schemes were put forward for consideration and I will be lobbying

hard that they do get done. For this coming financial year there is going to be a total of 1.4 million pounds spent on capital highways works, not routine maintenance but resurfacing and patching within the Torrington Rural division, which is an increase on the last financial year and I am hoping that Winkleigh will be able to benefit from that increased budget

Torrington Rural along with Chagford division are going to be part of a pilot which will mean highways working more closely with the local communities and local parish councils to design highways schemes you want, and it is called “doing what matters”. Once I have more information about it, I will report back to the Parish Council

- **Looking ahead**

We do live in uncertain times, whatever happens, Devon County Council will be making plans to look after the old, young and vulnerable regardless of what happens. The County Council cover the population area of approaching 800,000 people, we have over 360 schools and 22,000 school children who are supported in some way with school transport. There are around 9,000 school children who are supported by county council in one way or another and around 22,000 adults were using our adult social care services in one form or another. The County Council has also strengthened its emergency planning teams and Trading Standards teams and will be looking to work with other Local Authorities in the area as we go ahead.

It is a real privilege to represent such a vibrant community like Winkleigh and I will remain your County Councillor for the next 2 years and I am looking forward to carrying on to serve you.

I would like to place on record my thanks to the Parish Council who do an awful lot of hard work on your behalf which can at times be a quite thankless task, but nonetheless, your parish council does serve you well and pass on my thanks to them for the support they have given me and keeping my feet on the ground and keeping me informed on what goes on in the parish, I try to attend all of the Parish Council meetings and try and make a bit of a difference.

Questions from the public

Q. When you do have quite a lot of houses being built for people with younger families is provision for the schools to expand

R. There are no plans for any school expansions at the moment, however, all planning development applications that are submitted go to the education department at County Hall and if they can justify an expansion or extension for the school, they will ask for it through s.106 funding agreement. No formal planning application has yet been submitted for Great Well Park, therefore, this cannot be commented on at this time. I have been told that the school isn't full at the moment, the County Council use demographic data which at the moment shows that the projections are that the numbers will go down, that may change, if a considerable number of family homes are built, that will have an impact and I will be keeping a close eye on it and get in touch with the officer at County who deals with this at the relevant time if appropriate.

Q. Resurfacing and potholes within the village, I think Highways have got to realise is that the old roads in the village have no pavements and residents have to walk in the road. I recently reported 10 potholes, 2 of which were on Farmer Franks Lane, 3 vehicles turned up 2 men doing the work

R. The thing to remember is that crew may have had to go on to somewhere else, quite possibly on the main road. There is a lot of H&S Regulations that crews have to follow

Q. I would like to see all of the village resurfaced rather than some of the busier routes

R. I would agree with you that I would like to see all of the village resurfaced, we did all of the sums and it was something like £350,000, so it won't all happen in one year, the schemes have gone in and will get done gradually.

Q. One of the potholes mentioned has been redone about 3 or 4 times, and just keeps reopening up because it isn't done effectively or even properly, and someone is either going to get heard or crash when they hit this pothole due to the narrowness of the road

R. The more that individual potholes are reported, the more it goes into the system and is flagged up and likely to be attended to and patched. This is fixing a 'safety defect'. If you want proper pothole repairs it has to be what highways calls patching which is in effect resurfacing a partial section of the road, but that is proper reconstruction and that is what I want to happen but in order for it to become a priority it needs to be heavily and constantly reported as a dangerous defect on the highways website.

Q. People want a proper health centre, Southern Hay is no longer fit for purpose, but the issue is the money to build it, we are going to have 200+ more houses and residents here so a proper full medical centre with a dispensing chemist has got to be looked at over the next 5 years

R. I agree, we have a very fragmented planning system, local Doctors are consulted on the planning development applications, but we need to get people around the table to work out a long-term solution. If you could have an upgraded Doctors surgery/Health Centre in the village that would be a tremendous asset and whilst it is not within my remit at the County Council, I am happy to engage with Wallingbrook Group Practice and would be interested to see the results of the discussions with the developers.

Q. Public Transport glaring hole of not being able to get to Okehampton unless you take 2 buses with over an hour delay in between

R. I Will make enquiries with the Transport coordination services at the County Council, however, County wide there is the problem of a growing population but less people are using the bus and this has been an issue with bus companies stating they cannot run extra routes as they do not have enough demand even on the subsidised routes

Q. People catch the bus at the airfield and would be nice to see more bus-stops to help people get around and get to work.

Q. All of this was brought up in 2011 and 2013 nothing has changed in the last 5 years to make it any different, the health centre and the bus service is still as bad so why would Bideford give planning permission for even more houses in the village

R. Each application has to be judged on its own individual merits in accordance with planning laws. My personal opinion is that a review of the Town and County Planning Act needs to happen. I will do my best but the wheels of Central Government churn very slowly. I will keep on lobbying with quite persistent determination.

