Minutes of the Annual Meeting and Full Council Meeting held at St Margaret's Church on Tuesday 27th May 2025 at 7pm

Present:	Cllr R.Miles (Chair for item 1); Cllr N. Edmiston (Chair from item 2); Cllr H.L Corbett; Cllr M. Wilson and Cllr R.Cole-Morgan (part)
In Attendance:	Frank Horsley (Parish Clerk) 1 member of the public

ANNUAL MEETING

AM/0525/01 Chairman's Annual Report

Upon commencement of the meeting, the Council agreed to include the Chairman's Annual Report on the agenda. The Chair delivered the report and a transcript is included as an addendum to the minutes.

AM/0525/02 Election of Chair

Cllr Edmiston was proposed by Cllr Corbett and seconded by Cllr Wilson. Cllr Edmiston accepted and thanked Cllr Miles for her service as Chair for the previous 4 years. Cllr Edmiston signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. The Council **resolved** to appoint Cllr Edmiston as Chair for 2025/26.

AM/0525/03 Election of Vice-Chair

Cllr Corbett was proposed by Cllr Edmiston and seconded by Cllr Wilson. Cllr Corbett accepted. The Council **resolved** to appoint Cllr Corbett as Vice-Chair for 2025/26.

AM/0525/04 Apologies for Absence

No apologies received.

AM/0525/05 Variation of the Order of Business

None.

AM0525/06 Declaration of Members Interests

None.

AM0525/07 Review of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

Frank Horsley outlined amendments to the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations following the publication of updated model documents by NALC in March 2025.

Proposed by Cllr Edmiston and seconded by Cllr Corbett. The Council **resolved** to adopt the amended Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

AM/0525/08 Review of Council Subscriptions to Other Bodies

The Council noted and **resolved** to approve current subscriptions to Derbyshire ALC, Scribe Accounts and ICO.

AM0525/09 Review of Asset Register

The Chair noted minor amendments to the Asset Register in relation to the number of seat and proposed amended values for bird and squirrel feeders and VE Day plaque. The Council **resolved** to approve the Asset Register with agreed amendments.

AM/0525/10 Review of Council Policies

Frank Horsley stated the intention to review existing policies on a rolling basis through the year. Members noted this proposal.

ORDINARY MEETING

FC/0525/01 Public Participation

The Chair suspended Standing Orders and invited resident comments. Members received an annual report verbally from CARE outlining achievements over the last 12 months and highlighting proposed activity for the coming year. A number of issues were discussed by Members including community facilities and potential longer term solutions. The Chair thanked CARE for their continued efforts in supporting the community.

The potential to develop a Neighbourhood or Village Plan was raised, noting previous discussions and similar activity elsewhere. Members agreed that further consideration should be given in the current climate. **ACTION: Frank Horsley to investigate options and likely costs and requirements and report back to a future meeting.**

FC/0525/02 Ward Councillor Reports

None received. Frank Horsley noted the recent election of Cllr Adrian Hunter following County Council elections in May.

FC/0525/03 Minutes of Previous Meeting

No amendments proposed. The Council **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 24th March 2025 were a true and accurate record.

FC/0525/04 Annual Governance & Accountability Review (AGAR) 2024/25

a) The Council noted the Systems of Internal Control report prepared by the Clerk and the Internal Audit report and recommendations.
b) The Council **resolved** to approve the Exemption Statement and for the Chair and Clerk/RFP to sign.
c) The Council **resolved** to approve the Annual Governance Statement and for the Chair and Clerk/RFO to sign.
d) The Council **resolved** to approve the Accounting Statement and for the Chair to sign.
e) The Council **resolved** to approve the Year End Bank Reconciliation and Statement of

Accounts and for the Chair to sign.

f) The Council **resolved** to approve that the Exercise of Public Rights be published on Tuesday 10th June 2025.

FC/0525/05 Council Action Plan

Members considered the Council Action Plan and noted progress against each section. The key points resolved for updating included:

Defibrillators

- Cllr Cole-Morgan sourcing charity for recycling of redundant equipment.

