**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Wysall & Thorpe in the Glebe held on Tuesday May 3, 2022 at 7.15pm in the village hall.**

The chairman, Coun. Carolyn Birch welcomed members of the parish council to the meeting and the parish clerk, Mike Elliott.

1] Apologies - there were none.

2] Minutes from the previous parish meeting – agreed and signed.

3] Chairman’s report

The chairman, Coun. Carolyn Birch, presented their report.

“I took over as Chair of the Parish Council in July 2021. After the last 2 years being dominated by Covid it is a great relief to know that we are getting back to normal and welcoming back many activities to the Village Hall. In the last year the Parish Council have completed the ongoing internal maintenance of the Village Hall which has included the final refurbishment of the toilets, new lighting, repairs to several essential items of equipment in the kitchen and installing a Wi-Fi System.

The recent new side access has been completed for easier maintenance of the outdoor space at the rear of the Hall. This will be particularly helpful when our new playground equipment is installed. Other outside maintenance includes the new notice board, a gate to secure the children’s play area and new picnic tables to encourage the use of the area. The new playground project, being led by Councillor Plant and her team will be the villages’ next major fund raising activity. I thank her and the committee for their consultation process with residents and the proposals for the new play equipment. We are currently applying for grants, with a final decision hopefully made by the summer.

The Village Hall Committee is once again back to arranging various fund raising activities to boost our funds for future projects. These have included the return of the Village Quiz, Wine Tasting, Film Club and the Food Fair. I would like to thank Chris French and her volunteers for the maintenance of Main Street verges which once again looked fantastic this spring. Over the past year there have been the usual variety of planning applications which have all been dealt with in a professional manner by the PC. We are now putting our efforts and looking forward to HM the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Celebrations at the beginning of June which have been organised in collaboration with Wysall church. We look forward to the Ceilidh and the Sunday Picnic and Jazz afternoon that have been arranged over the celebratory weekend. To mark HM Jubilee the PC decided to distribute bird boxes to all children under 16 in the village. These have been a great success. A workshop to assemble the boxes was organised and many children looked forward to welcoming birds to their boxes once placed in their gardens. Thanks to Councillor Smith for her help with this. Fortunately Wysall and Thorpe do not have many contentious issues. But this year the vehicle accident near the church was very concerning for many residents.

The PC will be reporting back as and when we receive the final police report. The traffic speed checking results were published on the website this month. As the data did not show any dangerous speeding the county council has decided no action would be taken at this time. Other concerns at the moment are the increased number of HGV vehicles in the village, parking issues and the condition of grass verges and the roads. These concerns are being addressed at the present time.

I am delighted to report and welcome some Ukrainian families to the village and hope they settle well and enjoy their stay with their host families. Further events to support the Ukrainian crisis will be held in due course and help and support for our new friends will be ongoing. I would like to thank and welcome the 3 new Councillors to the Parish Council and thank all councillors for their help and assistance over the past year. Special thanks to Councillor Mike Stanley for his hard work in maintaining the village hall and the admin for the village defibrillator, Chris French & the Village Hall Committee, Stephen Reeds for looking after our web site and Andrea & Andrew Tucker for organising the Village Breakfasts.

Thanks also to Councillors John Cottee and Reg Adair for their ongoing support. I would also like to give out a great big thank you to all our villagers who invest their time and support to all fund raising events. This support makes Wysall and Thorpe great places to live. Let’s hope that we can look forward to an even more successful year ahead. I will finish by thanking our clerk Mike Elliott. His vast knowledge and years of experience makes the running of our parish so much easier. Thanks also go to Jayne, his assistant who is retiring at the end of August. We wish her well. Mike has been our clerk for many years and it is with great sadness that I must report that he will be retiring this September. We will miss him. I would like to thank him for his continuing assistance and encouragement and wish him a very happy and healthy retirement.”

4] Finance report by the clerk Mike Elliott, saying the council started the year with a balance in hand of £33920 with the amount split between our two accounts – with £21,200 in National Savings and the remainder in NatWest Bank. During the 2021/2022 financial year the total amount spent by the council £18,495.

Expenditure included insurance £1389, subscriptions £629, and £359 on audit fees.

The income during the year was £29,916 including £15200 from the precept and a VAT repayment to the council of £1316.

The balance in hand on March 31, 2022, was £45,340 is some £11420 more than the start figure.

The precept for 2022/23 is £17800.

There being no further business the meeting then closed.