



## MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING OF ELECTORS for 2023/2024

HELD ON MONDAY 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 7.00pm

### Present:

Parish Councillors: Cllr Capel (Vice-Chair); Cllr Bowes; Cllr Temple; Cllr Robinson; Cllr Stead  
Others: 3 Resident; Sue Nicholson (Clerk)

### Item Ref 2023/24

### Detail

1) **Welcome and Apologies**

The Vice-Chair welcomed everyone in attending the Annual Parish meeting and informed the meeting of the Chair's apologies due to urgent personal reasons:

- Margaret Curry

2) **Minutes from AGM 2022/23**

Minutes Proposed – Cllr Temple

Seconded by Cllr Bowes

**Unanimously Agreed**

3) **Chairman's Report**

A written report had been presented before the meeting from the Chair and was presented verbally to the meeting by the Vice-Chair. See below attached report.

4) **Public discussion time.**

The only item raised was that the Bus Shelters are owned by the parish and was noted as not owned in the Chair's Report. This was noted and the Chair will be advised. Update what has happened in your parish this year:

- A new parish councillor co-opted.
- VAS Exelby completed.
- Church Donation to help with their grass cutting.
- Planter for the planters
- Grass cutting issue last May due to the very wet month.
- New noticeboard for Exelby with a NYC Grant
- Lottery Grant for Play equipment.

In progress:

- Working with Highways England to resolve a parking issue next to the emergency exit on Dere Road and Security Fence along A1(M).
- Issues in Londonderry Bridlepath and woods.
- Heavy Good vehicles using Dere Road.
- Bulbs along verges in Leeming.
- Seating in various areas.
- Bus stops repairs.
- Planning Application for housing on two separate sites.
- Solar Panels effecting Exelby Meeting Closed

## **Annual Report May 2024**

Good evening and welcome to this the Annual Meeting of EL&L PC and welcome to Fiona our newest member of the Parish Council who's first Annual meeting this is..

The purpose of this meeting is to up-date you on what we, as your Parish council, have been doing over the past 12 months. It will also give you the opportunity to ask questions about what we're doing or to raise other matters that fall within our remit.

It's now my pleasure to present the Annual Report on the activities of ELL&L PC for 2023-24.

To begin I'll just outline what the PC is responsible which includes:

- Playparks
- Grass cutting
- Village maintenance
- Reviewing Planning Applications
- Feeding into District and Country Council consultations
- Liaise with the Police, District and County Council
- Represent the parish on associated committees.

Other Issues we can take on are:-

Highways issues, transport and traffic, community safety, housing, street lighting, playing fields, litter, war memorials, seats and shelters, rights of way.

With these items in mind let me outline what we've been doing over the last 12 months.

### **Environment**

We've worked to both maintain and enhance the environment of the parish and have funded

- planters
- seating in Leeming and Londonderry
- a new notice board in Exelby (with a grant from NYC)

In progress we are looking to fund bulbs along the verges in Leeming and additional seating.

Unfortunately, the contractor responsible for cutting the grass within the 30mph limits tendered his withdrawal from the contract due to personal reasons and we had to

quickly find a replacement contractor at short notice. This was achieved and we were aware of issues last May due to extremely wet weather, but this is was unavoidable as even we can't control the weather.

The playground along Mill Lane was in dire need of attention and some refurbishment. Fortunately for us, Sue, the Clerk, has worked extremely hard to secure a lottery grant for £20K for this purpose. We have put some funding towards the refurbishment from savings and CIL money. Thank you, Sue.

There were issues with the bridleway at Londonderry but this is still on-going. Also there is an issue at Crow Wood, Londonderry where a tree house has been built in the trees there - this needs to be discussed and appropriate action taken.

## **Transport & Safety**

The speed limit through Exelby was reduced to ensure the safety of pedestrians in the village and the PC funded a VAS sign to help control the speed of traffic - this seems to be working.

A further traffic issue we're trying to address is that of heavy goods vehicles going through Leeming despite clear signage prohibiting this.

We are also working with Highways England to resolve a parking issue next to the emergency exit on Dere Street, but progress is proving to be slow.

Though we do not own buildings we are responsible for the upkeep of the three bus shelters in the villages and we have and are continuing to carry out repairs and maintenance on these structures.

## **Planning**

As councillors we have reviewed and submitted considerations on planning applications within the parish. These range from landscaping applications, outline planning permission, domestic extensions and farm buildings. We strive to ensure all approved plans are in keeping with the needs of the villages always bearing in mind a development's impact on neighbours.

I have to stress here that the PC can only make recommendations for approval or objection - the final say goes to NYC planning department.

This of course leads onto the on-going difficulties with two planning applications which the PC has rejected and objected to on what we believe to be justified reasons. These applications are for four houses off Exelby Lane for 24 houses down Sycamore Lane. We are awaiting the NYC's decision on both of these applications.

Though not specifically within the boundary of EL&L PC we are aware of an application for a solar farm on land abutting Exelby but within Bedale Town Council bounds. We

will support Exelby residents as much as we can over this installation and the problems it may cause.

**Financing our parish duties**

All Councillors are volunteers and give freely of their time and do not claim any expenses. Our only paid employee is the Parish Clerk and Financial Officer - Sue who is worth her weight in gold and keeps us up-to-date with everything and also keeps us in check when necessary.

A huge thanks to Sue.

The funds used to carry out our responsibilities comes from NYC in the form a THE PRECEPT which we apply for each year based on our planned needs. When formulating our financial plans, we are very aware of the need to keep costs down as much as possible and it is with reluctance that we ask for a higher amount of Precept. I can honestly report that we have one of the lowest Precepts around.

This then is my Annual Report for 2023 - 24 and I hope you can appreciate that we have continued to function efficiently and professionally on your behalf. I'm extremely proud of our councillors and the hard work they have put in on behalf of residents.

All PC papers are to be found on the official website but please do not hesitate to contact us if you need to.

**Signed by Chair:** .....

**Dated:**.....