
Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 14th May 2025

Present: Stephen Lucas (Chair), Pat Sutlieff, Jane Hartley, Matt Walker, and Katrin Harding.

Apologies: Narinder Ryatt and Lee Cripps. Borough Councillors Akhtar and Smith also sent their apologies - they and Lee Cripps were attending the Borough Planning Committee

25 stallholders for the Community Connect event also attended, as did 14 residents (some people were in both categories).

This year, the Annual Parish Meeting was again part of the wider Community Connect event, but there was a more formal part, presented by Stephen Lucas, Chair of the Parish Council.

The Chair first thanked the Councillors who had left in the last few months: Rob Jones, Isabelle Bray and Richard Bennett. He also thanked the staff.

He explained where the parish's income comes from, the precept and the income of its facilities, plus also Community Infrastructure Levy when new developments are built.

Expenditure is on the village facilities including its play areas, the Village Hall and East Park Farm. It also pays for the six part-time staff that serve the Council in making the village a better place.

He explained that the facilities are home to 40 local groups, some of whom are attending the Community Connect event.

The major upcoming project for the Parish Council is the refurbishment of the East Park Farm play area, which we hope will be completed this year.

The Parish Council tries to keep in touch with its residents in a number of ways, through its meetings, the village newsletter, its website, and social media.

He then asked whether anyone had any questions.

All the questions revolved around traffic – when the resurfacing would be done, concerns around speeding, and road works. There was a request for the Speed Indicator Device to be situated between the Wee Waif and the mini roundabout on the Old Bath Road, as residents were concerned about the speed vehicles are travelling at on this section of road.

Katrin Harding, in her role as Borough Councillor explained that the Council is looking into the idea of widespread 20mph zones, that should help with the speeding issues.

There were also concerns about cycle safety, and requests for improved cycle links to Piggott.

The Chair thanked everyone for coming, and the formal part of the meeting concluded.