

Shirland and Higham Parish Council
Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting
Held at Shirland Village Hall on Thursday 17th March 2022 at 6.30pm.

Councillors Present: Cllr Anne Brown (Chair), Cllr Barry Barnes, Cllr John Epton, Cllr Michelle Green, Cllr Allistair Lomax, Cllr Geoff Mather, Cllr Sue Smith.

In Attendance: Helen Dowson (Clerk & RFO).

1. Apologies For Absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr P Allsop, Cllr G Liggett, Cllr H Liggett, Cllr M Roe, Cllr D Williamson and Cllr C Cupit.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on 18th March 2021

The minutes were approved as a true record, this was proposed by Cllr A Brown and seconded by Cllr G Mather.

3. Chair's Report

Due to Covid our meetings continued by zoom at the beginning of the year. However, in May we were told to hold 'face to face' meetings again, to enable this we moved the meetings to Shirland Village Hall where we have the space to meet safely and keep socially distanced, to do this we had to move from Monday to the third Thursday of each month.

During the year we have:-

Purchased ten bulk bags of bark for the woodland area at Stonebroom.

A grant was given towards the cost of servicing the clock at St. Peter's Church, Stonebroom.

We purchased small goal posts for the children's football team to use at Stonebroom sportsground (these were kindly installed free of charge by Gary Wibberley, a big thank you to him).

A donation was given towards the servicing of the clock at St. Leonard's Church, Shirland from the Bell Acre charity account.

New signage was purchased and installed at Stonebroom woodland.

Picnic tables were purchased and installed at Stoneboom woodland, Stonebroom sportsground, Mickley BMX track and Shirland Village Hall site.

We removed the empty, unused phone box from the triangle opposite the Church on the A61 at Shirland.

Investigative work was carried out to the pumping station at Shirland Village Hall and remedial work done.

We made a donation to the Chair of North East Derbyshire's charitable appeal.

Wooden fencing has been installed at the new cemetery extension.

Drainage work has been carried out on the grassed recreation area at Shirland Village Hall, this is paid for with some of the money from the s106 grant from the Fox Hollies development.

250 lamp post poppies were purchased (some of last year's ones were damaged beyond use), these together with the remaining ones from last year were put up and removed around the parish by the Royal British Legion Riders.

A thank you donation was made to the Royal British Legion Riders.

Green palisade fencing has been installed around the new allotment site at Mickley.

Saplings from the Woodland Trust have been planted along the fencing in the new cemetery extension.

The emergency lights have been replaced at Stoneboom Pavilion.

New rubbish bins have been installed in the Stonebroom woodland area and we pay for them to be emptied.

Solar Christmas lights were purchased and installed on trees on the triangle opposite the Church on the A61 in Shirland, on the tree at the doctor's surgery in Stonebroom, on two trees in Higham and a Christmas tree was placed on The Green at Mickley and decorated with solar lights, these were installed professionally and removed in January.

Lamp posts which were not working in the car park at Shirland Village Hall have been repaired.

Grit bins were refilled where necessary.

We have had two new bus shelters installed on the A61 in Shirland, one at the Red Lion bus stop going north and one at the bus stop near Strettea Lane going south.

Shirland Village Hall is now fully open and is very well used, bookings for children's parties and evening parties have increased as well as regular group bookings for both toddlers and adults.

Stonebroom sportsground and pavilion has bookings from adult football teams and the children's football teams, however sadly the children's teams are finishing using Stonebroom facilities in May. The youth club has not re-opened at the pavilion yet, but we have been told that it will. We are advertising the facility on our Facebook page and website.

We have started work together with some residents on a neighbourhood plan, we have received a grant towards employing a professional who has successfully worked on many of these with other parishes to ensure we get it right.

4. District Councillor's Report

No report received.

5. County Councillor's Report

No report received.

6. Fidler & Laverack Charities report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

The opening balance on 1st January 2021 was £2362.46. Ten pence has been paid in interest and one payment of £200 has been made to St Leonards PCC.

Rents were received to the total of £600 and the reserves at year end stood at £2762.56.

All tenancy agreements are now up to date and the charity returns for 2021 have all been submitted.

7. To consider any other Parish matter

No issues reported.

The meeting ended at 6.42pm.