

Notes of the Worthington Annual Parish Meeting

Held at St. Matthew's Church Worthington.

On Wednesday May 14th 2025 at 6pm

Present: The Chairman, Cllr S Haggart. Parish Clerk. PC Yanni Simpson and Sgt Aaron Bell, Seven Members of the public.

APM-25-01 WELCOME

The Chair welcomed residents to the meeting.

APM-25-02 MINUTES

The minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting were approved by vote and signed by the chair.

APM-25-03 CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair began by expressing appreciation for the current council, noting that it is now full, stable, and made up of committed members working collaboratively in the best interests of the parish. The appointment of a new, knowledgeable Clerk was also acknowledged as another positive step.

The Chair noted that we now rotate the meetings around the parish, between St. Matthew's Church, Griffydam School and Newbold Church of England Primary School.

The Chair reflected on recent community events, highlighting the success of Christmas on the Green, which was well attended and something we intend to continue alongside continuing efforts to maintain and enhance the play areas, while exploring opportunities to develop the land adjacent to Newbold School. Progress is being made in seeking adverse possession of the land behind the allotments, and plans are underway to install new planters, repair potholes, and improve parish signage. The Chair was pleased to report that matched funding had been successfully secured from Breedon Quarry, whose amazing work resurfacing the Cloud Trail is something for which the council and wider community are grateful.

Other matters noted included work to address ongoing flooding issues on Breedon Lane and general improvements at the allotments. The Chair reaffirmed the Council's commitment to supporting parishioners wherever possible, especially in matters concerning anti-social behaviour, within the scope of its responsibilities. Finally, the Chair emphasised the importance of continuing to act with fiscal propriety, ensuring all public funds are managed responsibly.

It was noted that Councillors Fountain and Stafford spent a significant amount of time logging and reporting signage issues and potholes to Leicestershire County Council this year, and many of the potholes have already been filled.

The Chair concluded the report by reassuring residents that he was comfortable that the parish council was well-run, fiscally stable and committed to helping residents with matters such as vandalism and local improvement wherever possible.

APM-25-04 ORGANISATIONS AND GROUPS

Carole Bramley, Chair of Griffydam Community Group reported on the group's year and their efforts to bring the community together whenever they can and be as inclusive as possible. Traffic continues to be an important issue, including HGV through-traffic and speeding. The group met with PC James Martindale from the neighbourhood policing team and found it productive.

Also noted was the bus route cancellation imminent, with the County Council attempting to re-tender the route. If residents could be persuaded to become involved, it should be possible to save the 129 route.

Sergeant Aaron Bell, Leicestershire Police reported that, of the many areas they cover, the parish has a relatively low level of crime. No burglaries within the last four months, what crime does occur is usually sporadic and targeted – as with the spate of Range Rover thefts that occurred exploiting a technical vulnerability that criminals took advantage of to easily commit crime. One single count of criminal damage within the last four months.

Sgt. Bell noted that the villages have a community feel to them and that residents seem to look after each other. The issues that are present aren't new – the vandalism issue was the same twenty years ago.

The policing team will aim to provide regular reports to the parish council, and support when requested.

APM-25-05 QUESTIONS FROM ELECTORS

A resident asked for more granular information on the parish council agenda.

A resident (and parish councillor) asked for information regarding the possibility of CCTV on local parks to prevent vandalism and antisocial behaviour: the neighbourhood policing team present gave information and offered support.

- THE CHAIR THANKED ATTENDING RESIDENTS AND GROUPS AND CLOSED THE MEETING AT 6:30PM -