

PARISH OF YOULGRAVE

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

held in Youlgrave Village Hall on 25th April 2023 at 7:00pm

Electors Present

Parish Council Chairman Graham Elliott in the chair and 9 other electors (2 parish + 6 councillors and the Parish Clerk)

In Attendance

0 members of the public

1 Appointment of Clerk

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

2 Apologies

Cllrs L Goodwin, S Hallam and K Clayton, County Councillor S Spencer and PCSO Boswell

3 Minutes

Resolved That the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 26 April 2022 be confirmed as a correct record and be signed by the Chair.

4 Chair's report

Youlgrave Parish Council: Chairman's Report: 2022-23

Good evening and thank you for turning out to tonight's Annual Parish meeting. This report will be published in the next available issue of the Bugle.

It has been a busy year once again and as usual not without challenges.

Starting at Coldwell End Car Park we now have one oversized marked disabled bay, this is to accommodate roof mounted wheel chairs as these need more space at the side to unload.

Members cleared the borders around the car park extension and I'm sure you have noticed the wonderful display of around 750 daffs that have been planted. Further to that we have been awarded a grant from The Peak Park which will allow us to plant more including wild flowers and shrubs. The bark mulch we used earlier in the year was kindly donated to us by Simon Skinner the local tree surgeon.

Part of my allowance as District Councillor from the local projects fund has gone towards paying for the daff bulbs and provide a second picnic bench for Coldwell End play area.

Our allotments remain as popular as ever with a short waiting list should any become available.

Moving on to Alport Lane. The Royal Oak continues to thrive and is regularly monitored by Rob Scott. Our gym equipment around the perimeter of the field remains as popular as ever and is in daily use.

We were fighting a losing battle filling the potholes in the car parking area so we have now resurfaced the worst with tarmac. We will eventually continue the tarmac to the end. The bike track has been tidied and is ready to receive the younger riders.

I want to thank the volunteer litter pickers in the village who are out in force in all weathers. They do a great job in keeping our village and surrounding area litter free. Just to remind you that we have the equipment available if you can spare the time to help out.

We are also looking for volunteers to join our small speed watch team, again we have the equipment if you can spare the time. Further details available from our Parish Clerk.

Unfortunately, we have been plagued with vandalism this year both on Alport Lane and Coldwell End. This has extended to obscene graffiti on village road signs and buildings. We have had to take action as this type of behaviour cannot be ignored.

Following recommendation from the Police, members have therefore decided to install CCTV on 3 of our sites. CWE. ALPF and Holywell Lane in the hope it may put an end to this type of behaviour. It's commercial quality equipment, can see in the dark, operates 24/7 and more importantly the footage is accessible by the Police and can be used in any prosecution. Due to the high costs involved Members agreed to apply for a grant for this venture from our Police and Crime commissioner Angelique Foster, the application was supported by our local PCSO, me as District Councillor and County Councillor Simon Spencer. You will no doubt be pleased to know our application was successful. Installation at Coldwell end and Holywell Lane has been completed and has been operational for almost 10 weeks now (Without incident I might add). Alport Lane installation includes a new mains electricity supply to the playing fields toilet. This is to enable lighting, electronic locks and cctv cameras to be fitted. The work was hindered by the snow but I'm glad to say has now been completed and fully operational.

The knowledge and skills of our clerk Matthew Lovell and Cllr Andrew McCloy have been instrumental in submitting these successful grant applications. Cllr Sue Hallam was also involved with the successful grant application from the Peak District National Park.

The Jubilee Street Party Speaks for itself. An event that I don't think can be topped. I lost count of the number of residents who thanked us for organising and hosting the event.

We have a great team of councillors and I want to thank them all including our parish clerk for all their hard work throughout the year. Members who are not seeking re-election for the next term will be missed.

I also need to give a special thanks to Eileen Lowe. Eileen cleans our village toilets, I know members will agree, Eileen has gone way beyond her remit in regularly cleaning up the disgusting mess left by these vandals this past year.

On a final note, we need to keep our village at the top of its game, and we will. I am looking forward to next year's challenges with anticipation and the continued support of the village.

Graham Elliott (Chair) Youlgrave Parish Council.

6. PDNPA member

Andrew McCloy informed the meeting that after 12 years as our Parish Member including 5 as Chairman of the Authority, he is stepping down to pursue other interests whilst remaining committed as a parish councillor.

The PDNPA is going through major restructure under a new Chief Executive & new 5 year plan, enforced by government cuts that have seen its £9 million budget of 10 years ago currently £6 million (overall 40% drop in income) so is likely to close all its visitor centres and reduce staff which will invariably slow up its statutory work in planning as it attempts to keep its core functions to protect the National Park in place.

Andrew McCloy Cllr, PDNPA Chairman

7. District Councillor

This year has been the most controversial since I joined Derbyshire Dales in 2015, it's been a difficult one to say the least. Looking forward I can't see any improvement at the moment. Maybe the newly elected council will bring back some cohesion and enable all to pull together.

I don't intend producing a resume of all last year's issues so I'm just going to mention the odd one or two that directly concerns us here in the village. Anyone interested in the full scope of council issues can find a full resume on the council's website.

Serco now seem to have got their act together with the refuse collections. There has been no more than a handful of complaints about missed bins, and those have been dealt with promptly.

Our litter bins are now being emptied on a more regular basis during busy periods which is very helpful in our visitor hot spots.

Street cleaning and weed control remains an issue in the village, it's an ongoing problem which we are addressing. The main road through the village is not a District Council responsibility, however it remains a disgrace following an attempt to re surface. I'm pushing to get it sorted asap, however I'm told the road temperature needs to be a minimum of 8 degrees before the surface can be re-laid.

There are also some footpaths in the village that need resurfacing and various problems have been raised by tenants of Platform Housing. I am currently dealing with all those issues and more besides.

There are other items high on the district council's action list including Ukrainian refugees. Traveller Sites. Homelessness. Council Housing, the list goes on.

On a lighter note, my year in office as Civic Chair has kept me busier than ever. I've attended dozens of events and functions, and met loads of interesting people from all walks of life.

One of the most memorable for me was to represent the Derbyshire dales district in reading the proclamation following the Queen's death, and to receive a personal note of thanks from King Charles following my letter of condolence.

As my role as Civic Chair comes to an end, I want to thank all who supported my charity, in particular Anne Prince and Jannett Wilson, the residents of Youlgrave and fellow Parish Councillors. We live in a very generous community.

Cllr. Graham Elliott, Civic Chairman DDDC

8. County Councillor

Simon Spencer sent apologies

9. Police

PCSO Morris sent apologies

10. Open Parish

Parishioners raised: matters of speeding

The hit and run heard at 6:10am last Saturday has received no police presence due to nobody witnessing the incident although councillors present noted that there may be house cctv that hasn't been investigated yet.

This latest incident tops an already growing motion to lower the speed limits to 20 mph although it is noted that several of the culprits are parishioners.

Your Parish Council is already signed up to "20 is Plenty" campaign which is growing in support and is seeing Derbyshire County Council create pilot schemes for towns but sadly with no acknowledgement of a need in villages.

Our Community Speed Watch is in need of more trained volunteers to more regularly educate motorists but there was a feeling that sending letters out for more than 30mph is too high a speed anyway.

A meeting of concerned parishioners was advertised by those attending for next month.

The meeting closed at 7: 35 pm