

The following are the DRAFT minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting which was held on Monday 4 April 2005 in the Village Hall, Priston These have not yet been approved as an accurate record of proceedings.

1. Attendance and Apologies -

Councillor Hughes presided with the Parish Clerk in attendance. The Chairman welcomed electors of the Parish and commented that he was very pleased to see such a large attendance. A register of attendance was circulated and signed and apologies noted.

2. Minutes of last Annual Parish Meeting -

The Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 10 May 2004 were read by the Clerk. These were accepted and agreed as a true record of proceedings and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising -

(i) The Link - Noted that The Link had ceased publication in booklet form and thanks were extended to Mrs Anderson and the Link Committee for their efforts to retain the monthly magazine, currently in a paper format.

(ii) Car Parking - The Chairman reminded the meeting that the problem with onstreet parking still exists and the charges for parking in the Village Hall car park are very reasonable.

4. Chairman's Report - The Chairman gave a brief report of the Parish Council's decisions and activities during the past year commencing by reminding the meeting of the bench around the tree on the village green, in memory of Jim Nokes and Charlie Fry, which had been formally handed to the Parish Council prior to the Annual General Meeting in May 2004.

Following a directive from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, new ways in which planning decisions can be made quicker have been implemented by the District Council.

A customised Emergency Guidance Plan for the parish is in place. Several villagers and farmers have agreed to act as Community Emergency Advisors. Copies of the plan are held by B&NES Council Emergency Services and within the parish.

Referring to footpaths and bridleways, the Chairman advised that two new kissing gates have been installed and the Parish Council has been advised that the bridge over the brook near Priston Mill is to be replaced in the current financial year.

The Priston Team was congratulated on achieving second place in the Wansdyke Inter-Village Quiz. The prize of £50 was shared between the Church Council and Village Hall.

The Chairman concluded by expressing the sincere thanks of the Parish Council to Richard Bottle for all his work on the website and by advising that he would give a full report at the Annual General Meeting on 16 May.

5. Financial Report of Parish Council -

The Clerk gave a very brief resumé of the Parish Council's finances advising that the year had commenced with a balance at the bank of £286.20, precept of £1,500 had been received and there would be a carry forward figure of approximately £500. A full report would be given at the Parish Council's Annual General Meeting.

6. Any other business -

Mr Broomfield asked the Parish Council to write to the owners of land at the top of Priston Lane to request that the boulder which obstructs the road could be kept off the highway. It was however felt by the Chairman that an informal, verbal approach was preferable.

The Chairman declared the formal business of the meeting closed and welcomed Mr M Chapman who had been invited to give an illustrated talk to the Annual Parish Meeting.