

ETWALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Etwall Annual Parish Meeting Held on Monday 10th March 2024 at 7.10pm at Frank Wickham Hall

Present: Cllr. R. Fearn (Chair), Clerk, Rachel Male and 23 members of the public

100325/APM/1 To receive apologies for absence.

Norman Ireland, Rob Hogan and Val Hobson

100325/APM/2 Public Speaking

None.

100325/APM /3 To approve minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on 4th March 2024

RESOLVED that the minutes were a true and accurate record of the meeting.

100325/APM /4 Matters Arising

None.

100325/APM /5 Chairmans Report

Thank you everyone for joining us this evening.

This report covers the 12 months since our last annual meeting on 4th March 2024.

So what have we achieved this last 12 months or rather, what would we like to make special mention to;

The beautiful lamp post flowers which were stunning again this year. Our small, but festive village Christmas decorations, that Lynda and I organised on a shoestring budget.

We also replaced the spotlights on the tree in front of the church, which were a lovely addition at Christmas and give us the ability to celebrate all sorts of occasions moving forward.

Sandypits car park entrance was resurfaced, and we now have a new speed indicator device for the village. The new DIS has the ability to be moved around several speeding hotspots, so thank you Ursula for working so hard on this. The trees we had planted around the village are looking splendid, thank you Val! It's exciting to watch these mature.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan group have been incredibly busy producing a draft of The Plan. The work that has gone into this project is astounding and the Parish Council are so grateful to every member of the group, Chris, Ursula, Anne, Lynda and residents Doug, Alex and Rex for your commitment to this important process.

Linkway to Footpath 6 has been on the PC agenda a lot this past year and as we continue to discuss a way forward, I'd like to thank Paul, Lynda and the residents involved for their passion and more importantly compassion on this matter. The Freeport continues to be a monthly agenda item, albeit we've received very little news so far. Thank you, David, for care taking this for us and for organising a new PA system and hearing loop for the hall.

I would like to take a moment to offer the team at The Express our heartfelt thanks for providing a wonderful vehicle for village communications all these years. As a Parish Council we have contributed and found it an invaluable way to reach residents. We are sorry to see the Express come to an end and thank you again to the team for the years of dedication and hard work.

Lastly, I want to thank everyone who has been involved in so many positive actions and initiatives during the last 12 months. Thanks to all the Parish Councillors who work tirelessly and voluntarily to make Etwall a great place to live and whose knowledge and expertise enrich the capabilities and productivity of the Council (Norman, your work on PC finances and budgeting is so appreciated.) Thanks to our District and County Councillors; Andy Kirke, David Muller and Martyn Ford who help guide and support us. Our wonderful Clerk Rachel, who is absolutely integral to the PC team. And of course, our staff Phil, Earl and Yvette who ensure our village keeps running optimally.

I want to thank our residents for communicating with us and working with us on matters close to all our hearts. It really is great to have your continued involvement and support.

100325/APM /6 Finance Report

Accounts for 2023/2024 were completed successfully and signed off by the external auditors.

The Council received a grant from Locality for £10,000 towards the costs to produce a Neighbourhood Development Plan.

£3419.50 from the Neighbourhood Watch and £3000 from the Police Crime Commissioner for the purchase and installation of the Speed Indicator device.

A total of £1591 has been donated so far, this financial year via S137 which included donations to:

Etwall Cadets
Etwall Welfare Trust
Etwall Well Dressing
Royal British Legion

100325/APM /7 Pride of Etwall Award

The awards for 2024 were received by:

Sarah Macpherson - recognised for her outstanding contribution to Etwall Army Cadet Force and the wider community. Sarah has strengthened the bond between the detachment and the village, the incredibly moving Remembrance Parade last year is testament to this. Sarah truly embodies the spirit of volunteerism, giving selflessly of her time and energy. A constant source of inspiration with a leadership style that is both motivational and nurturing, Sarah fosters an environment of respect, discipline and teamwork. Her commitment goes above and beyond, leaving a lasting positive impact.

Bregje Fisk - After receiving an amazing number of incredibly moving and inspiring nominations, we are privileged to recognise, posthumously Bregje, who sadly passed away November last year.

Bregje made countless contributions to Etwall community from caring for residents, litter picking to organising and supporting numerous school and community events. One of the nominations included a power which I am sure puts it far more eloquently than I could, the impact Bregje had on her friends, colleagues and community.

100325/APM /8 Any other business

None.

100325/APM /9 Meeting closed 7.24pm

Signed:.....

Date:.....