



Killamarsh Parish Council

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To: The Parishioners of Killamarsh

You are hereby invited to attend the Annual Meeting of the Parish to be held on MONDAY 14th April 2025 at 6:00 PM KILLAMARSH PARISH SUITE.

Yours sincerely

Ms Gail Blank
Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer to the Parish Council

The Annual Parish Meeting is not constituted as an official meeting of the Parish Council and therefore no decisions will be made by elected members. This a public meeting, required by law, for registered electors to ask questions about Parish affairs, raise issues and concerns and for the Parish Council to report on the activities it has carried out over the last municipal year. All questions and answers will be directed through the outgoing Chair of the Council.

AGENDA

- 1 **Chairmans opening statement**
 - To receive the Chairs opening statement.
- 2 **Apologies received from Parish Councillors**
 - To note any apologies received from Councillors.
- 3 **Approval of the previous meeting minutes**
 - To approve the meetings of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on the 20th May 2024.
- 4 **Annual Parish Council Report**
 - To receive the Chairs Annual report.
- 5 **Annual Finance Report**
 - To receive the annual Finance Report
- 6 **Public Participation**
 - To open the meeting to the Public for their comments.



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20 MAY 2024

Those present :

Chair : Cllr S Clough

Vice-Chair : Cllr K Wood

Councillors : Cllr C Curzon, Cllr D Drabble, Cllr C Eggington, Cllr T Lacey, Cllr C Lacey, Cllr H Laws, Cllr S Reed, Cllr W

Tinley, Cllr J Windle

Officers : Mrs G Blank, Mrs J France

1 Chairmans opening statement

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Apologies received from Parish Councillors

Apologies were received from Councillors Fletcher, Morris, Rice and Sherman.

3 Approval of the previous meeting minutes

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on 15th May 2023 are a true and accurate record.

4 Annual Parish Council Report

The Chair presented his report and read out the executive summary. Cllr Laws stated that the Parish Council should be proud of what has been achieved for the community over the past year and he also thanked the staff for their hard work.

Killamarsh Parish Council Chair's Annual Report 2024

Executive Summary

Following the local elections and small change in Council administration in May 2023, the past year has seen further progress with Council objectives and activities. The challenges of the cost-of-living crisis have continued to test all of us, including the Council too. Despite those challenges, we were pleased to have continued to deliver on some key targets and make some further key cost savings. We are now starting to see inflation return towards its original 2% level and a return to a pace that is more manageable going forward.

During the past 12 months the Council has refurbished the Parish Suite, making this available to the public for larger events and activities to deliver the primary purpose of these facilities. The Parish office was also relocated to the Killamarsh Community Hub to provide a more effective service to the community and provide greater accessibility. The Community Hub has been brought back up to a suitable condition for community use and provides multifunctional space for community activities and groups, increasing in the operational activities of the building and the self-sustainability of the Parish Council.

The Council is continuing its approach to improve some of the park spaces in the community both in East and West, with conversations ongoing with North East Derbyshire District Council (NEDDC) to look at ways the Parish Council can work with them to improve some of their park areas in the West ward of Killamarsh.

We continue to seek additional grants and funding sources to assist in improving community facilities and have also focused on carbon reduction by implementing solar technology at the community hub which also assists in energy cost reduction. We have also continued to focus on investment in some of the Parish owned parks and play areas, benches, and financial support for conservation work. Additionally, the Council has moved forward on improving village safety with support from grant funding towards the ANPR and CCTV systems which will be installed across the village in the next couple of months.

Killamarsh Active

We are reliably informed that the Sports Centre continues to go from strength to strength, with memberships rising and the new facilities such as the children's play area, the café and the integrated library, all continuing to see an increase in visitors to the centre. Killamarsh Active continues to build on its plan to increase usage and patronage as well as drawing additional visitors to Killamarsh to meet its ambitious business plan over the coming years. The Cost-of-Living crisis and rising energy costs have had a detrimental effect, leading to the Sports Centre still being behind on its projections.

In the meantime, the Parish Council continues to support the District Council financially on the agreed 5-year plan, while NEDDC continues to manage the Centre's financial projections and enable the facilities to become a sustainable going concern. We encourage residents to visit Killamarsh Active to see what they have to offer and take advantage of the facilities wherever possible.

