

SANDIACRE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

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**Report of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on Tuesday, 7 March 2023 at 6.40pm in
The Memorial Institute, Doncaster Avenue, Sandiacre, Derbyshire NG10 5FJ**

PRESENT:

	Cllr W Major	Chairman
A	Cllr Mrs L Bilbie	
	Cllr S Bilbie	Vice-Chairman
	Cllr Mrs S Dickman	
	Cllr Mrs C French	
A	Cllr Mrs S Hales	
A	Cllr T Hales	
A	Cllr Mrs C Powers	
	Cllr N Raycraft	
A	Cllr T Sanghera	
A	Cllr Mrs K Stewart	
	Cllr R Stewart	

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs M Bloor Clerk to the Parish Council

PARISH ELECTORS: One

1. WELCOME BY THE PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Cllr Major chaired the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

2. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

	Apology for absence
Cllr Mrs L Bilbie	Work commitment
Cllr Mrs S Hales	Holiday
Cllr T Hales	Holiday
Cllr Mrs C Powers	Unwell
Cllr T Sanghera	Holiday
Cllr Mrs K Stewart	Unwell

Apologies were received and noted.

3. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that declarations of interest were not required for this meeting.

The Clerk would adjust the next Agenda accordingly.

4. ELECTORS TO RAISE ANY MATTERS

No items were raised.

5. TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 1 MARCH 2022

It was noted the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting had been approved by full Council at the meeting of 5th April 2022.

6. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE FOLLOWING:

I. Parish Council Chairman

Cllr Major as Parish Council Chairman provided the following report:

The Parish Council had been very active over the previous year having had a number of major issues to consider, besides ensuring ongoing services were delivered and maintained:

- Considering large planning applications such as the Longmoor Lane site and Stanton redevelopment, whilst taking into account residents' views
- Dealing with an illegal encampment of travellers on Springfield Park and ensuring remedial action was quickly taken
- Addressing concerns over two local hotels being used to accommodate asylum seekers and the impact this had on the local community
- Introducing improvement work to Doncaster Avenue RG and Springfield Park
- Maintaining improvement work to the Cemetery and St Giles' churchyards
- Supporting volunteers who planted thousands of daffodil bulbs in the community to make it look colourful and attractive in the Spring
- Introducing litter picking to Derby Road to keep the area well maintained
- Changing the grounds maintenance contractor to ensure a much improved service
- Continuing the Carols Around the Tree event to include local school children and families

Cllr Major expressed Councillors' thanks and appreciation to the Clerk, Mr Wallace and Mr Spencer for all their hard work and support of the Council.

II. County Councillor Report

Cllr Major as County Councillor provided the following report:

We are in unprecedented times, which is creating many challenges for households and DCC isn't immune to these challenges.

This has been the first year you could describe as not being dominated by COVID since 2018/19. Although the risks from the virus have significantly reduced, we are dealing with the aftermath.

The biggest change is the new way of working, with large amounts of council staff working a significant amount of time from home. This has benefits, as well as challenges. We also face, like many industries, labour shortages and difficulty in filling some posts.

Putin and Russia's brutal invasion of Ukraine has also created challenges and we have worked hard to house Ukrainian families in Derbyshire.

One of the largest challenges we face is high inflation prices, which have continued to rise, including wages, which has made it difficult to set a budget. We feel we have however got the balance right between the council making saving and increasing Council Tax.

Adult social Care

This department was impacted the hardest by COVID, however it is in the process of changing its focus. We are moving to a model of trying to support people to remain in their own homes as long as possible. This shift has resulted in a number of care homes being closed in Derbyshire, including Ladycross in Sandiacre.

Children services

Supporting young people is an essential part of the council's service. We deliver services to support vulnerable families and disabled children and provide the following:

- children's centres
- sports and outdoor learning
- school improvement services
- school meals
- school place planning and building
- special educational needs
- adult community education
- services traded with schools
- pre-school and childcare support
- safeguarding and child protection
- fostering and adoption
- youth offending service
- leaving care service
- early help

Highways

Highways maintenance feels like painting the forth bridge, however in the last 4 years we have doubled the councils budget for highways maintenance. We are undergoing a programme of transformation, which includes new and faster ways of reporting road defects. We are also focusing on longer lasting repairs.

Health

Significant work has been carried out by the department during COVID, especially in support of the vaccination programme. The department continues to work hard to improve health in Derbyshire, including mental health.

Climate change

The council has set ambitious targets for reducing its own emissions as well as supporting the wider Derbyshire economy. It's essential we reduce our emissions to net zero while also protecting and improving individual's standard of living. One policy we have introduced is the £2m Green Entrepreneur's Fund.

