

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD ON 4th MAY 2021
VIA ZOOM at 7.00pm**

1) In attendance

Councillors Paul Colleyshaw (Chair), Christina Oppenheimer (Vice Chair), Nigel Picken, Susan Browne, John Bentley, Heather Wheeler MP, Chair of South Derbyshire District Council, David Muller, County Councillor Linda Chilton, District Councillor Kerry Haines, John Dumelow, Ticknall Cricket Club, 1 member of the public, Celia Bunston (the Clerk).

2) Welcome and Introduction

Councillor Paul Colleyshaw, the Chair of the Parish Council welcomed everybody and thanked them for coming. He introduced Councillors Nigel Picken, Susan Browne, Christina Oppenheimer (Vice Chair), John Bentley, and Celia Bunston, the Clerk, to those present.

3) Apologies: Councillor Alan Buxton, District Councillor Andrew Churchill, Stewart Alcock, Calke Park.

4) Signing of 2019 Minutes: Councillor Colleyshaw signed the minutes.

5) Matters arising from the Minutes: There were no matters arising.

6) Parish Council Chairman's Overview of the Annual Report 2020-2021

Chairman's Overview of the Annual Report, and Annual Report May 2021

It is quite incredible that I write this report covering the events in the past year, April 2020 to March 2021 in that we are still in the grips of Coronavirus. Who would have thought that twelve months have passed and we are still, quite rightly, having to restrict our lives in order to beat this terrible virus? It does seem that there are some signs of progress with vaccinations are helping to combat the pandemic but there is still much to do.

We remain fortunate as a community to live in a rural area and the effects of the Pandemic have not affected us as badly as other areas. That said we have all experienced a massive change to our lives keeping to lockdowns, isolating and generally having to adopt to a new way of life. A few people have contracted the virus but thankfully all seem to be making a recovery, albeit slowly. Sadly, one person did not recover from the virus and also it must be reported that more people passed away in the village this year compared to normal. Our thoughts are with them and their families.

I reported last year that the Public Toilets were being refurbished. This work has been done but since March 2020 they have remained closed as a result of a COVID decision by the District Council. Despite numerous emails we have still to get a reopening date from them.

I am happy to report that the various agencies connected with the drainage in the village have done some work on the system, more work is in the pipeline. As a consequence, we have not experienced the flooding of the previous year even though the rainfall in November, December and January were higher than last year. We must remain vigilant and continue to pressure these agencies to continue to keep our system as clear as possible.

For a number of years traffic through the village has been a source of consternation to the village whether it be speeding, inappropriate parking or pollution. These issues are not just our problem but are county wide as I have experienced at meetings with other Parish Councils. During the lockdowns the situation has become much worse as people have had little else to do other than go for walks. The roads that run through our village are the direct responsibility of Derbyshire County Council and enforcement of traffic violations is the responsibility of the Police and we have had lots of correspondence with these agencies passing on the concerns of the village. As a result, DCC carried out a review of the problems from November to March. I am pleased to report that they have concluded that there is a problem and at the end of March some temporary parking restrictions have been

implemented which will be monitored and reviewed in September. It is important, in my view, that we recognise that the County Council acknowledge that there are problems and they have taken steps. We need to see how these measures work over the next few months and then pass comment but ultimately, we must be guided by the Highways Department at Derbyshire County Council, who are the experts.

Activities in the village have been seriously curtailed, Church, Chapel, Village Hall and the Pubs have largely been closed even the Carols round the tree had to be cancelled. However, Colin Potter at the Shop has served the local community wonderfully well and is owed a debt of gratitude by all of us.

In closing I would like to thank my fellow councillors and Celia Bunston our clerk for their support over this difficult year. Let's hope that the situation continues to improve and steady progress is made to returning to the new normal.

Councillor Paul Colleyshaw - Chair Ticknall Parish Council 2020-2021

TICKNALL PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21

Precept

The Parish Council requested a precept of £12450.00 and also received a Government Grant of £822.00.

Planning

The Parish Council has been consulted by South Derbyshire District Council on 34 planning applications over the year.

Maintenance of the Pavilion and The Grange

We have honoured the lease we have with South Derbyshire District Council on The Grange by carrying out repairs and maintenance of the Pavilion and The Grange at a cost of £4326.00. Councillor Colleyshaw continues to carry out two weekly safety inspections of The Grange and of the play equipment.

Full details of all cricket fixtures are on the Cricket Club website www.ticknall.play-cricket.com. everyone is welcome at The Grange to enjoy great cricket, full bar, sky sports, free Wi-Fi and even shoot some pool.

Parish Council Newsletter

We have produced a quarterly newsletter for over 16 years now which we use to inform parishioners what the Parish Council is doing, to pass on information from South Derbyshire District Council and Derbyshire County Council and other organisations. We publicise events held by groups that use Ticknall Village Hall, St. George's Church, Ticknall Methodist Chapel and other local groups. Any local group is welcome to put in any information if space allows.

