



**Draft minutes are subject to approval at the next Annual Parish Meeting**

**Draft Minutes of the Ecclesfield Annual Parish Meeting held on Thursday 18  
May 2023 at the Ecclesfield Parish Council Offices at 6.30pm**

**Councillors Present.** John Housley (Chairman), Andy Bainbridge, Dr John Bowden, Victoria Bowden, Susan Davidson, Denise Fearnley, Kate Guest, Adam Hurst, Alan Hooper, Michael Levery, Michael Morrissey, Robert Reiss, Thomas Sturgess and Alan Woodcock

Andrew Towlerton, Parish Clerk, and Laura Tickle, Financial and Administration Officer were also in attendance.

**Members of the Public.** One member of the public.

**2023/1 (FC)**

**Item 1: To receive apologies for absence**

The Clerk reported that he received one from Councillor Anthea Brownrigg, which was noted.

**2023/2 (FC)**

**Item 2: To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on the 12 May 2022**

These were considered.

Proposed by Councillor Denise Fearnley and seconded by Councillor Thomas Sturgess and  
**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of Annual Parish Meeting held on 12 May 2022 be approved.

**2023/3 (FC)**

**Item 3. To consider any matters arising out of the previous minutes**

It was considered that there were none.

**2023/4 (FC)**

**Item 4: The Chairman's report**

The Chairman of the Council for 2022/2023, Councillor John Housley, gave a report on the achievements and developments of the Council over the last financial year. He said that it had been a challenging year, but one in which we have seen just what can be achieved

when we work together as councillors and with our communities. He highlighted some of the many achievements of the Council over the past year:

- Despite continuing to feel the impact of the cost-of living increases, there was no increase in the precept levied on residents.
- Distributed over £50,000 in grants in support of the great work of voluntary and community groups across the Parish.
- Gave away hundreds of items of school uniforms through the school swap shop, saving parents hundreds of pounds and helping the environment.
- Made a £17,000 contribution to the running of the Thorncliffe Leisure Centre and £9,000 to the great work of the Chapel Green Advice Centre.
- Over the Christmas and Easter periods distributed food hampers and meals for over 50 families and individuals in need.
- Over a thousand people took part in a series of events to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee – which marked Her Majesty the Queen’s 70 years of service. It also held an equally successful event to celebrate the King's Charles III Coronation at Mortomley Park, High Green.
- Delivered improvements at Angram Bank and other parks to make them safer and improve the environment.
- Installed new notice boards and benches across the Parish.
- There has been a particular focus on improving the environment including community clean-up days, taking part in the 'Keep Britain Tidy' and 'No Mow May' campaigns and the Ecclesfield Parish Gardening Competition.
- Supported the responded to the humanitarian crisis caused by the war in the Ukraine through coffee mornings/warm clothes swap shop and organising trips for refugees to Chatsworth House and the Lord Mayor’s Parlour.
- Reopened the refurbished Alan Greaves Parish Community Room.
- Held numerous community events, including Remembrance Sunday.
- Continue to work closely with the police including taking part in ‘Wednesday Walkabouts’ and their use of the Council Offices for drop-in and other activities.
- The Council’s financial and other processes were given a clean bill of health by the Government appointed External Auditor.

He thanked and paid tribute to his fellow councillors, Council staff and the many others who have supported him as Chairman of the Parish Council over the last year. Adding that he was confident that the Council will get better and stronger and continue to serve the community.

**2023/5 (FC)**

**Item 5: Update on Grenoside Exhibition Account Charity**

Councillor Alan Hooper led on this. He outlined the main achievements of the Charity over the last year including the nine projects and individuals that had benefited from financial assistance provided to them from it. He reported that at the end of the financial year the Trust held £27,329.39. Also, that total expenditure over the financial year was £2,600.01 and total income £1,325.74.

**2023/6 (FC)**

**Item 6: Items raised by parishioners**

A parishioner thanked the Parish Council for its hard and great work over the last year and hoped that this would continue over the coming year.

The meeting closed at 6.50 pm.

DRAFT