

Final Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 25th March 2025 7.00pm at Siddington Village Hall.

Part 1 Public and press present.

Present

Cllr. Peter Wain (Chairman)
Cllr. A Meadowcroft (Vice Chairman)
Cllr. D. Furness
Cllr. B Smart
Cllr. D. Billington
Cllr. B. Carbutt
Cllr. S. Forster
Cllr. Paul Wain
Mrs. E Worrall (Clerk)

Absent

Public Forum

No members of the public were present.

APM2501 Welcome and Introduction

The Chair extended a welcome to all attendees.

APM2502 To approve the draft minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 2nd April 2025

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes.

APM2503 Chairman's Report – Councillor Peter Wain

I start this year's report by noting the Council has operated the whole year with all seats on the Council being occupied. There have been no vacancies or new appointments.

I would like to thank all Councillors for their dedication and input over the last year, in particular my Vice Chair, Andy Meadowcroft, who has again provided great support. I would also like to thank Lizzie Worrall, our Parish Council Clerk, for all her hard work, support, organisational skills, advice and help in ensuring the Council has continued to be compliant over the last 12 months.

We, as a Council, have achieved a lot over the last year.

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Signed

Dated

In May, we had a hard morning clearing away earth and vegetation from the base of the railings at Redesmere ahead of the overdue repairs, cleaning and repainting. The railings now look far better and much more inviting for visitors to the Parish. Thank you to all those that helped with the clearing and cleaning, in particular Councillor David Billington for organising and providing the machinery to help with the clearing.

Quotations for either the replacement or repair of the broken bench are also being obtained. During the year several Parish highways issues have been raised with the local authority - some have been fixed. Several fly tipping problems have also been raised using the Fix My Street reporting portal and the tipping has been cleared away quickly. Overgrown hedges on the side of Congleton Lane were also raised with both the owners and the Local Authority and were eventually cut back in autumn. I understand the regular flooding on the A34 at Conneygreave remains within Cheshire East Council's programme to be resolved but is being delayed due to budgetary constraints. The Parish Council were also successful in securing funding for siding out of the footpaths along the A34. Work has very recently commenced and continues. It is hoped the full length of the footpaths along the A34 will be cleared, which will make using the footpaths far safer.

At 6pm on 6 June, the Church Bell was rung to commemorate the D-Day 80. Thank you to Councillor David Furness for organising this important event.

In October, Councillor Forster organised a very well attended Village First Aid event. Over 40 people from the Parish and local villages attended. Thank you to Councillor Forster for arranging the event and the Council hopes to organise a similar event again in the future. I would also like to thank Councillor Forster for arranging for the village defibrillator to be correctly registered, so it is now in full working order and usable.

Following several fatal accidents on Pexhill Road over the last few years, the Parish Council started a campaign to reduce the speed limit on the road from 60 to 40 mph, for safety reasons. This was raised with a representative of Cheshire East back in November 2023, which resulted in a consultation taking place in December 2023, conducted by Cheshire East Council. The consultation was in respect of a reduction in the speed limit from 60 to 50 mph along the whole length of the road from Macclesfield to where the road meets the A34 in Siddington. The Parish Council, along with many residents who live along Pexhill Road, responded to the consultation supporting the proposal but there has been no further response or action from Cheshire East Council that I am aware of. I would like to continue to follow up this further over the coming year.

Again, the potential closure of the lay-by at Siddington Crossroads to improve visibility, which can be particularly poor during rush hour, was again raised with a Cheshire East representative in November 2023, but there has been no further response from them. I would also like to continue to pursue this over the coming year.

The Parish Council has acquired four new village signs to be erected on or around the village boundaries on the A34, Salters Lane and Pexhill Road. The erection of the replacement signs has been agreed with Cheshire East Council, and the work is planned to be carried out by Mr Pete Davies soon. Part of the cost for the replacement signs has been covered by a successful claim against a motorist who crashed into and damaged the sign at the side of the A34 at Capesthorne.

The Council has considered carefully several local planning applications throughout the year, including the well-publicised Lapland UK application for a 10-year permission for an annual

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Dated



Christmas Experience at Capesthorne Hall beginning in winter 2025. Although concerns were raised by the Parish Council regarding potential highways issues and the potential impact on local Parishioners, the Parish Council supported the application on the basis the event would be positive for the local economy.

The Parish Council website www.siddingtonpccheshire.co.uk continues to be updated by the Parish Clerk and provides details of all Councillors, forthcoming meeting dates, agendas, minutes of previous meetings, policies and procedures together with insurance and financial information. All statutory notifications are also added to the website as and when required. John Henry has again been appointed as auditor and the audit of the Parish Council's affairs will commence shortly.

A general litter picking day was organised for last Saturday, 22 March, and was well attended. The litter pick mainly focused on the A34 from our boundary with Marton to Capesthorne Hall. The length between Capesthorne Hall and Bagbrook will be picked at a date soon. I would like to thank all those that helped with the litter pick on Saturday and all those parishioners who litter pick various stretches of our roads throughout the year to keep our parish looking tidy.

Finally, I again would like to thank my fellow Councillors for their continued support throughout the year.

Following the Chair's report, Cllr. Meadowcroft and the Council extended their thanks to Cllr. Peter Wain for his hard work throughout the year.