The newsletter is now available online at the Parish Council's website www.ticknallparishcouncil.gov.uk

Christmas Eve Carol Singing

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 the Parish Council did not hold a Christmas Eve Carol Singing event in 2020. We usually have a collection on the evening and donate £200 from it to St. George's Church, Ticknall Methodist Chapel and the Swadlincote Branch of the Salvation Army. Although we had no collection, we still honoured our usual yearly tradition of awarding the donations of £200.

Donations and Grants

The Parish Council received a Coronavirus grant of £10000.00 from South Derbyshire District Council. This money will be used to help groups in Ticknall, that are unable to function because of Coronavirus.

The Parish Council always donates £75 every year to the Poppy Appeal for the provision of a wreath. We gave a donation of £1000.00 to the CVS Foodbank which was urgently needed due to COVID-19. We also gave £500 to the Air Ambulance. The Parish Council also granted £2000 to Ticknall Cricket Club to alleviate the cost to them of no income during the Coronavirus outbreak.

This year Ticknall Methodist Chapel is carrying out urgent work to the chapel and it requested a grant from the Parish Council. The Parish Council decided to grant £2500.00 to the Chapel to carry out work on the Chapel.

Donations are available to local groups if a request is made to the Parish Council.

Speed Watch

Due to the Coronavirus outbreak, there was no speed watch sessions in 2020.

Community Liaison Group (Calke Park)

A Community Liaison Group which was formed on the recommendation of South Derbyshire District Council Planning Committee, to maintain communication and to create closer understanding between Calke Park and Ticknall Village continues. The group includes 2 representatives of the Parish Council, 2 representatives from Calke Park, 1 representative from Ticknall Village Hall and 2 representatives from Ticknall Village. This is not a Parish Council committee although we have 2 councillors on it, but the Parish Council has agreed to be the contact point for any villager who wants to raise a matter with the group. If you want to contact the group, please contact Celia Bunston, the Clerk to the Council on 01332 865226 or by email on clerk@ticknallparishcouncil.gov.uk and I will pass this on to the group.

Accounts 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021

The unaudited accounts and all the supporting documents relating to the accounts can be inspected by any member of the electorate at any reasonable time arranged with the Clerk, between Monday 14th June and Friday 23rd July 2021. You also can exercise your rights as electors with regard to the annual accounts of the Parish Council and question the auditors PKF Littlejohn about any items in the accounts under the Audit Commission Act 1998 and the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 by contacting PKF Littlejohn (REF: SBA Team), in writing, at the following address:

1 Westferry Circus
Canary Wharf
LONDON, E14 4HD

Summary of Accounts: 1st April 2020 to 31st March 2021

Balance at 1 st April 2020:	£21638.29
Annual Precept	£12450.00
Total other receipts	£20950.30
Total	£55038.59

Staff Costs	£3566.64
Total other payments	£19381.87
Balance at 31st March 2021	£32090.08

Included in the receipts this year was a Coronavirus Grant of £10000.00.

Included in the payments this year are £4326 spent on The Grange and pavilion, £1000 to the CVS Foodbank, £500 to the Air Ambulance, £2000 to Ticknall Cricket Club, and £2500 to Ticknall Methodist Chapel. We also spent £750 on extra sweeps of the village.

Celia Bunston, Clerk to the Council – AnnualReport21

Councillor Colleyshaw started the meeting by reflecting on what has happened in the past year. He asked for a moment to remember those that we had lost, including one Covid-19

death, during the year. There seems to be light at the end of the tunnel and hopefully we should be able to move on.

7) Highlights from organisations

David Muller, Chair of South Derbyshire District Council

David thanked the Parish Council for the invitation to attend the meeting. He told us that he would be ending his chairmanship on 6th May, and this meeting is his last official engagement. He is standing as a county councillor to represent this area in the local elections on 7th May, and if he is elected, he will be attending many more of the Parish Council meetings.

Last year has been a strange year having to attend remote meetings, but they work for some. Councillors have had a challenging time but have continued to help local people. In 2019 he had 4 invitations a week, but 2020 has been less busy.

He knows that Ticknall has parking and speeding problems, but it seems to be the same for the whole of the district. He will continue to work on Ticknall's behalf in the future.

County Councillor Linda Chilton

Linda will be standing down as a county councillor on 6th May. She said that she was happy that Derbyshire County Council has taken notice of the parking problems and are in dialogue with the National Trust. Something has been achieved, with the double yellow lines, and bus stand changes, and she urged the Parish Council to press for the measures to stay on after September, if we are happy with what has been done.

She is pleased with the work that has been done on flooding. Hopefully the A514 which is a dangerous road for all the local villages will be constantly monitored.

Councillor Paul Colleyshaw thanked Linda for all the help that she has given to the Parish Council during her time as County Councillor.

