

**WATH AND NORTON CONYERS PARISH COUNCIL
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD AT SAMWAIES HALL
ON MONDAY 23 May at 6.30pm**

1. **Present:** Cllr Mrs J Graham (Chairman), Cllr J Clarke, Cllr G Peace, Cllr S Taylor, Cllr T Blake, S Hare (Clerk)
2. **Apologies:** None
3. **Minutes** of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 27 May 2015 were approved and signed. (Cllr Blake proposed and Cllr Peace seconded).
4. **Chairman's Report:** May 2015 to May 2016

As usual, we have had our regular meetings and I should like to thank Shirley Hare, our Clerk for all the work that she does for us. I should also like to thank you all, as my fellow councillors for your input into the Parish Council. As you know, we work as a team and make measured decisions. No one particular individual has more influence than another. Our meetings are well minuted and the minutes are circulated promptly, by email; they are also published on the NYCC website.

Highways

There have been the usual requests for repairs to the roads and footpaths and generally, the requests have been dealt with. This is a big change from last year, when the requests went largely unheeded. The footpath from the village to Melmerby Junction needs attention periodically as it is narrow and becomes overgrown quickly.

General Points

- The precept was not raised this year.
- The garages in Bedale Lane are in an even worse state than a year ago, since a refused planning application in 2015. There have been several other planning applications, throughout the year; all of which are minuted.
- There are no problems with the PAYE for the Clerk, and our accounts are in order.
- Thank you to Gez Peace for planting bulbs on Tanfield Lane during the winter of 2015/2016.
- Sean Taylor has not renewed his contract for grass cutting and we have been unable to find a replacement. We have decided to leave it for this Spring and Summer and to re-advertise the position next Autumn, which should give us more time to find someone to do the work.
- There have been some problems with lorries going through the village to the Greyfriars site, where Heck sausages are packing. After discussions with Heck, matters have improved and the majority of lorries are now going via Thornborough.

- The Parish Council hosted a celebration to mark the Queen's 90th birthday in April. The beacon was lit and refreshments were served at Samwaies Hall. It was a most successful evening.
- We had uncontested local elections in May 2016, with the present council remaining in situ.
- We plan to pollard the Lime trees in 2017.
- Dog fouling is discussed regularly.

5. **Questions from the Public** – there were no members of the public present.

The meeting closed at 6.35pm