

Shirland and Higham Parish Council
Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting
Held at Shirland Village Hall on Thursday 20th April 2023 at 7.00pm.

Councillors Present: Cllr Anne Brown (Chair), Cllr Julie Bacon, Cllr Barry Barnes, Cllr John Epton, Cllr Michelle Green, Cllr Guy Liggett, Cllr H Liggett, Cllr Alistair Lomax and Cllr Geoff Mather.

In Attendance: Helen Dowson (Clerk & RFO) and six members of the public.

1. Apologies For Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Mike Roe, Cllr Sue Smith, Cllr David Williamson, Cllr Charlotte Cupit and Cllr Barry Lewis.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 17th March 2022

The minutes were approved as a true record, this was proposed by Cllr M Green and seconded by Cllr J Epton.

3. Chair's Report

We have had a very busy productive year again, first I will mention the S137 grants we have given:

£200 to Tibshelf and District Community First Responders

£200 to the Community of Shirland and Higham group

£200 to the Chair of NEDDC's charity

£200 to the Friends of Stonebroom School

£200 to the Stonebroom Community Volunteer Group

We also gave £200 from the Bell Acre Charity to St Leonards Church towards the servicing of the Church clock.

During the year we have provided larger litter bins at Mickley BMX track, Shirland play area and Stonebroom play area. We have also provided various new dog bins and litter bins in the villages when requested by residents. We have purchased two new planters to replace the ones that were damaged on Quarry Lane Stonebroom.

We had a survey carried out at the woodland in Stonebroom, as a result of this work was carried out on the trees. Hardcore was provided for the path on the Stonebroom side of the bridge and work was done on the footpath.

All grit bins were filled ready for the winter months and the Parish Council paid towards the provision of two new bus shelters in Shirland. Two shelters were cleaned/painted due to graffiti. Hanging flower baskets were provided in all villages and a Queen's Platinum Jubilee seat was purchased and installed near the Doctors Surgery in Stonebroom.

New play equipment and football goals were purchased and installed in Shirland; this was paid for using a S106 grant from the Fox Hollies development.

New play equipment has also been installed in Stonebroom and Mickley, a grant was obtained for 50% of the cost of this.

Solar powered Christmas trees were provided in all villages.

The Parish Council has a new allotment site in Mickley and a high fence and gates have been installed.

The CCTV system at Shirland Village Hall required a new camera due to vandalism.

The main hall floor has been refurbished at Shirland Village Hall and the kitchen completely replaced.

The new bridge at Stonebroom Woodland is to be called The Platinum Jubilee Bridge and a plaque is to be installed. Another Platinum Jubilee plaque has been fitted to the seat on The Green at Mickley.

Repairs have been ongoing to picnic benches, seating, play areas etc throughout the year and all the usual safety checks have been carried out.

We have some Parish Councillors and residents who have been working extremely hard on the Neighbourhood Plan throughout the year. The plan is almost ready for public consultation and events will be take place in June. As Chair I would like to thank the group for their dedication in preparing this.

The Parish Council have been very productive and there are other things in the pipeline that have been agreed but not yet carried out and they will be happening in the coming months.

4. District Councillor's Report

Cllr H Liggett reported that 'The Bungalows' in Stonebroom are being demolished and will be replaced. North East Derbyshire District Council is working with the residents on this.

The application for grant funding for the new play equipment at Stonebroom and Mickley was successful.

5. County Councillor's Report

No report received.

6. Fidler & Laverack Charities report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2022

The opening balance on 1st January 2022 was £2762.56. £1.33 has been paid in interest and one payment of £200 has been made to St Leonards PCC. Rents were received to the total of £800 and the reserves at year end stood at £3363.89. All tenancy agreements are now up to date and the charity returns for 2022 have all been submitted.

7. To consider any other Parish matter

No issues reported.

The meeting ended at 7.13pm.