

# Minutes of the Drayton Bassett Annual Parish Assembly held Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr R Bridge (Chair) Cllr M Gwynn  
Cllr A Price Cllr A Stockil  
Cllr J Williams Cllr E Wilson

Also Present: H Goodreid – Parish Clerk

P Acton	M Bridge
E Brown	D Bryant
J Cooper	M Cooper
J Davies	Z Dewes
M Gold	K Gold
J Jennings	M Keenan
R Keenan	P Millard
A Minifie	K Putman
M Putman	L Shears
P Shears	H Sheridan
S Werran	O Widdows
J Williams	

No.	Min	Item	Actions
<b>1</b>		<b>Welcome Address</b>	
1.1		Cllr Rosemary Bridge, as Chair of the Parish Council, welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr C Williams. Cllr Bridge advised that the order of matters on the agenda would be changed to accommodate the delayed arrival of the representative from the Village Club.	
<b>2</b>		<b>Minutes of Annual Assembly on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b>	
2.1		These had been approved at the Parish Council meeting on 21 <sup>st</sup> May 2024 were noted by the meeting.	
<b>3</b>		<b>Reports</b>	
3.1		<u>Drayton Bassett Parish Council</u> The Chair of the Council read the Annual Report which is attached. This year had seen a lot of change within the Council with 6 of the seven Cllrs resigning in summer 2024 and new Cllr were co-opted and appointed in October 2024. The past year had seen a house to house survey undertaken to gauge opinion re Dogs in the Park, the Speedwatch team continued with 851 vehicles tracked passing through the village during their sessions – 62 of which were speeding, a volunteer gardening day had been arranged for 26 <sup>th</sup> April – all welcome in the village park, and a spring newsletter had been issued.	

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3.2	<u>Women's Institute</u> The President of the WI read the Annual Report which is attached. The president advised that the membership is stable at 18 but is always looking to welcome new members to their meetings which are held on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month. Events held over the year included various speakers, a trip to the Assembly Rooms to see Oliver!, and supporting various local events. The WI continues to enjoy working with other groups in the village.															
3.3	<u>St Peters Church</u> One of the church wardens read the Annual report which is attached. Lots of events were held in the last year and a similar programme is scheduled for 2025. Unfortunately the vicar has moved to Stonnall/Shenstone but work continues to provide numerous events. The next plant sale will take place on 10 <sup>th</sup> May between 10am and 12pm. Repairs to the church have been carried out at a cost of around £13k so work is underway to apply for grant funding to support other improvements in the church – a questionnaire would be coming to all households to seek views on improvements to the use of the church facilities.															
3.4	<u>Manor Primary Academy</u> No-one was available from the school to attend the meeting															
3.5	<u>Village Club</u> This matter would be dealt with in item 5 on the agenda.															
3.6	<u>VEGGIES</u> A representative from the Village Entertainment Group spoke to the report which is attached. The aim of the group is to bring the community together through a range of activities e.g. Carols in The Croft and Over 60's Christmas lunch. In the coming year the group were looking to hold a Picnic in the Park in July 2025 and village quiz nights.															
3.7	<u>Police Report</u> The police were unable to attend but did provide the following Crime Figures for the parish: <table><tr><td>Transport</td><td>Fraud</td><td>Public Order</td><td>Admin</td><td>Suspicious Incident</td><td>Vehicle Crime</td><td><b>Total</b></td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>1</td><td>1</td><td><b>15</b></td></tr></table>	Transport	Fraud	Public Order	Admin	Suspicious Incident	Vehicle Crime	<b>Total</b>	7	1	2	3	1	1	<b>15</b>	
Transport	Fraud	Public Order	Admin	Suspicious Incident	Vehicle Crime	<b>Total</b>										
7	1	2	3	1	1	<b>15</b>										
3.8	<u>BBV/HS2</u> No one was available to attend the meeting but they would be attending the June Parish Council meeting to update the community.															
4	<b>Parish Council Finances</b>															
4.1	The parish clerk presented the finances for the past year and the report is attached. Expenditure was significantly lower than the previous year as last year had focussed on the HS2 grant. As the council had effectively not operated for 3 – 4 months over the															

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	summer/autumn, expenditure had fallen off so the end of the year saw an inflated bank balance. Cllrs had identified projects to allow for spending of those reserves to bring them into line with auditor guidelines.	
<b>5</b>	<b>Open Forum</b>	
5.1	<p>The chair invited questions and comments from the floor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Question over when the boundary trees to the park would be cut – a tree survey has been completed and this would guide future tree works.</li> <li>• Thanks went to the local landowner who had reinstated the footpath over the field.</li> <li>• Memorial daffodils would not be available until 2026. HS2 would be providing bulbs which had been rescued from houses along the HS2 route.</li> <li>• Question over applying for Best Kept Village – Cllrs felt that this would be best coming from the community rather than through the parish council but would consider again for next year.</li> <li>• Comments about the dogs in the park and general behaviour of dog owners in the village. Whilst nice to see families with children and dogs enjoying the open space, owners should be respectful of local residents' private gardens and now allowing dogs to foul them.</li> <li>• Request for 20mph limit through the village to deter speeding vehicles.</li> </ul>	
5.2	<p><u>Update on the Village Club</u></p> <p>Marc Gold – treasurer of the club – attended the meeting to discuss actions taken to date. The club volunteers were taking on a lot of the work to ensure that the inside was cleaned, repainted, seating was repurposed and the layout rethought. Debtors had been approached and repayment plans were now in place. Volunteers would take on the staffing of the bar to reduce the wage bill by £50k per year. There has been a strong start to the way in which the club would run but this would take time. The club were now starting to advertise memberships for residents at £25 per year and those interested should email Marc at: <a href="mailto:draytonclub@googlemail.com">draytonclub@googlemail.com</a> The Club had revamped the Facebook page where updates on the opening (Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2025) would be posted. The treasurer took on board the general comments from the community about the issues around the bench in front of the club, the state of the garden etc.</p>	
	<b>Refreshments were served at the end of the meeting.</b>	

The meeting finished at 8.15pm

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