

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

HELD IN STILLINGTON VILLAGE HALL

ON WEDNESDAY 22 MAY 2024 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Chairman Cllr Tim Drew

ALSO PRESENT: Nigel Knapton (Clerk)
6 members of the public

24/1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies from Richard Smythe and Christine Cookman.

24/2 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 3 MAY 2023

These were approved.

24/3 PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This meeting provides the opportunity for all parishioners to meet and discuss the work that the Parish Council has been engaged in during the last twelve months and have a constructive debate on how we move the agenda forward during the coming year. One of the responsibilities of the incumbent Parish Council Chair is to provide a short report to attendees at the Annual Parish Meeting.

This is my second year as Chairman of the Parish Council. I would like to thank the other councillors for their time and effort in making the council what it is. During the year Tim Milburn was co-opted onto the council. I said last year that we are truly fortunate that we have a council with differing views who are prepared to speak up and make their opinions known. This helps to make an effective council.

The matter of the Mayor for York & North Yorkshire has now been resolved with the election of David Skaith to that position. Hopefully now the Unitary Authority will be able to move forward.

The council, like so many other institutions are challenged financially, though we try our absolute best to make every pound work for the sake of Stillington.

A new council noticeboard has been made and installed, looking much better than the board it replaced.

The wall surrounding the churchyard gave the council great concern when the surveyor employed by the church believed the wall to be unsafe. After inspection by the North Yorkshire Council engineer it was deemed to be completely safe.

A new defibrillator was installed on the village hall outer wall, many thanks to county councillor Malcolm Taylor for providing the grant funds and to the village hall for allowing it to be installed on the building.

The council are now banking with the Unity Trust Bank, moving away from HSBC, we believe the service offered will be much better from the new bank.

The Parish Council now have its own website, previously we were part of the village website. With the new site, the clerk is now responsible for the upkeep of information that is required by the council. I would like to thank Graham Cookman for the work he has done in the past in the upkeep information on the village website.

Approved Chairman

Vehicle Actuated Speed Signs have been purchased (thanks to the grant from Stillington Community Association) and installed in the village. We presently have two signs and three posts. The posts are on York Road/Carr Lane, High Street and Mill Lane. Fixtures have been installed on each of the posts so that the signs can be able to operate in either direction. It is early days in terms of the effect it is having on speeding vehicles; early indications suggest vehicles are slowing down. More posts and signs may be considered in the future.

The large building development plans are at the time of writing still being considered by the planning department.

The tree issues that were identified in our tree survey that took place last year, has now been dealt with. Some trees that were dead or dying have been removed and others were dealt with accordingly.

The roof on the Old Bus Shelter has been replaced and will hopefully make this good for a number of years to come.

In recent months there has been quite a lot of damage within the village, together with anti-social behaviour. A representative of North Yorkshire Police attended a council meeting and stated that he was looking into these matters. Though he is now the only police officer regularly patrolling Easingwold and the surrounding villages.

The new streetlight for the junction of main Street and Mill Lane has now been ordered and hopefully will be erected in the not-too-distant future. After all it has only taken in the region of five years!

The parish council together with county councillor Malcolm Taylor are currently looking at providing parking provision outside the school. The problem being that the school are presently employing two members of staff who are disabled and have trouble walking, having to walk distance and over the cobbles is not helping.

Horse rider warning signs have now been erected either side of the bridges on Mill Lane.

I would like to thank the work of the people who sit on the council, the volunteers who work in the village at the local shop. Also, the many volunteers who work at the Sports Club, and various social clubs within the village. Finally, I would also like to thank all the people of Stillington who make this village such a marvellous place to live.

24/4 RESOLUTION(S) FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no resolutions.

24/5 QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

No questions were asked.

24/6 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 11 May 2025 at 7.00pm.

The meeting closed at 7.05pm.