

Minutes of the Firbeck ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on the 24th April 2024 at Firbeck Village Hall, New Road Firbeck

Present: Parish Council Chair, Cllr Caroline Jopling.
7 Parishioners

1. Approval of the 2023 Annual Parish Minutes.

Resolved: That the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of the 26th April 2023 be approved.

2. Annual Report by the Chair of the Parish Council

The Chair presented her report on this year's activities, which focused on projects the council tried to achieve during the year, and included:

- a. Commissioning a village CCTV system through RMBC. The cameras have been purchased and hopefully will be installed soon once locations have been agreed.
- b. The new painted village sign is now in place, which will hopefully be enhanced with a stone planter in the future. The original wooden sign is to be displayed in the church.
- c. Ideas for re-purposing the phone box as an information point will hopefully be presented to the council shortly.
- d. Sadly, no progress was made during the year with either formulating a scheme of improvement to the Kidd Lane/New Road junction, nor the purchase of racehorse sculptures, although planning permission will be applied for soon for the latter of these two projects.
- e. Plans are being developed to install a second village defibrillator in the church porch.
- f. The village received a silver gilt medal from the Royal Horticultural Society for its entry in the Yorkshire in Bloom competition.
- g. Another excellent Christmas tree festival was held, attracting more people than ever!.
- h. Thanks were expressed to Julie and Brian Dunker for their continued efforts with the village planters that always enhanced the appearance of the village.
- i. Surface water drains – the exceptional rainfall had caused many problems during the year. RMBC engineers attended a council meeting to hear of the issues and, as a result, plans are being developed for land and road drainage improvements. In addition, a direct line of communication between RMBC officers and residents was established to keep abreast of these issues.
- j. Neighbourhood Plan – a public meeting was held to assess interest, following which a number of volunteers stepped forward to form a steering group. A consultant has been appointed and the first meeting of the steering group will be held soon.

3. Firbeck Neighbourhood Plan. Covered at item 2j above.

4. Presentations by Organisations and Groups

Some presentations were written rather than verbal.

Poppy Appeal

Chris Stanton advised that collections in 2023 totalled a record £2781, of which £1686 came from house -to-house collection, £628 from static collection points and £467 in donations for

wreaths etc. Thanks to all those who volunteered and gave generously, Additional collectors were sought for the 2024 collection and anyone interested should contact Chris via cdstanton@hotmail.com Thanks were expressed to all volunteers, organisations who supported the Appeal and places that held static collections.

YCA

Anita Stanton informed those present that the YCA meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7pm, and activities over the year included a range of speakers, workshops and crafts.

Probus

Despite having no formal structure, Probus clubs can be found all over the country and the world, the object being to promote fellowship amongst members by holding regular meetings and social functions. Meetings take place fortnightly on Friday mornings between September and May at St John's Parish Centre, Carlton. Meetings regularly include guest speakers on a variety of subjects, the club organises trips/visits and also social functions. Anyone interested should visit the website: www.probusclubofworksop.co.uk or email cdstanton@hotmail.com

Bowling

Bowling is held on Monday nights in the Village Hall and has c.30 members. Evenings are viewed as good, fun social occasions and all are welcome.

Table Tennis

A table tennis group meets each Wednesday 1630-1830hrs in the Village Hall. It's a club where all abilities are welcome (even complete beginners) to play in a friendly atmosphere with plenty of opportunity to socialise.

Village Hall Committee.

Richard Collins thanked all committee members for their efforts and the village for its support. A range of events were held in the Hall including monthly film nights, weekly coffee mornings, entertainment acts, social nights, and the Christmas fayre. The Hall was also used regularly by a variety of groups. A clothing bank had been installed in the car park and work continued to re-vamp the garden, which should be completed as soon as the weather allows. The Village Hall also had a new website which people could subscribe to, to keep up-to-date with all the latest news and events.

Parochial Church Council

(Written) An explanation of the Church of England parish (as opposed to the civil parish) was given, and this included both St Martin's Church and St Peter's Church, Letwell, with one Church Warden and one Parochial Church Council looking after both. A number of well-attended events were held at both churches throughout the year, although sadly a few planned events had to be cancelled due to a lack of staff. The organ in St Martin's Church was serviced during the year and the church now has an organist who has played on occasions, making a welcome change from the CDs normally used.

The Chair concluded by thanking everyone for the contribution they and their groups made to the village.

6. Any Other Business. Nil

The meeting was closed at 8:00pm

Signed

Dated.....