Projects

- Noticeboards – Cllr Miles has advertised noticeboards on Facebook Marketplace.
- Litter Picking Equipment for dog walkers - now placed in the telephone box and residents informed via village WhatsApp.

Village Green

- Agility Tunnel – ROSPA inspection noted for discussion on agenda with a replacement considered as anew project.

Finance

- The Chair agreed to follow up plans for the church with representatives from Friends of St Margarets.
- Frank Horsley noted delay in process for appointing new authorised signatories. Cllr Miles to remain until completed.

Neighbourhood Plan

- Frank Horsley to review options for a Neighbourhood Plan or equivalent.

Snow Warden

- Cllr Miles confirmed all records up to date and would forward to Frank Horsley.

Flooding

- Members noted that DCC had fixed potholes and completed drainage maintenance. It was agreed to monitor the situation.

Parking on Main Street

- The Chair had investigated ownership issues and Frank Horsley confirmed he had contacted DCC Highways but yet to receive a response. Planters project to be considered subject to response received.

ACTION: Frank Horsley to update Action Plan with agreed changes.

FC/0525/06 Village Matters Arising (not on Action Plan)

a) VE Day Grant
The Council **resolved** to approve payment of the £250 VE Day grant received from DDDC to CARE. Proposed by the Chair. Seconded by Cllr Wilson.

b) ROSPA Inspection Report
Members noted and considered the ROSPA report received following the recent inspection of the village green. Members noted amber recommendations in relation to the barrel, slide and stepping logs. The Chair suggested replacing the barrel with another play animal sculpture but following discussion, Members agreed that any replacement should

be like for like to reflect the residents views from the previous consultation.
ACTIONS: Frank Horsley to review ROSPA report and provide options and costs for like-for-like replacements were deemed necessary. Grounds maintenance contractor to review and repair ground erosion near slide. Add to Action Plan.

c) Commemorative Bench
Cllr Miles provided background information for the proposed commemorative bench at Hopton bus stop and Frank Horsley updated on correspondence with resident and the County Council to date. Members discussed potential solutions and agreed to add to Action Plan and await response from the resident who proposed the project.

d) New Projects
- Members considered a proposal to add new signage and solar powered lighting to the telephone box first aid station. The Council resolved to approve the purchase of appropriate equipment. Add to Action Plan. **ACTION: Cllr Cole-Morgan to source appropriate supplies and costs and liaise with Frank Horsley.**
- Following earlier discussion, the Chair suggested that the Council consider land for a potential community facility. Members agreed that although a long term objective, the costs and legals would prove prohibitive at this stage.
- The Chair proposed the design and erection of a village sign similar to the shield often found in other rural areas. Members discussed previous consultation with residents and expressed concerns regarding potential locations. Cllr Cole-Morgan suggested the school could hold a competition to design a village emblem for display either on the back of the noticeboard or bug hotel. Frank Horsley suggested the commissioning of a new logo design to represent the village which could be used both physically and digitally. **ACTION: Frank Horsley to research potential commissioning of parish logo/emblem design.**
- Members agreed that, subject to further County Council advice, the proposal to position planters on verge to the rear of the Miners Arms would be considered as a project. Add to Action Plan.

FC/0525/07 Financial Matters

a) Members noted accounts for payment for March/April 2025. Signed.
b) Members noted income received for March/April 2025. Signed.
c) Members reviewed the bank reconciliation for March/April 2025. Signed.

FC/0525/08 Planning

a) Members noted the updated planning log.
b) Members noted and discussed comments submitted on 14th May 2025 to DDDC in relation to SHLAA758 and agreed to monitor progress.
c) Members noted correspondence with DDDC regarding a potential enforcement matter. Frank Horsley to report back when investigation report received.

FC/0525/09 Correspondence

Members noted the correspondence on MS OneDrive file circulated prior to meeting.

FC/0525/10 Any Other Items

Members noted continued progress regarding the proposed renovation of the Hopton Almshouses.

The Chair noted the passing of respected local resident Colin Ainley earlier that day. Members expressed their condolences.

FC/0525/11 Date & Time of Next Full Council Meeting

Monday 28th July at 7pm.

The meeting ended at 9.04pm.