

## Bothamsall Parish Council

### Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Present: Parish Cllrs. Hynes (Chair), Davis, Eaglen, McCombe, Barnes and eight members of the public.

Apologies Cllr Stothard Jill Roby Marcus Margaret

Approve Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held 9<sup>th</sup> April 2024 proposed by S Hynes seconded by M Howard All in favour who were present.

#### Speeding and Road Safety

Several weeks ago all properties received information regarding the actions taken by the council going back ten years. Figures were shown from our interactive speed sign. Castle Hill last year 1430 vehicles per day with 439 over 30 MPH per day. Grangeside bend this year 1319 per day with 60 over 30 MPH per day. Residents felt that having the sign did help so the council is looking into the possibilities of a new speed sign. Council have approved joining the 20's Plenty for us with the backing of residents. An email has been sent to Elston parish council for any help as they are looking for this.

A request was made to Paul Hillier NCC this has been declined and that it is an enforcement issue and this should be addressed by the police and community speed watch.

An email from PC Hollie Marsh states that speeding is not dealt with by the police. Highways are responsible for monitoring speeding and speed cameras.

Actions from the meeting were that council continue working with the problem, to consider looking at a chicane for the entry to the village. Also bin stickers and funding.

Matters arising from last year NONE

#### Agenda.

#### Social Club Report

With Chairman Francis Waite being on holiday Dan Simpson reported that the membership was similar to last year with 2/3 being village residents with 1/3 being from outside the village. Family and Friday nights are mainly well attended with the accounts being in good shape. Thanks to everyone who uses the club and to everyone who helps keeping the club running.

#### Management Committee Report APM 2025

This year we have continued with our goals of improving the energy and cost efficiency of the village hall. To this end, with the help of a decarbonisation grant from Bassetlaw Council we have replaced all the lighting, inside and outside the hall, with energy efficient LED lighting. This not only uses significantly less electricity than the existing Fluorescent lights, but is also easier to maintain as the new panels don't require replacement bulbs. This, combine with the occupation sensors fitted in the toilets and cellar area, mean the lights are only on when required making them as efficient as possible. The improved lighting added to the outside of the building will make it easier for people to see with the car park light has been replaced with a security light.

In the same vein we have been making enquires about getting solar panels with battery storage to further offset our electricity usage. The National Lottery recently held a webinar stating that they have moneys available for rural community's projects such these and so we have started to make enquires. This is only likely to be partially funded, so further funding would need to be acquired.

Due to being in a conservation area, such changes to the exterior of the building need to be approved by the Bassetlaw conservation department, but initial talks with them have suggested that this would be the case. As soon as we have a better idea what this will entail, we will bring it to the Parish Council for discussion.

Further savings are being made with a new significantly cheaper Broadband contract which started at the beginning of the year and a new electricity contract starting in June.

As with last year, the general running costs of the hall are still covered by the income from the social club and table tennis group; with some additional contributes from regular bookings such as Sandy's Glass workshops and Cycling events.

General maintenance has continued with PAT testing being undertaken and servicing of our fire alarm system, extinguishers and emergency lighting. We have also engaged a company to reevaluate the building rebuild cost for insurance purposes.

We have had a couple of unexpected repairs to make over the last few months, with the roof felting needing to be replaced and the drain pipe being cracked, but we are thankful to the Parish council and Andy Bennett who have helped us undertake the work.

We would also like to thank everyone who has supported us over the year, with particular thanks to John Hardy for continuing to cut our grass and maintain the garden.

### Sports Ground Report

This year to raise funds for the Sports ground a race night was held which was well supported with a total of £670 raised going towards the running of the sports ground.

Our thanks go to Justin Flear who was the main organiser finding sponsors and being cashier on the night.

Also our thanks go to the Social club for opening the bar and the donation and the management committee for not charging for the room.

The work that started last year on the hard standing car parking area is now completed with around six tonnes of road planning's. More may be needed over time. The land drain and ditch is working, with only a small amount of flooding this winter.

The field is looking really good, we had a hedge cutting contractor cut round the boundary of the field reducing the brambles. Everything is working well with Welbeck Archers.

As we are no longer a sports club for business rates all committee members are named on the rates notice. Because of this our chairman Peter Mitchell resigned, so we will be looking to appoint a new chairman in the near future. We have full rate relief meaning zero charge.

We are very grateful to County Councillor John Ogle's Councillors' Divisional Fund for donations towards repairs to the flood damage. Also we thank Bothamsall Parish council very much for their donation.

A sports day is planned by the Social Club and the Arches. The Beacon was lit for VE celebrations and was fairly well attended.

### Church Report

Mary Howard gave thanks to everyone who has supported the events throughout the year with a special thanks to Chris Moody who has organised the tower fund draw for many years and is now retiring.

As a parish we still do not have a permanent vicar.

We also thank the BPC for their donation.

### Police Report

The police do not attend parish meeting simply because time does not allow this. We did receive an email from Hollie Marsh PC4437 following our request for a meeting regarding speeding and road safety.

There is no problem with meeting with community issues, but speeding is not dealt with by police.

Highways are responsible for monitoring speeding and speed cameras. Police can only charge for speeding if they have evidence/witness the speed and the ticket is given at the time.

