

PARISH OF YOULGRAVE

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at the Village Hall, Youlgrave on 19 April 2016

Electors Present Parish Council Chairman Brian Wardle in the chair and 11 other electors

In Attendance 4 members of the public

1 Appointment of Clerk The meeting appointed Matthew Lovell, Parish Clerk to take the minutes.

2 Apologies PC Wolverston and PCSO Grundy + County Councillor Simon Spencer

3 Minutes **Resolved** That the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 28 April 2015 be confirmed as a correct record and be signed by the Chair.

4 Statement of Accounts The Parish Council has maintained its budgeted spending within plan this year and reduced its reserves by £2000 to pay out long term budgeted commitments. The accounts for 2015/16 will be finalised at the April Council meeting and are being audited on 9th May ready to presentation to the external auditor. In line with new government requirements the unaudited accounts will be available on our website before our next meeting.

5 Chair's report The past year has been a busy and productive time for the Parish Council, where we have continued to work for the benefit of all residents of the Parish. The Precept (the levy charged by the Parish Council for services in the village included in your Council Tax) is again unchanged whilst maintaining our commitment to the parish.

The assets managed by the Parish Council are inspected and reviewed on a yearly basis and suggestions from residents are discussed. These assets are:

1. The Queen Elizabeth II Playing Fields (Alport Lane)

This area is used by the Football, Cricket and Bowls Clubs and by Youlgrave School and the Youlgrave Carnival on an organised basis; as well as being used throughout the seasons as a safe play area for village children and visitors alike.

A number of improvements have been carried out to enhance the experience of users of this valuable facility.

- An access path from the parking area to the pavilion has been extended to the bowling green and the children's play area
- Provision of a shelter with seating adjacent to the multi-use games area
- Provision of a secure store for the football club's use
- Replacement of toddler swings
- Creation of a new BMX trail below the children's play area thanks to generous support from Hope Construction Materials and to the children of Youlgrave School who first suggested the idea.

We are hoping to provide further facilities at Alport Lane including a trim trail for adult users and possibly use of lighting for the multi-games area, subject to funding.

2. Coldwell End Play Area and Car park

This provides a play area for the younger children from the top end of the village and for the children of visitors. The car park provides valuable off road parking and the honesty box contributions continue to show how much the users appreciate this asset.

We are hoping to improve the facilities at this site, bringing it into the 21st Century, subject to planning permission being granted.

3. Coldwell End Allotments

These allotments are very popular and a source of income for the Parish Council.

4. Holywell Lane Toilet Block

This was taken over from Derbyshire Dales District Council with provision of a grant and it has been refurbished and provides a source of income from the honesty box.

Other activities carried out have included:

- Return of a new bench seat at the fountain in its original East facing aspect
- Continued support of Bakewell and Eyam Community Transport. This provides an excellent service to many elderly and disabled residents who would find it difficult to travel to towns in the area
- Funding of summer mowing in Youlgrave Churchyard
- Planting of an Oak tree sapling (presented to the village by the Royal Park at Windsor to celebrate Her Majesty's Diamond Jubilee) at Alport Lane Playing Fields.

Over the past year we have been frustrated by a number of issues beyond our direct control but nevertheless we have made strong representations on your behalf. These have included the withdrawal of the recycling facility at Coldwell End by the District Council and the reluctance of the County Council to respond to our requests for improved signage near Hawley's Bridge. At the moment, the drivers of HGVs approaching the sign are unable to reverse and have to travel through Alport and Youlgrave. We are all well aware of the budget cuts which have had to be made in Local Government, but if DCC have savings in mind the cost of high visibility weight restriction and diversion signs on the B5056 will be much less than repairing the damage done to the highway and to Youlgrave Waterworks infrastructure.

Finally, on a somewhat negative note, I am sorry that I have to report cases of vandalism (Alport Lane toilets) and arson (Holywell Lane toilets) during the year. Parishioners should be aware that the Parish Council Council cannot keep the precept unchanged or provide worthwhile improvements when funds have to be diverted to pay for repairs caused by this antisocial behaviour.

Brian Wardle, Chairman

7 District Councillor

Graham Elliott noted that life in his first year as our District Councillor for Lathkill and Bradford has been tough and time consuming. He sits on both planning and licensing committees which cover the whole District but is determined to look after the three villages. He has been able to provide some financial support in Monyash towards their defibrillator, here for our new Fountain bench and to Bakewell and Eyam Community Transport who provide essential services to all our communities. Cuts continue and he will continue to fight our corner. He noted that DDDC has a high regard for Youlgrave Parish Council as one of the most pro-active parishes in the District.

8 County Councillor

Simon Spencer sent his apologies

9 Police

PC Ian Wolverson and PCSO Grundy sent their apologies

10 Open Parish

No matters were brought to this meeting.

The meeting closed at 7 : 13 pm