**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON**

**MONDAY 3RD APRIL 2023 AT 7.00PM AT OAKAMOOR VILLAGE HALL**

**Present**: **Parish Councillors:** Philip Charles.

 Mary Edwards, Glenys Beard,

Scott Watkin, Mark Fallows

 **County Councillor:** Mike Worthington

 **District Councillor(s)** James Aberley, Elsie Fallows

**Apologies.** Tony Loynes

**In Attendance:** Lengthsman and one member of the public.

**In the absence of Tony Loynes (Chair), Cllr. Charles chaired the meeting.**

1. **Welcome and Apologies for Absence.**

Cllr. Charles welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were accepted.

1. **Chairmans Annual Report 2022/2023. (Emailed to Clerk).**

**Finance**

In general, Oakamoor Parish Council has had another successful year. A cautious approach to spending allowed us to operate within budget and once again, there was no major capital expenditure in the financial year 2022/23. A detailed budget has been prepared for 2023/24 and there has been a need for a small (<1%) increase in the precept.

**Planning**

A number of Planning Applications were reviewed – the majority recommended for approval, and any material planning considerations highlighted where necessary. We continued to lobby the District Council to produce Planning Guidance notes for residents living in the Conservation Area, however, this has so far fallen on deaf ears. We will continue to push for these.

**Maintenance**

The quality and quantity of work undertaken by the Lengthsman is recognised by the Council and Parishioners alike. He continues to do an excellent job for the village and will be retained for 2023/2024. Mr Beard also continues to do an outstanding job mowing the Willows and the Picnic Area.

The gate at the Church end of Carr Wood was replaced and a squeeze stile installed at the entrance of Churnet view Road. This prevented the continued access of motorcycles to the wood.

Hamps Valley Ltd were employed to fell the dangerous willow tree on the Willows.

Materials to repair the chestnut and wire fence along the entrance to the station car park have been obtained and work to replace this will take place when the trees along that stretch have been trimmed.

**Highways**

There were no major highways issues, minor issues were reported and completed, however, we remain frustrated at the lead times between reporting and repair.

Despite the support of County Councillor Worthington, who raised the issue of parking at the Valley Primary School as a District Highway priority, we are still waiting for any action on the matter. The matter was first raised in January 21.

**General**

The year has seen increasing levels of public participation, which has kept the council informed of the issues that are seen as important to parishioners and allowed it focus its efforts appropriately. We do hope that this continues.

 **3. Any Other Matters Raised by Electors.**

 None.

**There being no further business Cllr. Charles declared the meeting closed at 7.15pm.**

Signed: ………………………………………………………… Dated: …………………………………………………