

Minutes of the Drayton Bassett Annual Parish Assembly held Tuesday 21st April 2026 at 7.00pm

Present: 29

Min No.	Item
1	Welcome Address
1.1	CLlr Rosemary Bridge, Chairman of the Parish Council, welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2	Minutes of Annual Assembly on 15th April 2025
2.1	The minutes were approved.
3	Reports
3.1	<u>Drayton Bassett Parish Council</u> The Chairman of the Council reported on what the council has been doing in the past municipal year. Printed copies of the report were circulated.
3.2	<u>Women's Institute</u> Lynn from the WI reported they had held a garden event and have upgraded the Hall. They would like to thanks Paul for looking after the grounds and County Councillor Alex Farrel for a grant. The hall remains popular venue for parties, clubs and other events. They have had many speakers through the year. They also awarded an award to two local schoolchildren. They have been supporting other local groups. They have 15 active members and welcome new members. It was also the 100 th birthday of WI this year.
3.3	<u>St Peters Church</u> Jean reported for the church. It's been a busy year, and they are advertising for a new vicar. The church continues to hold services, and the wardens are enjoying the challenge. They hold numerous events and services throughout the week and the whole community is invited. In November the Remembrance Service was very busy and well supported. The Carol service was well attended and residents joined in with the service. They sadly held 13 funerals this year. Last year several plant themed events were held, this year's spring event is on 16 th May 10-12.30. The church also hosted an event for the school. The Church has had major stonework repairs over the past couple of years, at a big cost. The majority of their funds have been depleted. The Church needs funds to repair the chancel. They would welcome help applying for grants and identifying funds. A new gas boiler has also been installed at a cost of £4k. The congregation generously contributed £1,200. County Councillor Alex Farrel donated £100.
3.4	<u>Manor Primary Academy</u> No-one was available to attend the meeting.
3.5	<u>Village Club</u> Corina from the club reported on its activities. The club was closed for 5 months, reopening in May. They have been working hard to make the club more user friendly and make it the centre of the village. The club is now in profit. Started renovating the building. Everyone from the community is welcome and they have regular afternoon teas, often themed. Other events include a monthly quiz night. Women's keep fit class, line dancing and children's dancing class.

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<p>3.6</p>	<p>The school prom will be held in the club this year and a pantomime will also take place. The club will host carols and the pensions lunch. They hope to start a pop up café in the club this year and continue the refurbishments, with the men's toilets next. The woman's toilets have already been refurbished, along with the bar area. The club also aspire to open a small shop in the club.</p> <p><u>VEGGIES</u> A representative from the Village Entertainment Group spoke about the events they hold through the year. They are all volunteers and aim to bring the community together to enjoy each other's friendship. All events are free, funded by raffles and donations. They thanked the community for being so generous. They do the Carols in the Croft the week before Christmas on a Friday, featuring a brass band and Father Christmas. They believe there was 150 people in attendance. They also have the over 60's lunch on Sunday that filled the village club. The next event planned is picnic in the park.</p> <p>3.7 <u>Police Report</u> No-one was available to attend the meeting.</p> <p>3.8 <u>BBV/HS2</u> No one was available to attend the meeting. They did attend the last parish council meeting.</p> <p>3.9 <u>Other</u></p> <p><u>Drayton Bassett Arts and Crafts Group</u> They have been running and group in the WI hall for a while and reported on the sad passing of their founder. The art group meets on Friday mornings at 10am in the WI hall. Fee is £3 (inc tea & coffee). All are welcome to join the club.</p> <p><u>Ladies Keep Fit Group</u> The group helps ladies of all ages to improve their fitness and socialise. The group started with 10-12 and helps villagers who didn't know each other make friends. The group has a strong community spirit and now is a thriving group of 20+ with a waiting list.</p>
<p>4 4.1</p>	<p>Open Forum The chair invited input from the floor:</p> <p>A thank you was expressed to Mr & Mrs Footman's for looking after the Churchyard.</p> <p>A thank you to the letter box knitters, they are always welcome and bring joy to the community.</p> <p>A residents asked if a recently installed litter bin installed on the verge could be moved.</p> <p>A resident raised a non-working lamppost. It was reported that the lamppost was installed by HS2, but has not yet been connected by the utility company over a dispute about who will pay for the electricity.</p>
<p>5 5.1</p>	<p>Close The meeting finished at 7.48pm</p>

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