Library service

We have priorities providing a good library service and Derbyshire's service is widely recognised as being good. Locally, we unfortunately had the incident with the car driving into the library. Thankfully nobody was hurt and the library is again open. We expect work to the damaged wing to be started in the coming year.

Other areas which have been performing well are:

- Public And Community Transport
- Road Safety
- Economic Development And Regeneration
- Trading Standards
- Trusted Trader
- Broadband Expansion
- Minerals, Transport And Strategic Planning
- Emergency Planning
- Household Waste Recycling Centres
- Waste Planning And Management
- Building And Landscape Conservation
- Countryside Sites
- Strategic Economic Partnerships

III. Borough Council Report

Cllr Major as a Borough Councillor provided the following report:

EBC also faces the same challenging environment as DCC, as shown above.

Like many industries we face labour shortages and difficulty in filling some posts.

Refuse Service

Our refuse service had a few minor problems with the shortages of HGV drivers, however over the last 12 month, we have increased capacity in the service by employing new individuals and training them in-house.

Green Spaces and Street Scene

Our parks and open spaces are well looked after. We have started the process of creating a new nature reserve at Pewit and locally, in Sandiacre, minor improvements have been made including the installation of 5v5 (five a side) goals on Hayworth Road Park.

Warden Service

Our warden team continue to work hard, including plain closed patrols to fight dog fouling. The team really came into their own last summer when we faced the challenge of travellers on Springfield Park. Although it was a parish park, we wouldn't have been able to do what we did without the support of EBC and Scott Cartilage and his team.

Planning

We are in the closing stages of delivering EBC's Core Strategy. Erewash continues to deliver other excellent services including:

- Housing
- Benefits where we have administered the governments energy grants
- Licencing
- Community services
- Grants
- Environment
- Events

IV. Sandiacre Memorial Institute – Board Of Trustees

Report provided by Cllr Major as Chairman of the Trustee Board

Trustees: Cllr W Major, Cllr S Bilbie, Cllr S Dickman, Cllr R Stewart and Cllr Mrs K Stewart.

Thanks were extended to Mrs Riley for all her involvement in running the Memorial Institute and taking bookings.

Utility bills were rising for the public building, but the Institute was in a good financial position and was not intending to raise booking fees in the coming year and they would remain at £10 per hour for the time being.

The Institute was well used throughout the day and evening and as the heating system had been upgraded, it was now intended to make further improvements, including decorating the hall and introducing a mural.

V. Dr Bland's Almshouses – Board Of Trustees

Report provided by Sharon Martin – Clerk to the Board of Trustees

There are 4 Trustees:

Rev O Trelenberg	Vicar of St Giles' Church
Cllr W Major	County Councillor
Cllr S Bilbie	Parish Councillor
Mrs C French	Resident of the parish

The four properties are full and all residents appear to be very settled and happy and it's been a fairly quiet year.

Renovations on number 115 were completed last summer and quinquennial inspections are expected to be carried out over the next couple of months.

VI. Risley Education Foundation – Board Of Trustees

Report provided by Elaine Warren – Clerk to the Board of Trustees

Risley Educational Foundation continues to be overseen by a board of volunteer trustees, including Rev. Trelenberg and Cllr Major who represents the parish of Sandiacre.

The Foundation supports schools, Sunday Schools, and university /college students (aged 18 to 25 years of age) in the parishes of Stanton by Dale with Dale Abbey, Sandiacre, Risley, Draycott with Church Wilne and Breaston.

The trustees meet four times a year. To date, for the 2022/23 academic year, the Foundation has received 59 requests from students in higher education, with 33 of those living in Sandiacre.

Each student currently receives £750.00 per academic year with no restrictions on how that money is utilised.

St Giles' Church received £726.27 at Christmas 2022, as an annual payment towards their children's work (each parish received the same amount,

calculated as a percentage of the Foundations annual income), Friesland School received £9,594.06, Ladycross Infant School received £1,506.26 and Cloudside Academy received £1,981.14.

The money received by the three schools is to be used towards the enhancement of education in music, as laid down in the Foundation's Charity Commission Scheme.

Availability of grants is advertised to final year students at Friesland School and Wilsthorpe Academy. Posters are displayed at the start of each academic year on Church and Parish Council noticeboards.

ANY OTHER REPORTS

Friends of Hayworth Road Park

It was confirmed by Cllr Stewart that the Friends of Hayworth Road Park would be holding an Easter egg competition on Wednesday, 5th April.

The park had recently seen new goal posts installed and there was planting and pruning planned for the near future to make the park look attractive for all users.

7. CLOSE OF MEETING

Cllr Major thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting closed at 6.50pm.

Signed by the Chairman: _____ **Date:** _____