

SANDIACRE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

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Report of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held on Tuesday, 5 March 2024 at 6.40pm in The Memorial Institute, Doncaster Avenue, Sandiacre, Derbyshire NG10 5FJ

COUNCILLORS: Cllr W Major Chairman
Cllr S Bilbie Vice-Chairman
Cllr T Ford
Cllr Mrs S Hales
Cllr T Hales
Cllr R Stewart

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs M Bloor Clerk to the Parish Council

PRESENT: Non-residents: Cllr J Lowrie & Cllr R Pound. Cllr Mrs G Hickton & Cllr G Hickton who joined the meeting at 6.50pm.

PARISH ELECTORS: None

1. WELCOME BY THE PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Cllr Major chaired the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

2. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor	Apology for absence received and noted
T Sanghera	Work commitment
Mrs K Stewart	Mobility problems

3. ELECTORS TO RAISE ANY MATTERS

No items were raised.

4. TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 7 MARCH 2023

It was noted the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting had been approved by full Council at the meeting of 4th April 2023.

5. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE FOLLOWING:

I. Parish Council Chairman

Cllr Major thanked Councillors for all their time and commitment in serving their community and thanked those who had stepped down in May.

He noted it had been a reasonably quiet year and with no controversial planning applications to consider.

The Parish Council continued to deliver high levels of service to the community, including through provision of new Christmas lights and improved grounds maintenance following the appointment of Fox Landscapes.

The Chairman recognised all the good work carried out by Mr Wallace and Mr Spencer with litter picking and low level work.

The Council had faced funding challenges following EBC's decision to reduce Concurrent Functions grants to parishes and this had resulted in a large rise in the Precept for 2024 to meet the £24,000 shortfall.

The Council's Steering Group had moved forward to finalising the Sandiacre Neighbourhood Plan and the outcome was awaited.

Sandiacre had sustained ongoing flooding on several occasions throughout the year and this had been very difficult for residents, but support had been given.

Cllr Major thanked the Clerk for all her continued support to the Council.

II. County Councillor Report

Cllr Major, as County Councillor, provided the following report:

Due to budget restraints, it had been a difficult year delivering key services as costs continued to rise.

New bus shelters had been introduced into Sandiacre and grants had been made available to support community projects.

There had been a boundary review, but Sandiacre was not affected.

A major change was the introduction of the East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA), which would see the election of a regional Mayor in May and large investment into the region.

III. Borough Council Report

The following was reported:

Changes to established ways of working and communicating with parishes were now evident, which had made it very difficult to engage with EBC.

IV. Sandiacre Memorial Institute – Board Of Trustees

Report provided by Cllr Major (Trustee Chairman) and Cllr Bilbie (Trustees).

Trustees: Cllr W Major, Cllr S Bilbie, Cllr S Jarrett, Cllr R Stewart & Cllr Mrs K Stewart.

There had been a small deficit over the year resulting in reserves being reduced.

Work had been undertaken to the roof and there were plans for future investment.

The Memorial Institute was a good community asset and Mrs Riley was thanked for all her work in taking bookings.

V. Dr Bland's Almshouses – 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 Lamb	Appointed

All four properties held by the Trust were now occupied.

Renovations would be undertaken as properties became vacant and there was an ongoing programme of investment to keep the properties in good order.

VI. Risley Education Foundation – Board Of Trustees

A report was provided by Mrs Elaine Warren – Clerk to the Board of Trustees

The Board is comprised of Members from the civil parishes of Dale Abbey, Stanton-By-Dale, Risley and Hopwell, Draycott and Church Wilne and Breaston. Sandiacre is represented by Cllr Major and Rev. O Trelenberg

The Foundation supports students aged 18 to 25 who can apply for a grant of £800 per academic year.

For the year 2023/2024, 80 requests for funding were received, with 38 of those living in Sandiacre (47% of applicants).

Grants are advertised within parishes and final year students from Friesland School and Wilsthorpe Academy are notified of the scheme.

Friesland School, Ladycross Infant School and Cloudside Academy receive funding for enhancement of education in music.

ANY OTHER REPORTS

Friends of Hayworth Road Park

Cllr R Stewart confirmed the Friends of Hayworth Road Park would soon hold their annual Easter Egg competition. The event always proved popular and more volunteers were needed to organise future events.

6. CLOSE OF MEETING

Cllr Major thanked everyone for attending.

The meeting closed at 7.00pm.

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