

Minutes of the Firbeck ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on the 27th April 2022 at Firbeck Village Hall, New Road Firbeck

Present: Parish Council Vice-Chair, Jo Pittard.
6 Parishioners

The Vice-Chair welcomed those who attended the meeting and offered apologies on behalf of the Chair, Cllr Caroline Jopling, who could not attend due to an unforeseen personal matter.

1. Approval of the 2021 Annual Parish Minutes.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of the 26th May 2021 be approved.

2. Annual Report by the Chair of the Parish Council

The Vice-Chair presented her report on this year's activities. Issues during the year included:

- a. After several years' service to the council, including a period as Chair, Chris Stanton left the council during the year and the council wished to place on record its acknowledgement and thanks for his support not just to the council, but to the village as a whole over many years.
- b. Simon Copley was co-opted on to the council and there remains one vacancy to be a council member should anyone be interested.
- c. Sadly, one of the council's former long-serving members, Wendy Hamilton, recently passed away and condolences were passed from all present to her family. Wendy's support to the village in many ways over many years will be a sad loss and thoughts were with her family and friends at this time.
- d. Firbeck Hall development – the developers had reverted back to the original 2017 approved planning application and the development was now progressing well.
- e. Village sewers/drainage – significant work had recently been completed near the Black Lion and at the foot of Salt Hill to hopefully alleviate future flooding issues.
- f. Thanks were expressed to Julie and Brian Dunker for their continued efforts with the village planters that always enhanced the appearance of the village.
- g. The village entered the Britain-in-Bloom competition for the first time in approx. 25 years and thanks were expressed to all those who volunteered in preparing the village for assessment.
- h. 2021 saw the welcome return of the full Xmas Tree Festival, including a visit by Santa.
- i. The village sign was removed for reparation work but a new sign is now being commissioned with the original to be stored in the village.
- j. Three litter picks have been organized during the year, with first already completed. Thanks were expressed to all volunteers.
- k. The village Neighbourhood Plan will be developed in 2022, and a Steering Group, to include residents, will be formed shortly.
- l. Also in 2022, a village information board is hoped to be developed, and the council are also considering other options to improve the appearance of the village.
- m. Finally, to commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, there will be a display in the Village Hall looking at Firbeck throughout Her Majesty's reign, a flower festival in the church, a strawberry tea at The Yews and possibly some sort 'street party' event if enough interest/volunteers.

3. Firbeck Community Enhancement Projects. Covered above.

4. Presentations by Organisations and Groups

Some presentations were written rather than verbal.

Village Hall Committee.

Richard Collins thanked all committee members for their efforts and the village for its support, especially with help completing repairs and a re-decoration during closure. Grants had kept the Hall running, and a new sound system had been purchased. There was also plans afoot to re-design the garden. The Hall had now re-opened with some previous user groups not returning but new ones largely filling their places. Numerous events had been held since re-opening, including several film nights and the village barbeque.

Parochial Church Council

Nicky Blythe provided a summary of PCC activities including the 200th anniversary of the church last summer. A variety of events, including many non-religious events had been held throughout the year and thanks were expressed to all volunteers who helped make these happen and helped to maintain the church's appearance.

Poppy Appeal

(Written) Chris Stanton advised that door-to-door collections resumed in 2021, and takings were therefore improved from 2020 with a total of £2325 collected (including from static collection points, wreaths etc.). Thanks to all those who gave generously and collectors were sought for the 2022 collection following the retirement of several long-serving volunteers. Anyone interested should contact Chris via cdstanton@hotmail.com

Workshop Probus

(Written) Chris Stanton informed those present that the group meets fortnightly for eight months of the year at the Civic Centre in Carlton-in-Lindrick. A variety of events, including guest speakers and day visits, were held and enjoyed by all. New members are welcome (please contact Chris via the email address above). A day trip to Crich and the JCB factory on 26th August has been opened up to non-members at £55 per head; anyone interested should contact John Colver.

Play Reading Group

(Written) The group meets for an hour each Friday morning and new members are welcome – please contact Anita Stanton via stantona50@yahoo.co.uk Cost is £1 per week to cover hall and script hire.

Firbeck Ukrainian Refugee Support

An initial meeting, chaired by Simon Copley, had been held for those willing to accommodate and support Ukrainian refugees fleeing the conflict but progress had been slow due to the 'cumbersome' processes put in place by the government.

5. Any Other Business. Nil

The meeting was closed at 7:55pm

Signed

Dated.....