

PAPPLEWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly held at the Papplewick and Linby Village Hall on Wednesday 12th March 2025 at 7:15pm

Present

Cllrs: R Smart (Chair), C Hesketh (Vice-Chair), S Bennett, N Seagrave and L Gretton, Clerk

Parishioners & Visitors: 7, Cllr S Bestwick (GBC) and Dean Taylor, Trading Standards (Lorry Watch)

Minute No.	
26/25	<p><u>Apologies</u> Cllr's S Roberts, A Bly Cllr's S Pickering and M Smith (GBC) and C Barnfather (NCC)</p>
27/25	<p><u>Approval of the minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly</u> The minutes of the meeting held on 13th March 2024 were accepted as a true record of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Smart, seconded by Cllr Bennett and signed by the Chair R Smart.</p>
28/25	<p><u>Chairman's Report</u> Cllr Smart presented the following report:</p> <p>Thank you to the Clerk, Parish Councilors, GBC and NCC Councillor's for your help and support which has been invaluable. This year we have introduced new policies to ensure the PPC is compliant with NALC's initiatives, this will be ongoing. We held a litter pick last year, purchased new barrels and planted out the barrels with lovely flowers. We entered the Best Kept Village Competition - a massive effort received from parishioners, thank you to everyone who helped out, it's making a huge difference to the village.</p> <p>Planning: Numerous small projects have been given the green light although these are down on last year. The big concern relates to large planning proposals adjacent to the parish, such as Hayden Lane, where GBC have recently submitted an application to allow for 100% affordable dwellings on that site (ref 2025/0117). We raised concerns pertaining to S106 monies and approached Ashfield District Council to ask why this has not been spent on health services in Hucknall. To date we haven't had a response.</p> <p>Anti-social behaviour: Fly tipping continues to be a problem in the parish. There have been reports of burglaries and properties being stalked. We have had significant community engagement with the police during their surgeries. The next surgery is Saturday 26th April 10am – 1pm at the Village Hall.</p> <p>A new crossing has been installed at the layby on Linby Lane. The bonfire event last year raised £8,310 which was split equally between Papplewick PC, Linby PC and the Village Hall.</p> <p>Working Parties: Transport & Road Safety: A traffic survey on volume and speed in the village was conducted last year. See agenda item 28/25 below – update from Dean Taylor re: Lorry Watch. There have been several conversations with Paula Johnson at Via regarding the Griffin's Head crossroads..</p> <p>QE2 Playing Field Refurbishment: Cllr Hesketh reported they have made really good progress so far. They will apply for funding from the FCC Communities Foundation. They have 4 rounds of funding each year, and we are aiming for a round 3 application. Timescales are tight, details below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation by 31st March 2025 - Tender by 30th June 2025 - Submit bid by 20th August 2025 (if this isn't met, the final round of funding is in the autumn) - Funding agreed (2 months) – October 2025 - Equipment manufacture – January 2026 - Build – March 2026 <p>Below is a list of achievements and actions:</p>

	<u>Achievements</u>	<u>Actions</u>
	<p>Friends of QEII Facebook page set</p> <p>Change.org petition</p> <p>Draft questionnaire completed, paper and online versions</p> <p>Letters of support requested from Papplewick Preschool, Brownies, Linby School, Village Hall, Rev. Raaff, GBC Cllr's, Cllr Barnfather, PC Bradbury, Linby PC and Michelle Welsh MP</p> <p>Draft letters of support provided</p> <p>Support letters received from Linby PC, Cllr Smith, Rev. Raaff, Village Hall, PC Bradbury, Cllr Bestwick and Michelle Welsh MP</p> <p>Contact made with Suzanne Marshall re: potential use of Environment Fund monies</p>	<p>Contact Fields in Trust</p> <p>Email received from JupiterPlay offering support for process – how to proceed?</p> <p>Finalise questionnaire – agree who to approach, how, when – organise hard copy handouts</p> <p>Questionnaire to go live on Friends page</p> <p>Posters needed – project and link to petition</p> <p>Follow up with user groups – engage in consultation with Village Hall, Linby School and Hanson House</p> <p>Chase GBC for quote for regular maintenance of equipment</p> <p>Investigate next steps to progress with Tender</p> <p>Consider how to collate responses</p>
29/25	<p><u>Dean Taylor, Trading Standards – Lorry Watch Scheme</u></p> <p>Dean Taylor advised the scheme is funded by Highways to enforce the weight restriction for the whole of the county. They have funding for the next financial year, which is agreed year on year. There is an updated online form which is a quick and simple way to report lorry violations including uploading photographs. He commented that often, number plates aren't taken down correctly so having this facility should make things more efficient.</p> <p>He commented on the initiative undertaken by the PC last year where 150 lorries were submitted to him although he did comment that the Scheme was not set up to do that amount in one go. However, they did manage to get through them all. He advised he is unable to comment on the 150 reported vehicles submitted by the PC due to GDPR, but confirmed each one was followed up. Some were multiple sightings and some had legitimate access.</p> <p>He advised they do not have the full enforcement powers of the police. Most companies they contact to report violations will respond to them, however, they don't have to by law. Some will ignore the letters and that's not necessarily the end of the matter, but they do have their hands tied.</p> <p>A resident advised a particular company is seen almost daily. Dean advised he knew the company but wasn't aware of this. He asked that they are reported online and if possible upload a photograph to confirm the VRN. Another resident commented a lot of the companies are from the Wigwam Lane industrial estate.</p> <p>The Parish Council and residents offered to volunteer at different strategic points in the village next time Dean is here. He advised it will be after April and agreed to contact Cllr Smart to confirm the date.</p>	

30/25

Financial Controller's Report**Budget / Precept**

The precept for 2025/2026 has been agreed at £23,288.00, a 4.49% increase on last year's precept.

