

Minutes of the Drayton Bassett Annual Parish Assembly held Tuesday 16th April 2024 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr D Biggs
Cllr A Edmond
Cllr B Reynolds
Cllr D Davies (Vice Chair)
Cllr M Keenan (Chair)
Cllr A Stockil

Also Present: H Goodreid – Parish Clerk

P Acton	D Bryant
J Fellows	J Fellows
A Foley (The WI)	J Haden-Homer
J Jennings (St Peters)	R Keenan
P Millard	J Parkash (Village Club)
C Parry-Webb	M Price (BBV/HS2)
K Putman	M Putman
S Robson (Manor Academy)	L Shears
P Shears	J Watson
S Werran	J Williams
J Williams	

Min No.	Item	Actions
1	Welcome Address	
1.1	Cllr Keenan as Chair of the Parish Council welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr Bridge.	
2	Minutes of Annual Assembly on 25th April 2023	
2.1	These were noted and approved.	
3	Reports	
3.1	<u>Drayton Bassett Parish Council</u> The Chair of the Council read the Annual Report which is attached. The council now has a full complement of Cllrs and a parish clerk who started in June 23. The main focus of work has been the transformation of the Village Park using the £75,000 grant received from HS2. This year saw a new Heritage Board put up in Old Manor Close. Community Speedwatch was set up and has growing numbers of volunteers. The council has applied for Best Kept Village and is working with residents and organisations to make sure planters are looking great, hedges cut and litter collected ready for the judging in May and June. The parish council advertises its work on the notice board, on its website and through their Facebook page. Meetings are held on the 3 rd Tuesday of each month except August and December.	
3.2	<u>Women's Institute</u> The President of the WI read the Annual Report which is attached. The	

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president advised that the membership is at 18 but the WI is always looking to welcome new members to their meetings which are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. A complete programme of events is already booked for 2024.

3.3 St Peters Church

The Deputy Warden read the Annual report which is attached. Lots of events were held in the last year and a similar programme is scheduled for 2024. There is an increase in bell ringing as there is now a full complement of bells. The Plant and Coffee morning was well attended and will be replicated in 2024.

3.4 Manor Primary Academy

The Head Teacher read the Annual Report which is attached. The school is now an academy school which links them to 10 other schools. The PTA had folded during COVID but is now back up and running, bringing parents together and raising money for the school. Pupil numbers had dropped to 88 inc nursery but this has now risen to 92 and gradually rising. The school are still looking for governors – please contact the school if you are interested.

3.5 Village Club

The acting Treasurer spoke about the work of the Village Club. Progress has been made since last year with the club now linked to Heineken Brewery. There is a programme of work to improve the toilets in the function room and improve the seating to make it family friendly. The back room is being let most weekends and each month the takings are increasing by 8 – 12%. The club now holds a sports licence to allow them to show sports on the big screens. Looking to hold a Caribbean Evening in August 2024. Members are always welcome with subs being £10pa for OAPs, £18pa for renewing membership and £28pa for new members.

3.6 Police Report

The police were unable to attend but did provide the following Crime Figures for the parish:

12 months 2023 - 2024							
ASB	Public Order	Vehicle Crime	Burglary	Suspicious Incident	Theft Other	Criminal Damage	Total
2	2	3	0	6	4	1	18
Previous 12 months 2022 - 2023							
4	1	5	2	5	4	1	22

3.7 BBV/HS2

The Engagement Officer for Balfour Beatty Vinci spoke about the works undertaken and the programme for the coming months. The Sutton Road realignment has taken place in preparation for the bridge works. Similar work will be taking place on Bangley Lane. It is likely that the bridges will be in place end 2025/early 2026. BBV staff have volunteered in recent months to provide planters, birdboxes and benches for the community. They have also undertaken a litter pick in the village. When Speedwatch have picked up speeding HS2 vans in the village, this matter has been dealt

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	with and the staff dismissed from site until further training and awareness has taken place.	
4	Parish Council Finances	
4.1	The parish clerk presented the finances for the past year and the report is attached. There had been a dramatic rise in expenditure for the year which was due to the spending of the grant for the Village Park. The accounts at the beginning of the year were £12,199 and at the close of the year were £23,489. The monies held had been ear marked against anticipated expenditure or projects which would take place during 2024/2025.	
5	Open Forum	
5.1	The chair invited questions and comments from the floor:	
5.2	A Foley raised a question about the problem potholes in Salts Lane. It was understood that the main ones had been filled but the smaller ones still caused an issue.	
5.3	P Millard thanked the Councillors for their work over the past year which was all voluntary.	
	Refreshments were served at the end of the meeting.	

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