### Chairperson's report

Firstly, I'd like to welcome Nigel Barns as the new, to be co-opted Councillor to BPC. He's already proving to be a great asset to the team.

This year we had our annual litter pick on the 15<sup>th</sup> March which, as usual, was well supported. We also included a clear up of the cemetery and the Jubilee Garden. Thank you to all villagers who volunteered their time and energy in completing these tasks.

As you all know we decided to buy our own pickers. We now 8 pickers that are stored in the Village Hall shed so anyone wishing to do some litter picking will be able to borrow one.

Over the past year we have commemorated both D Day and VE Day. Thank you to everyone who participated in making these events memorable.

Sadly, we still have not got any further regarding our speed reduction agenda with Paul Hillier at the County Council despite the number of recent accidents in the village as well as the number of near-misses. Our District Councillor at the time seemed to be unable to report any progress with this either. We have managed to get some limited support from Mr Hillier by his recommendation that we get the use of an additional Vehicle Activation Sign from Via. But no promises. However, we have discussed buying our own but we will wait and see what Via EM comes up with first.

It is now anticipated that we will escalate all of these issues to our MP, Robert Jenrick.

As we have been championing this for the past 10 years following extensive petitioning, some small changes have been made but they do not go far enough to ensure the continued safety of our villagers. Not only do we have speeding to contend with, but we also have very narrow pavements in places as well as low kerb stones which results in some moving vehicles mounting the pavement. None of this is helpful to our residents.

It would therefore be very useful if you could make individual representations directly to him and the County Council.

We are also looking to join the 20's Plenty For Us movement. We ~~hope~~ hope to get the support of the newly elected incoming District Councillor. BPC will pass a resolution to support this.

On a more positive note, the Defibrillators were not deployed again this year. Long may that continue.

The Cemetery gates were sandblasted last month. And Nigel did a great job painting them. Many thanks to Adam and Peter for getting them cleaned and re-hung.

Regarding any planning applications this past year – the parish council has not made any objections to submitted plans.

We have not received any appeal notifications to the Change of Use of Land to Travellers Caravan site at Haughton, which seemed to be an ongoing application/appeal cycle.

The Bothamsall Neighbourhood Watch WhatsApp has been launched. The purpose is to be able to communicate with each other if anything untoward is happening or has happened in the village. It supports Neighbourhood Watch in the village; it is not intended to replace it. Villagers can post any suspicious activity they've noticed or anything for others in the village to be mindful of. We would ask that it is not used for frivolous purposes. So, if it pings, it's important. So far, we have 28 people/families on it and it hasn't been misused.

Jason Gardner from Walesby won the tender to maintain the village grassed areas and he started last year. As I'm sure you will agree he is doing a magnificent job. The village looks a lot better being mowed rather than strimmed. We are also able to have a few more cuts with the savings we made.

As we have been unable to recruit a new clerk since James' departure, we would be grateful if residents could report any street lighting or pothole issues directly to the District Council via their website and just let us know that you have done it and what reference number you were given. Anybody can report these issues, it doesn't have to be done by the clerk, and we just need to know that it has been done.

Cllr Eaglen has been doing a sterling job as the interim clerk and Financial Officer. It has proven to be very useful to have Peter doing this work as it has enabled us to remove redundant tasks and identify the number of hours we need actually need a clerk to do.

Also, we were able to donate to number of areas:

- We donated to the North Nott's First Responder team who support EM Ambulance Service and are often first on the scene.
- Bothamsall Church
- Annual donation to the Management Committee for use of the heating in the hall when the PC meets.
- Sports field
- Internal Auditor – Angie Greene.

Once again, a big thank you must go to Angie Greene who has acted as our internal auditor for the last 5 years. It is very much appreciated. We thanked Angie with a meal voucher.

Thanks also to Cllr Jill Davis for all the maintenance work she undertakes on the Jubilee/Millennium Garden, the cemeteries and communal areas. Jill would be grateful for some support from anyone who could give up a small amount of their time.

Thanks too must go to Tony Eaglen for his continued work on the village clock. It is now working better than ever and keeping good time too.

Thanks to Stan Moody for repairing the seat beside the Jubilee Garden. Thanks must also go to his friend Tony for his help with this task. Hopefully, the repairs will last for another 50 years!

I would also like to thank the Management and Social Club Committees who continue to do an incredible job. I'm sure you will all agree that it is a thankless task that they do very well.

Once again thank you to the Church and Sports Field committees and all who have helped in the village throughout the year.

Parish Council members continue to volunteer their time and energy and I would like to thank them all for everything they do. My apologies if I have missed anyone or anything.

Our capital fund continues to be invested across 2 banks: Cambridge and Counties and Hampshire Trust Bank. The money generated through the interest payments supports our finances and helps to keep our precept low, as this year there was no increase. We are still receiving our concurrent grant although it continues to reduce. Eventually the grant will no longer be available.

Sandy Hynes

Chairperson.

AOB

Dan Thomas chairman of the management committee reported that the new owner of Ladyfingers had asked about the bees nest in the roof of the store room in the village hall, and has spoken to health environment, pest control and bee keepers all said they could not help because of the flat roof. Dan will talk again to the resident.

Meeting closed 8.30pm

P Eaglen  
7/5/2026