

PARISH OF YOULGRAVE

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

held in Youlgrave Village Hall on 30th April 2024 at 7:00pm

- Electors Present** Parish Council Chairman Graham Elliott in the chair and 9 other electors (2 parishioners + 7 councillors)
- In Attendance** 0 members of the public + DDDCllr Mellstrom
- 1 Appointment of Clerk** The meeting appointed Matthew Lovell, Parish Clerk to take the minutes.
- 2 Apologies** Cllrs Leah Goodwin and Richard Roper, County Councillor S Spencer and PCSO Boswell
- 3 Minutes** Resolved That the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 25 April 2023 be confirmed as a correct record and be signed by the Chair.
- 4 Chair's report** Youlgrave Parish Council: Chairman's Report: 2023-24
- We have had a busy year once again, and as usual my report starts at the top end of the village. Our facilities at Coldwell End remain very well used and continues to generate a modest sum from our honesty box which, together with Holywell Lane and Alport Lane is used to subsidise running costs and minor projects throughout the village.
- The picnic area remains a hot spot and is regularly used by locals and visitors alike, even more so since we re-located the play equipment to a safer area at the top end of the field and provided another picnic bench.
- Three loads of bark chippings have been donated by our local tree surgeon Simon Skinner. These were spread around the flower borders to help keep the weeds down. The daffodils have managed to fight their way through it all and put on a good show again.
- The allotments are all active and remain in constant demand. We have a one third plot available but otherwise all are taken. Anyone wanting to add their names to the waiting list please contact our Parish Clerk.
- Like our other toilets Holywell Lane has now been fitted with electronic door locks and heavy duty self-closing devices to improve security and restrict access at night. The distribution board and wiring has also been upgraded to meet current standards and the faulty roof flashing has been refitted to ensure integrity.
- Moving onto Alport Lane you will have noticed a new piece of play equipment. This has replaced a smaller climbing frame and slide that had come to the end of its life. Thanks to the effort and determination of our clerk this equipment has been funded by way of a grant just short of £10000 from the Lottery Fund. A new wooden staircase has also been attached to the remaining slide. The bike track and the MUGA areas have been tidied and are ready for action.
- The Diamond Jubilee Royal Oak which was given to us as a sapling almost 9 years ago is now more than 4 metres high and continues to be looked after and nurtured by Rob Scott.
- Our gym equipment around the perimeter of the field remains as popular as ever and is used daily by all ages.
- The toilet block roof suffered damage during the gales in January and we've had to replace half a dozen or so slates and damaged pointing. Whilst we were doing this we also carried out some general maintenance to the building.

The parish owned grit bins were all topped up and their contents monitored throughout the winter months. The bin that was located inside the school gates has, with approval from the church been moved to a more accessible position at the top of the church steps.

Subject to rubber stamping the Charity Commission has agreed that the Parish Council will take over control of Queen Elizabeth 2nd Playing Fields from the current owners Fields in Trust (We currently manage under lease). The transfer is in perpetuity and will guarantee its continued use as a playing field for generations to come. With that guarantee now in the bag we are looking into ways in which we can fund and replace our ageing Pavilion. Should we manage to secure a financial package and approval this will be the biggest ever project for the Parish Council to undertake.

You may have noticed the 30mph signage has finally been repositioned by DCC on all routes into the village. It's taken some considerable time to achieve but we managed it in the end. There are more road safety issues in the pipeline which we are progressing with DCC including sorting out the resurfacing fiasco through the village.

Our 4 life-saving defibrillators remain operational and are regularly checked to make sure they are ready for use. Just to remind you of their location, Alport Telephone Box, Youlgrave Garage, Mawstone Lane and the Farmyard Inn. Contact 999 Ambulance Service for access codes prior to arrival of medical help. You don't need to be a qualified medic to use them, you cannot harm the patient, our defibrillators are fully automatic and talk you through the procedure.

Vandalism has previously been a problem for us on our 3 sites, however since our CCTV was commissioned 12 months ago I'm able to report that there has only been 2 minor incidents during that time. The first, I'm not sure was down to vandalism, it may have been mechanical failure. The second a no damage incident took less than 2 minutes to put right with no cost to the council. We did however see the return of the graffiti vandals in March on Moor Lane with their paint cans. Thanks to the rapid response by DCC the mess was cleaned up within a couple of days. One of the new 30mph signs at the top end of the village was uprooted and thrown into the field. Anyone with information please contact the Police on 101 direct.

Just to remind all, the Cameras on our 3 sites record continually 24 hours a day 7 days a week and can see in the dark. The system can, and has been, accessed by the Police on 1 non vandal related incident soon after installation, so it's thumbs up for the CCTV and thanks again to the Police and Crime Commissioner for approving our grant application.

We have a great team of dedicated councillors and a wizard of a parish clerk. I want to thank them all for all their hard work throughout the year. I also want to thank our volunteer litter pickers they do a cracking job helping to keep everywhere as litter free as possible.

We are still looking for volunteers to form a speed watch team. If you have time on your hands and fancy doing something different, contact our Parish Clerk for more information.

We need to keep our village ahead of the game, and with your continued support we will.

As always, I look forward to next year's challenges.

Graham Elliott (Chair) Youlgrave Parish Council.

Formal thanks were expressed by those attending to thank the Chair and Clerk for all they have done for the community.

6. PDNPA member

There is no longer a PDNPA member allocated to this village and no members attended.

7. District Councillor

Our District Councillor's first year has seen a political swing to create a Progressive Alliance (Lib Dem, Labour, Greens) at DDDC - originally C11, G4, L7, LD 12, now 1 less C, 1 more Lab; which while cumbersome at times compared to a one party allocation of rolls has now agreed the Derbyshire Dales (Corporate) Plan 2024-28, following work by cross-party working groups to create Delivery Plans on 5 priority areas: - Environment – Housing – Economy - Community services - Corporate services

Environment:- net zero by 2040, DDDC own emissions net zero by 2030 with the continuing decarbonisation of leisure centres, a Biodiversity review and collaborating with DCC on Local Nature Recovery Strategy, Promoting allotments, district-wide air quality monitoring system, Lobby / work with Severn Trent, EA & central government on river pollution and flooding

Housing:-maximise delivery of affordable housing -work with Platform and other providers to improve customer satisfaction in social housing -reduce impact of second homes and holiday lets - inc Council Tax premium already voted in from April 2025 -improve energy efficiency of housing stock

Clean & Green review - bin round re-optimisation seems to have gone ok -Restated ban on glyphosate, Ashbourne Reborn - full steam ahead, mostly with Levelling up funding

Matlock bus station / market hall - cinema plan on hold due to cost -bus station improvements in progress

Leisure centres - voted to keep them open by allowing extra funding to cover increased energy costs, whilst also investing in decarbonisation works to the buildings owned by DDDC

Public Transport - new all-party Transport Group to work with DCC to exert pressure on improving bus provision to the district.

East Midlands Combined County Authority / D2 Strategic Leadership Board - remit of the new combined authority still a bit vague (and not really East Midlands as doesn't include Leicestershire) but we have a seat on this new Board along with the other 9 Derbyshire councils so we are making the best of it - hopefully will result in joined up strategies for transport, jobs, housing, climate & environment but time will tell -don't forget to vote in the Mayoral election on Thursday.

Flooding - particularly Matlock - frustrated by limitations of planning system but we refused permission for massive Wolds development -new scrutiny sub-group to review flooding / drainage issues generally

Traveller sites - site selection criteria and a public consultation process have been agreed - external surveyors have been instructed to look for potential sites

Derbyshire Swift Group - collaborative project group set up, seeking funding from Heritage Fund

Public toilets - review ongoing

Laura Mellstrom

DDDC Member for Youlgrave Ward

Supporting Alport, Birchover, Harthill, Middleton, Monyash, Stanton in Peak, Stanton Lees, Warren Carr and Youlgrave

8. County Councillor

Simon Spencer sent apologies

9. Police

Report notes that between 29/4/23 and 28/4/24 there have been 2x thefts, 2x public order offences and 2 criminal damage charges. Road Safety and Burglary are the current priorities for the Neighbourhood Team

10. Open Parish

Parishioners raised: no matters

The meeting closed at 7:25pm