

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 4th April 2011 at 7.30pm
in the Village Hall

Present: Chairman Cllr Mrs J Frost;
Cllrs C Macdonald; M Leach; Cllr Mrs J Scoggins
Dist.Cllr A McCloy
Parish Clerk Mrs A Wales; 6 residents;

1	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: County Cllr Simon Spencer; Cllr R Woolley
2	MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL PARISH MEETING: The Minutes of the Meeting of 12th April 2010 were approved.
3	ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2011 The accounts were approved as a true copy.
4	CHAIRMAN'S REPORT The Chairman welcomed the residents to the meeting. She invited them to make comments or ask questions whenever they wished during her report.
4.1	<i>Street Lighting:</i> The Chairman reflected that a new new street light is now in situ at the end of Church Street, just leaving the village. Resident Mrs Mycock Has informed the Parish Council she now feels safer and has expressed her thanks for this light being erected.
4.2	<i>Voluntary Car Parking Honesty Box:</i> This box which was erected on Jack Mere Car Park one year ago is proving to be a great success. A plaque has been made asking people to donate money into the box for funds to maintain the village. Each month collections have been very good. The Parish Council plan to use the proceeds towards projects in the village and have in mind the fact that the playing field is in need of substantial renovation. Any funds collected will be much needed for this and the upkeep of the car park. The Parish Council are also aware that the area surrounding the well on the car park is in need of attention
4.3	<i>Signs for Village Lanes:</i> New signs have been made for some of the village lanes and are now in situ. The Parish Council feel it is important for the village that the names of the lanes are kept and also that visitors or new residents know them.
4.4	<i>Telephone Box:</i> It was noted in last year's Annual Parish Meeting that there was no longer a telephone in the box due to vandalism. The Parish Council is now pleased that this has now been re-instated.
4.5	<i>School Playing Field:</i> The School Playing Field is in need of major renovation. The Parish Council had hoped this renovation would have been completed by now yet due to circumstances beyond control of the Council no progress has been made. Members are currently pursuing new lines of enquiry and possibilities for funding.
4.6	<i>Planning Applications:</i> The Chairman stated that when considering planning applications priority is always given to the village needs and whether proposed plans benefit the village.
4.7	<i>Retirement of Cllr MacDonald:</i> Cllr MacDonald is retiring after 24 years as a Parish Councillor. The Chairman expressed sincere gratitude to Cllr MacDonald acknowledging the tremendous contribution he has made to the village. In particular, his expertise on the local footpaths has been invaluable.
4.8	<i>District Councillor Andrew McCloy:</i> Cllr McCloy is standing down after 5 years as District Councillor of Lathkill and Bradford ward. The Chairman acknowledged Cllr McCloy's hard work over this period and thanked him for his proactiveness and determination. Cllr McCloy stated that he will remain Chairman of Youlgreave Parish Council and will also be standing for a position as Parish Member of the PDNPA.

6	<p>SCHOOL COMMUNITY GOVERNOR'S REPORT</p> <p>Mrs Beryl Gummow reported that the school now has a new Head-teacher in post, Mr Oliver Wright who appointed last June. In the period of absence of a Head prior to this Mrs Adams acted up into the role and did an excellent job and Mrs Gummow wished to publicly thank her for this. Since Mr Wright has been in post he has worked hard on staff development and the development of the building including the outside canopy. New IT equipment has been purchased and Mr Wright has plans to re-stock the library. Mrs Gummow talked about activities at the school including Christmas activities, arts projects which included the new ceramic plaque outside the school and bike days. At the end of 2010 the SATS results were better than the national average. The school is awaiting the official report from a recent Ofsted inspection, yet received positive feedback from the inspector during his visit.</p> <p>Mrs Gummow made a Governor's visit to the school recently and noted the happy, calm and friendly atmosphere within which the children are learning. She expressed her thanks to all who have supported the school.</p> <p>The Chairman thanked Mrs Gummow for her report.</p>
7	<p>PUBLIC QUESTIONS</p> <p>7.1 The issue of two hazardous areas for traffic in the village was raised, one being parking on Church Street and parking on the brow of the hill on Chapel Street and whether traffic mirrors could help ease this situation. The Chairman stated that the police and DDDC do not recommend the use of mirrors. She stated the Council would welcome any resident complaining to DDDC for action by them. Cllr MacDonald stated that the parked cars do slow down speeding motorists.</p> <p>7.2</p> <p>7.3 Mr Naylor raised the issue of motorists driving through the stop signs at the crossroads without stopping and feels it is due to a lack of lighting yet Members did not feel this was the case and the reason is driving without care and attention.</p> <p>7.4 The proposed village toilet closure was raised. Cllr McCloy stated that decisions were yet to be made yet would probably not be done so until after the elections. He stated the position of DDDC is that they do not have a statutory duty to provide public toilets and they are faced with making considerable cuts. However, the Parish Council feels that the toilets are a vital provision to the tourists who visit the village and will continue to oppose the proposals.</p> <p>7.5 Mrs Gummow asked what renovation work needs to be undertaken on the school playing field and was informed that the basic project would be to dig it out and re-drain it, then re-surfacing and re-fencing.</p> <p>7.6 It was acknowledged that the war memorial is in need of cleaning. Professional cleaning of the war memorial will be looked into.</p> <p>7.7 Mr Johnston proposed a vote of thanks to all the Council on behalf of residents with which those present unanimously concurred and showed their appreciation with a round of applause.</p>
	<p>The Chairman thanked everyone for attending. The Parish Meeting closed at 8.45pm and was followed by the monthly meeting of the Council.</p>