Q. When Westcotts was developed an area was put aside for a new medical centre but the health authority would not give it the go ahead due to funding so the developer put a few houses on the site instead so I'm not holding up any hope of Acorns promises of a Health Centre on their site

### **Okehampton District Community Transport Group (ODCTG)**

Thank you to the Parish of Winkleigh for the donation of £400 in 2018-19

We are a small charity which has been in existence serving our community for 29 years. We provide transport for frail, elderly, disabled and rurally isolated people over 274 square miles of rural Devon. We run a Ring and Ride bus for shopping Monday to Friday, we have a community minibus which we use for our own lifestyle trips and also for group trips, we have two wheelchair accessible vehicles which are mainly used for transport to health but also for lifestyle trips and run a voluntary car scheme. All our services are door to door. Our aim is not just to help people access healthcare but also improve their quality of life by providing opportunities to get out and meet others, reducing social isolation and improving health and wellbeing. Loneliness has been highlighted as an issue in our area by a recent Clinical Commissioning Group study. A London School of Economics study of older people recently estimated that loneliness costs £6000 per person in health costs and puts pressure on local services but it says for every £1 spent on preventing loneliness there are £3 of savings.

This year we have been fundraising to replace one of our wheelchair accessible vehicles which has started to have more mechanical problems which results in a rise in maintenance costs which is not sustainable to a small charity like ours, also we need our vehicles to be reliable as in our very rural area we are the only option for a large number of people and we transport vulnerable clients. The new vehicle will be purchased from a local supplier, GM Coachworks who specialise in wheelchair accessible conversions. The cost will be £34290. We are happy to have sponsorship logos on our vehicles and also advertise this on our website/social media/newsletters etc to thank our benefactors. We have seen an increase in demand for transport following the hospital bed closures in Okehampton with clients now having to travel much further to visit family and friends in hospital or attending clinics.

We have applied to many trusts/organisations and finally have the full amount of funding to allow us to place the order from: Okehampton Unity Charities, Matthews Wrightson Charity Trust, Friends of Okehampton Hospital, Devon County Council Investing in Devon, Co-op Community Fund, Okehampton Lions and Waitrose Community Matters. We have held several events in the last couple of months including coffee morning, Easter Bingo and have also had a pop-up charity shop as we have received a large number of items from clients and supporters to sell on our behalf. We raised £330 at the Bingo, £450 at the Coffee Morning and over £1000 from the Pop-up shop. Clients are extremely generous in their support as they appreciate our help and understand that it would be difficult for them to be able to attend their appointments or get out of their properties, the services we provide are greatly appreciated by them and we receive many phone calls and letters of thanks. We are not life savers but quality of life savers. We currently have 1482 individual clients registered (95 in Winkleigh) plus we also provide transport for local care facilities.

In the year 2018/9 we carried 3857 passengers on 6574 journeys, 263 of which were in wheelchairs with our volunteer Car scheme. The majority of these journeys were for health appointments, but we also carried out several for social/domestic purposes. Our wonderful drivers clocked up 111470 miles and over 10565 volunteer hours! All these figures are a big increase on the previous year.

We also took 2005 passengers on our two buses for Ring and Ride shopping and other lifestyle trips, these buses covered 24,351 miles.

We have many of the Winkleigh parishioners who use these services on a very regular basis. We also take a group from Winkleigh to Barnstaple once a month on a Friday, we often have spaces available so would welcome more passenger bookings.

### **Chulmleigh Academy Trust**

**Annual report to Winkleigh Parish Council 2019 – Mike Johnson, Executive Headteacher**

Chulmleigh College has thrived over the last academic year. We are making the best of our new buildings and the demand for pupil places has been a feature of the last year.

In September 2019, there will be more than 640 pupils on roll which is the largest number we have had for at least 40 years. The school has raised capacity in order to accommodate 163 pupils in Year 7 and is putting another teaching group into this year group. This is important to us because the school needs to be able to offer a rich and wide curriculum with specialist teachers. To be sustainable, we now need to be able to recruit children from outside our very large area (over 200 square miles). Devon County Council no longer protect small secondary schools, so our response to this has been to grow. 25% of our pupils are from out of area; the school's reputation for high standards has grown and we intend to maintain this.

Behaviour and conduct in the school is impressive and our curriculum has pivoted on reading. We monitor reading carefully and are on track for the average pupil to read more than 1 million words of quality literature this year. Exam results last year were the best in the southwest region for a maintained comprehensive school. We were particularly pleased with our EBacc results which are a measure of a suite of the most demanding qualifications. Our Ebacc results were head and shoulders better than any other school in Devon.

Exam results are important. They give pupils choices when they leave school. Our aim is to provide our pupils with a very full educational experience. The college has had much success in sporting fixtures. Most notably, we are Southwest Champions for Badminton in two of the four possible age categories available. This competition includes state and private schools. We shall shortly be competing in the badminton national finals in Milton Keynes.

As well as traditional sports, our pupils get involved in Ten Tors, the Duke of Edinburgh Award, the Exmoor Challenge, Show-jumping and Eventing. Furthermore, our pupils recently won the Award for the Best School for its artwork at the Burton Gallery, Bideford. Music and drama are very strong at Chulmleigh. Over the last year, our pupils have performed drama in the Phoenix Theatre and The Great Hall at Exeter University.

Finally, we have all noticed how good the children are from your parish. So many of them make a wonderful contribution to the college. We are grateful for your continued support for your secondary school and are more than happy to help and get involved at your request. Should anyone listening to this report want the opportunity of a tour, please get in touch. Nothing beats seeing it for yourself; we would be delighted to show you.

**The chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 20.45pm**