Donations

The Parish Council has received the following receipts for 2024/25

Gedling Borough Council	Donation towards defibrillator cabinet	£150.00
Village Hall	Donation towards defibrillator cabinet	£150.00
NCC – Cllr Barnfather	Donation towards defibrillator cabinet	£250.00
Papplewick Preschool	Donation towards defibrillator cabinet	£50.00
Barracks Farm Limited	Wind turbine annual payment	£2,436.81
	Total	£3,036.81

Other Receipts

Gedling Borough Council	Precept	£22,287.00
HMRC	VAT Reclaim	£941.16
Village Hall	Bonfire event profit (includes deposit)	£3,770.07
Virgin Money	Bank charges adjustment	£19.60
	Total	£27,017.83

Banking

The Parish Council continue to bank with Virgin Money. Payments continue to be made by bank transfer. Since January 2025, there is a monthly maintenance charge of £6.50 and costs per credit or debit transaction is 30p.

Audit

The Accounts for 2024/25 will be prepared after 31st March 2025. The Clerk has arranged a meeting with Sue Stack to carry out the internal audit on 29th April.

All accounts notices, minutes and polices are available to view on the website.

31/25

Representatives Reports**a) Moor Pond Wood**

Dr Stephen Walker reported, on behalf of the Friends of Moor Pond Woods, that it has been a successful year.

- The group still attracts number of volunteers who meet regularly. There have been two grant-aided projects in 2024-25.
- A grant from Miner2Major (Lottery funded landscape project) of £2,500 was donated toward a grassland project. The volunteers have cleared several areas to be managed as wood-pasture (grassland under trees). These will be seeded this spring and plug plants grown. The funding for this includes an unspent sum donated by Co-op group to enhance the habitats.
- A grant of £5,000 in 20223/24 allowed the group to reinstate the ground after the archaeology near Papplewick Lane. A contribution of £2500 from Nottinghamshire Community Fund has supported the provision of interpretation boards and a video trail. In 2022 the group received a community grant from the Co-op which is still being spent on habitat improvements.
- The project is assisted in several ways by the County Council. The land is managed through an agreement between NCC and the owner. Lee Scudder is a Countryside Ranger employed by NCC who spends a lot of time on site working with and supporting volunteers. Health and Safety systems are in place agreed monitored by NCC. NCC also monitor and manage the roadside trees. They have undertaken a large amount of safety-critical woodland work over the last five years and are continuing to do so.
- Linby PC and Papplewick PC have nominated representatives on the project steering committee. Until last September the PPC representative was me, it is now Cllr Seagrave.
- There are two pressing issues which have been discussed this year. The first is the state of the paths and bridges, which need considerable funds to maintain them. We are about to replace a timber bridge, using a donation from the environment fund. The other pressing issue is to update the project management plan which expired this last year. In the coming months we will be consulting on a new 5-year plan.

	<p><u>b) Papplewick & Linby Village Hall</u> Cllr Bennett report: The new boiler has now been installed and the main lighting replaced. To comply with health and safety issues raised by the outside contractor, a skip was hired and the loft, under the stage and all other areas were cleared. The committee has now managed to appoint a health and safety officer. Mice have been a problem but the committee has now taken out a contract with a pest control company and no mice have been evident recently.</p> <p>Although the bonfire was a great success the committee agreed with their partners, Linby and Papplewick Parish Councils, that the work involved with arranging it was too great for the reward. It was felt that going forward it would be better to hold three or four social events which would bring in the same amount of revenue.</p> <p>The committee have agreed to buy 200 new chairs – mainly for use at the wedding receptions – and, rather than get rid of the old ones, they are to be divided and stored at three farms in linby giving more flexibility for chairs needed at outside events such as Pappfest.</p> <p>The carpet and chairs in the Bradbury suite have been professionally cleaned. There was a leak in the foyer during the torrential rain but so far Mr Slack has been unable to find the entry point but he did repair two smaller holes in the roof.</p> <p>The committee welcomed two new members at the February meeting: Mr R Dimants (the new health and safety officer) and Ms Dace Ancane (the new secretary). Mr Dimants has identified issues that need to be addressed and started action to rectify them.</p>
32/25	<p><u>Papplewick Environment & Community Fund</u> Total fund available to date - £17,061.23.</p> <p>This year the Fund has contributed towards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Remembrance boards - Moor Pond Wood – replacement bridge <p>Proposals from the Parish Council for use of funds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contribution to aid with match funding for the QE2 Playing Field
33/25	<p><u>Parish Action Plan</u> Delivered by Cllr Smart:</p> <p>There are 30 logged items, 11 items are in progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 relate to the refurbishment of the QE2 Playing field – this is our priority - 3 relate to multiuser paths – Cllr Hesketh and the Clerk to meet with the Local Access Forum on 2nd April - 2 relate to signs in the parish, including the A60 - 2 relate to improved communication and relations with residents - 1 to continue to support community providers e.g. village hall - 1 to create a layby for Moor Pond Wood <p>19 items have been closed or superceded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 5 relate to floral features - 5 relate to the QE2 playing field - 3 relate to the website - 2 relate to supporting community activities e.g. bonfire - 1 pertaining to the provision of the storage container
34/25	<p><u>Parish business – members of the public are invited to address the Council on any matters within its jurisdiction</u> None</p>
35/25	<p><u>Date of next meeting</u> The next Annual Parish Assembly will be held on Wednesday 11th March 2026</p>

The meeting ended at 20:00

Signed Chairman:

Date: