Dishforth Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish

Held, Tuesday, 12th May 2026, at 18:00 hrs at Dishforth Village Hall

In Attendance:

Dishforth Parish Clerk - Chairman
Thirteen members of the public

Parish Clerk - Sue Fraser

AMP-26/1	**To receive apologies for absence**
	None to receive
AMP-26/2	**To receive the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting, held 29th April 2025**
	The minutes of the meeting held 29th April 2025, are received.
AMP-26/3	**To receive the Parish Council's statement of the Chairman for 2026/26.**
	The Chairman informed residents of change within the Parish Council, which included two new councillors – Martin Flanagan and Anne Sturzaker, following the resignations of Councillors Dodds and Reid. In addition to a new Clerk Sue Fraser. Policies - have been updated and we continue to adopt and develop new policies. New Website - the new site is operational and requires some updating, which is ongoing. Cemetery Management – previously has been poorly managed and a major overhaul is required. The clerk is currently creating a database and updating policies and procedures to make them more efficient and electronic. The trees have been removed in the Cemetery, but this has left a lot of chick weeds. This is to be addressed to make maintenance easier, and DPC are hoping to install a pathway in the future. Duck Hill play area – is almost completed with the exception of a BBQ area. Two seats for the bus stops - have been purchased, thanks to some funding from NYC Councillor Browns locality budget. Guardians – we have now introduced a guardian rota for the 2 defibrilators in the village, which operates on a weekly basis. Many thanks to those who are guardians, this helps to ensure our defibrillators are emergency ready 24/7 and is an essential community function. