

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2026.

Present: Mr. D. Taylor (Chair), Mrs. H. Tanser, Mr. G. Darby, P. Gorbing, Mrs. S. James, Mrs. C. MacDonald, Mr. and Mrs. P. Cumming, and five members of the public.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. S. Bishop.

Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025 were circulated. There were no matters arising.

Fly tipping is an ongoing concern and the authorities continue to be chased to advise on the situation (currently problem near Yarhampton and Dark Lane with asbestos).

Review of Parish Council during last year. It had been a busy year, planning developments had been objected to, including the 160 homes proposed in Pearl Lane and objections to plans for the old concrete works at Larford. The Parish Council would not be adopting request to fund lighting on the new developments. Concern had been raised over the amount of proposed development in the parish. However, there were several planning applications which the Parish Council had agreed on.

Section 106 – money provided to the Parish Council for the community and proposals include improvements to the village hall and recreation ground incorporating a path round the perimeter, a verandah attached to hall, fencing and entrance gate etc. Mark Hammond at District Council has adjusted the application and Mr. Taylor has sent him a copy of the deeds. Amount involved £66,610.

Three newsletters had been produced and delivered to all properties within the parish and had been well received.

One Parish Councillor had resigned but a replacement now installed.

Support is being given to the village hall management committee. The Summer Fete and Christmas event had both been very well attended with over £1000 raised for charity. Date of forthcoming fete June 13<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. and Mrs. Cumming were welcomed to the meeting. Mr. Cumming advised there would be many changes within the district and within twelve months it would be run by a Unitary Authority. Higher council tax would follow hence District Council had not increased it for 2026. The SWDP is now complete and final decision expected soon. This would be in place for three years.

A Transport Survey is in hand which the County needs to complete on time with a proper survey for Stourport bridge. Concern was raised regarding traffic congestion into town.

Mrs. Cumming has given £500 to the Parish Council as part of her Budget Grant and this will be used for a replacement notice board.

As Deputy Chairman of the District Council she attends civic events, and will remain as Deputy next year.

Mr. Taylor said the Parish Council was very grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Cumming for their support and continued advice.

County Councillor Mrs. Mel Fordington has been very active with County matters including working with Jason Horne to improve speed issues etc. along the B4196. Speed Indication Devices are shortly to be installed along this stretch of the highway..

A mobile speed camera near Ridleys Cross had been in action recently and was reported to have been very successful. Further details will be put on website when known, and discussion will be held with Tanya Crake from Highways and our PCSO officer Lee Durrant. A portfolio re accidents would be welcomed.

Mrs. Fordington had also been very helpful with regard to the parking issues at Astley School. Updates now awaited.

Concerns were raised with regard to anti social behaviour including recent fires on The Snipes and fly tipping. All incidents should be reported directly to the police.

Summer Fete – Stourport Brass Band booked for June 13<sup>th</sup> and suggestions welcomed for games and stalls etc. (Ideas to DT)

Christmas Event – Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> December is the suggested date with an afternoon start to be more family inclusive.

The meeting concluded at 8.00, the Chairman thanking everyone for their attendance and input.