

**MINUTES OF FARNHILL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 30TH MAY 2019**  
**IN KILDWICK/ FARNHILL INSTITUTE**

**PRESENT** Counc. D Atkinson (Chairman), NYCC & CDC Representative Counc P Mulligan, CDC Representative Counc A Brown, NY Police, Clerk S. Harding Hill & 23 Parishioners.

The meeting was opened by the Chairman who thanked everybody for coming and received apologies for absence from NYCC Highways & Counc J Waring.

He then introduced PC Emma Daines who updated the meeting with crime figures for the area. She stated that in the last 6 months for Farnhill there had been 1 drugs offence, 2 burglaries, 1 attempted fraud and 1 theft of paving stones and that anti social behaviour & vehicle offences were quite low. Thefts of quad bikes was quite high in Rural areas. She reported that Crosshills Police looked after 13 villages from here to Thornton in Craven with 3 PCSO's 1PC on Neighbourhood Policing and 3 PC's (999 calls).

A member of the public informed her of the speeding on Main Street Farnhill right outside their front door and that cars appear to be travelling at 30mph rather than 20mph especially during rush hour when it is being used as a rat run. Also anytime blockages or road closures take place on the A629 Skipton Road the village becomes grid locked. He thought that the use of speed bumps would help slow the traffic.

It was also reported that there is a one way system in place through the police & highways for when the A629 is blocked but it does not seem to be instigated at such times. The PC reported that their main concern at these times is to deal with the aftermath of the accident and that they did not always have officers available to oversee the one way system.

She informed the Parish Council that the Community Speed Watch had been successful in some villages and this may be the best option for Farnhill.

The PC said it was nice to see so many people in attendance and thanked the Parish Council for inviting her and then left to carry on with her duties.

The Chairman then invited CDC District Councillor A Brown to give his report. He informed the meeting that he had been a volunteer for the Community Speed Watch Scheme in Cononly and that it was quite easy to get hold of the equipment through 95 Alive but a bit of training was needed. Anyone caught speeding will receive a letter but cannot be prosecuted, but the police will put more resources behind people who help.

He informed the meeting that he had been a District Council Representative for CDC on behalf of the green party for 2 years and that he focused on planning. He said that with all the out of town building on the way the town was on the way to being a town without shops or takeaways. He stated that the town also needs the right type of houses, there is not enough small houses or accommodation for the elderly.

There have been studies regarding issues of another motorway from the M65 parallel to the M62 somewhere to the north of it which could be threatening to us.

CDC are monitoring the need for electric charging points after people have been campaigning for them.

He stated that both he & Counc. P Mulligan had helped to fight against the planning application for Fairmount and that after the elections he was now on the Planning Committee.

He was asked how much of recycled waste is actually recycled or does it go into landfill and responded by saying that approx. 49% of all waste gets recycled. There had been problems with changes to the recycling method at the top of Main Street which had been brought about by an accident to a worker, but after a meeting with waste management they came to an agreeable solution.

Issue were raised about dog dirt on the footpath from the road to Milking Hill Bridge and on the towpath where people walking on the towpath just throw the bags down. It was suggested that the dog warden provide some notices for the footpath.

NYCC & CDC Representative Counc P Mulligan was then asked to give his report. He remarked that it was good to see so many people in attendance and then went on to report that 11 councils were in danger of running out of reserves but CDC & NYCC were sound at the moment. NYCC was the largest County & road network in England but they maintain the roads well and have reserves to use.

One area which were having problems was special needs and disabilities which had received a 40% increase in demand and there is a rising demand for adult social care. They would either have to cut services or raise fees. Also rural areas do not get as much funding for schools as urban areas and the finance goes by the number of pupils. Clapham school had been threatened with closure after the pupils had dropped from 50 to 25, but residents formed an action group & 225 people responded to the consultation + they sent a 3 year action plan to the Council and it is now going to remain open.

He reported that NYCC had recently changed their policies regarding VAS signs and that Parish Councils can now purchase them, but they cost about £3000.00 and the Parish Council would have to maintain them and a suitable site would have to be agreed by Highways.

CDC were concerned that they had a good finance officer but he is now retiring and that they have not got the money to pay good officers.

He said the Towpath Improvement would be starting in June with the section from Bradley to Kildwick and then Skipton to Gargrave.

CDC have been good with applying for grants and funding and have received funding for a 5 million regeneration project some of which will be spent on the railway Station and the Town Hall project which will have a new museum, study space for schools & new stage and dressing rooms.

He reported that there had been a feasibility study of Network Rail and that they would increase numbers by opening up the station at Kildwick but it would cost 20 million, but Network Rail were reluctant to make the commitment. Northern Rail were looking at the timings of the barrier coming down at Kildwick and Councillor Mulligan suggested forming a group to write letters and petition.

The chairman Counc D Atkinson gave a brief update on the work of the Parish Council over the year and stated that the Parish Council had had 12 monthly meetings over the year plus 1 joint meeting with other Councils, 5 extraordinary meetings (mostly planning application meetings) and additional meetings of some delegated Councillors to prepare draft documents or responses to be considered by Council. Work was also carried out by individual Councillors using their expertise (especially Counc M Scarffe on planning and design issues) in preparing drafts or letters to guide the Council in its responses. The Council also undertook training on various issues and represented the Council at small functions such as Remembrance Day.

He also provided an analysis of the work carried out by the Council of which

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| • Planning (significant development proposals) | 25%  |
| • Development/Maintenance of village resources | 23%  |
| • Highways                                     | 23%  |
| • Finance, Policies, New Legislation           | 10%  |
| • Canal & River Trust Issues                   | 8%   |
| • Lighting                                     | 5%   |
| • Waste & Litter                               | 2.5% |

Some of the Council's successes over the year had been:

- Planning - Crag End, Fairmount, Skipton Road (Supporting Kildwick)
- Supporting Institute & History Group - (Funding and Support for World War 1 project)
- Interest in Council – (The number of Councillors for the Council had been raised from 5-7 and all positions had been filled and maintained throughout the year.
- New seat @ Milking Hill Bridge

- Fence by the Aquaduct re-instated (after persistently challenging the Canal & River Trust)
- Play Area – Maintained & Repaired
- Street Lighting – New Heritage Light at Hanover Street
- Grit Bins (New grit bins for Car Park & Langkirk Close)
- Repairs to Walls & Gullies
- Continued Development & Improvement of Upper & Lower Arbour

Ongoing Issues and Projects were:

- Road Resurfacing
- Parking
- Repairs to wall & light at bottom of Starkey lane
- Dry Well at Spout House
- Large Vehicle Restriction on the Arbour
- Gullies & Flooding
- Completion of Path at Lower Arbour

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting May 2018 were approved by the meeting and signed as a correct record by the Chairman.

A member of the public thanked the Chairman for a good presentation and thanked the Parish Council for all their hard work and effort and said solutions can be found if everybody works together.

No further issues were raised by the public, so the Chairman thanked everybody for attending and closed the meeting.