District Councillor Kerry Haines

She thanked the residents for bearing with SDDC over the past difficult year. The bins emptying and grassing cutting managed to continue but it hasn't been easy. We are now back on track.

Heather Wheeler MP

She thanked Celia for sending a link to the meeting and said that life is easier doing meeting remotely than not. A court case that was brought to continue with remote meetings was lost and the government supported those who preferred face to face meetings. So, remote meetings will end on 6th May.

Luke Hall MP is calling for evidence on the use of current arrangements and to gather views on the question of whether there should be permanent arrangements and if so, for which meetings. Heather encouraged the Parish Council to write to Luke Hall to renew legislation to hold remote meetings. This will establish a clearer evidence base of opinion and enable all the areas to be considered before further decisions are made. The Government will consider all responses carefully before deciding how to proceed on this issue.

She congratulated County Councillor Linda Chilton who has been a superb county councillor. She has never received such details reports from and other councillor than those from Linda.

Heather also thanked the members of the public, and the Parish Council.

Ticknall Cricket Club

John Dumelow thanked the Parish Council for all it has done for the club over the past year. They managed, in the end, to have half a season of cricket in 2020, with good results. During the winter they revamped the practice nets, which have been well used.

The club has started the 2021 season. The 1st and 2nd teams play on Saturdays and the 3rd team on Sundays. The juniors continue to thrive with 100 members and at the start of the season they had some new recruits. They have 9 junior sides covering 19 years to 5, 6, and 7 year olds. They have 20 girl players of various ages from 15 years down to 6 years. They have chosen to run a separate girls' team, but they have problems finding girls teams to play against. They also play mixed girls' and boys' teams.

Calke Park (Report received from Stewart Alcock)

The pandemic has had a significant impact on the National Trust and our work across the estate. In response to the financial impact the majority of the Calke Staff Team were furloughed for much of last year and virtually all volunteers' roles were paused. As a consequence of the financial impacts across the Trust over 1,200 staff have sadly been made redundant and the Calke team have been affected proportionately with the need to reduce costs.

Our approach since reopening last June has been to closely follow government guidance. To achieve this, we have been required to implement restrictions on visitor numbers by implementing a pre booking system, which whilst not perfect, has gone a long way to ensure the estate can remain open. We are hopeful that once restrictions lift towards the end of June, we can review the booking system, increase capacity and reopen the necessary closing of Deer Park permissive path. We have kept in close contact with the Parish Council during the year in particular with regards the issue of roadside parking and worked with the Parish Council and County Council to develop a temporary response.

On a more positive note, the Local Residents Pass is once again available having being paused last year and local residents should email calkeabbey@nationaltrust.ork.uk if you wish to renew your pass

Dame Catherine Harpur School

Councillor Christina Oppenheimer, who represents the Parish Council on the school's management team said she wanted to thank County Councillor Linda Chilton, District Councillors Andrew Churchill and Kerry Haines for the support they gave to the school to provide funding to carry out adaptations needed for Covid-19.

The school put on a Remembrance Day event online for the school and villagers. The school continues to do well and hopes that interaction with the village continues.

Ticknall Village Hall

Councillor Paul Colleyshaw who is the Parish Council's representative on and treasurer of the Village Hall Trust reported that last year the hall was staring down the barrel of a gun. They owe a debt of gratitude to South Derbyshire District Council for financial help with a Covid-19 grant, and he is impressed how SDDC has handled the grant scheme.

The hall has always been Covid secure, but up to now the only users have been the school and cadets which were allowed in because these are educational events. After 17th May clubs of less than 15 can meet in the hall. After 21st June, hopefully all restrictions can be lifted. The hall will probably have to carry out extra cleaning, at an additional cost, to ensure confidence.

People are reluctant to come back to the hall, but we now have 3 wedding bookings for this year, and the art group has agreed to return, but until we are sure of the future, we have to be flexible.

Ticknall Preservation & Historical Society

Councillor Susan Browne who is the Parish Council's representative on the Preservation & Historical Society reported that the society has been dormant during 2020 but hopes to get going again in September all being well with Covid.

8) Open Forum

Councillor Oppenheimer thanked Celia, the Clerk, for keeping the lines of communication open for all of us and on the website.

She wanted to put on the record to thank local people for coming forward to be contacts for people during Covid and to Paul Colleyshaw who coordinated this, and collecting prescriptions from the chemist for local people. We are very fortunate to be part of this community and it can be understood why people want to come here to walk, especially during last year.

Paul Colleyshaw also thanked Celia for keeping things ticking over. He was so sad when he saw a couple with 3 children, on TV, who were stuck in a flat in Bristol, during the pandemic, and had nowhere to go during lockdown. We are so lucky to live in such a beautiful place where we could walk. This year has seen the best and worst in people.

Close – The meeting closed at 7.30 pm.

Celia Bunston. Clerk to the Council