Skate Park

During the last year Parish and District Councillors continued to work closely with NEDDC on the development of the Skate Park which saw the full refurbishment and reopening of the park in early 2024. The park has been received extremely well in the community and is now utilised a great deal more across many sections of our community, providing a much better equipped site. This has come at no direct cost to the residents of Killamarsh with the project being fully funded from other external sources, the majority of which came from the national Safer Street Funds scheme.

Parish Suite

The last year has seen your Parish Suite refurbished at a cost of £158,524, which was under budget and considerably less than when the consultation took place in late 2022/early 2023. The Parish Council always promised to deliver a project with best value in mind and it has delivered on this promise. This has included £99,410 grant funding from the FCC Community Foundation, Community Projects, with the remainder being provided by the Council's Parish Suite earmarked reserves, which was built from claimed back overpayments in utility costs. The new disability friendly accessible entrance door was also fully funded from grant funding.

The Council is pleased to have achieved the refurbishment without any form of financial borrowing, eradicating any ongoing financial impact and risk to the community. The Council has worked hard to ensure costs were managed well and to avoid any unnecessary additional cost implications, delivering the project under budget.

It's important to acknowledge and give thanks to our Parish Team for the effort and dedication in ensuring the refurbishment was completed prior to the new year, to the agreed specification, and for sourcing additional external funding for the project.

Killamarsh Community Hub (formerly known as the CLOC building/Tardis)

The Killamarsh Community Hub has now received some significant refurbishment to allow the Parish Council to relocate its office permanently to the building. The relocation went well, and modifications made to the main entrance area ensures it is managed much more effectively. It is now the intended village focal point for community and Council contact, and whenever the Parish Office is open, it is fully accessible to residents as promised. As a key part of the refurbishment, the building is now fully equipped with solar panels which should ensure we limit our climate impact and carbon reduction objectives while reducing energy costs for this building alone.

Community user interest in the building is continuing to grow steadily, with several groups continuing to use the space. All Parish Council Committee meetings and other meetings are now held in the hub, with Full Parish Council meetings now resumed in the refurbished Parish Suite.

The Council have approved further work to be undertaken to allow the Killamarsh Heritage Group space to operate from an aspect of the building, which will hopefully encourage greater use of the building moving forward.

Allotments

Again, this year, I would like to thank Judy France our Deputy Clerk for the continued hard work that has gone in to carry out the continued monitoring of our allotments and for ensuring concerns are continually dealt with in a timely and efficient manner. More allotments have now been brought up to the required standard that is set in the policy and the waiting list continues to slowly fall.

Beacon

The Parish Council are currently investigating the option to install a Beacon in the village, this is in the planning stage and more information will follow as the forthcoming Council year progresses.

Environment & Outdoor Fixtures

Norwood Park was renovated and refurbished last summer, replacing the original play equipment that had fallen into severe disrepair. This now serves the younger children living around the park.

Work is in progress to investigate the way forward for the planned King Charles III Park at High Moor to bring back a decent play area for the locally based children and expanding housing provision. It is currently going through the stages of consultation, costing and funding investigation. This will go some way towards assisting High Moor residents to feel more included as part of the Killamarsh Community in which they reside.

New equipment has been installed at Birchlands Park, with more to follow including a 5-a-side football pitch and a basketball net area.

The village has again seen several new benches replaced as part of our ongoing plan to maintain key public spaces.

Further tree inspections have identified risks posed by trees and their current states in various locations around the village. Work has been carried out by NEDDC to rectify some of those that affect residential properties, and it continues to be a focus of the Parish Council to have others addressed appropriately.

Work has been agreed to rejuvenate the Village Green and some new flower boxes will be installed shortly.

I would like to recognise the dedication and hard work of the Conservation Group in our community this past year through the upkeep of the wildflower areas and creation of further flowering green spaces across Killamarsh and look forward to seeing more in bloom as time progresses.

It's also important to acknowledge another year of fantastic upkeep from the Killamarsh Wombles as they continue to graft over keeping our community clean and tidy through rain and shine. Their efforts are relentless and should never go unrecognised, and I thank them for continuing to inspire having some pride in where we live.

Community CCTV

The CCTV and ANPR cameras have now been approved and permission granted by Derbyshire County Council and lampposts tested ready for installation by the Parish Council appointed supplier. These will be at set locations across the whole village. Having worked closely with Derbyshire Police and the Safer Neighbourhoods Team the installation of CCTV and ANPR cameras should help assist in identifying and reducing areas of crime and anti-social behaviour and help police in undertaken their duties to keep our community and our residents safer.

Speed Indicator Devices and Road Safety

Three Speed Indicator devices and three alternatively positioned brackets have now been installed around the village. Early usage of the system has identified that some more work needs to be undertaken to bring it up to optimum standard, and this is being looked at by our Environment Committee. The Parish Council is working through this to deliver the best operating solution.

We have been looking at ways we could assist our Schools in Killamarsh and have initially enquired with Derbyshire County Council to reduce the speed limit around our schools to 20mph, which unfortunately has been turned down as the roads around the schools do not meet the policy requirements for this. Other aspects have been investigated and are ongoing.

Extreme Wheels and Activities for Young People

Extreme Wheels have commenced their summer outdoor youth activity delivery program, after delivering a successful winter season of indoor events at the Community Hub. These continue to be well attended, providing our younger residents with activities that fill some of the recreational gaps outside of school and brings youngsters together in safe, secure environments.

The Council continues to look at ways of delivering events for all young age groups and welcomes ideas from the wider community in suggesting future activities. The Council also remains keen to support the inclusion of young people in some decision-making processes around events, activities and facilities aimed at their age

| | |
|--------------|-------|
| Events | 2,895 |
| Misc. Income | 733 |

Expenditure

The Parish Council spent £709,480.

| Category | Amount (£) | Comments |
|---|------------|-----------------------------------|
| Staff Costs | 174,857 | |
| Administration Costs | 37,859 | |
| Grants to organisations spend £4,470 | 4,322 | Grant from 22/23 returned actual |
| Leisure Centre Subsidy | 75,000 | |
| Leisure Centre contribution to heating system | 20,000 | Last payment |
| Parish Suite Refurbishment & new doors | 176,556 | Partially Grant Funded |
| Parks & Open Spaces | 42,890 | |
| Cemetery & Churchyards | 4,563 | |
| Street Furniture Shelters | 1,982 | Benches, Bins, Noticeboards & Bus |
| Neighbourhood plan | 2,150 | Grant Funded |
| Speed Indicator Devices | 10,723 | Partially Grant Funded |
| Norwood Play Area | 51,441 | Partially Grant Funded |
| Cemetery Gates Automation | 7,123 | |
| Killamarsh Community Hub | 31,511 | |
| Parish Suite | 49,575 | Includes sub lease & shared costs |
| Extreme Wheels project | 8,265 | |
| Events & Activities | 10,663 | |

Reserves

General Reserves

It is recommended that a Parish Council should typically hold between 3- and 12-months expenditure as a general reserve. The Parish Council currently has a general reserve pot of £138,014.35 a small decrease on the 22/23 figure.

Ear Marked / Ring Fenced Reserves

The purpose of an earmarked / ring fenced reserve is to allocate funds for a specific purpose or project which will be spent in future years. Killamarsh Parish Council at the end of financial year 23/24 has the following earmarked reserves totalling £183,399 a decrease of £102,279 from 22/23.

| Reserve Name | Amount (£) |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| EMR Parish Suite Reserve | 25,000.00 |
| Rolling Capital Fund | 100,000.00 |
| EMR Environment Reserve | 51,382.70 |
| EMR Community Events | 5,000.00 |
| EMR Election Costs | 8,000.00 |
| EMR Speed watch | 16.26 |
| EMR Community Hub Property Repairs | 15,000.00 |
| EMR IT Refresh | 3,000.00 |
| EMR Vehicle & Equipment renewal | 5,000.00 |

The ear marked reserves were reviewed by the Finance Committee and approved by Full Council in April 2024.

Grants to organisations – Section 137

The Parish Council has the power to make donations or grants to local organisations each year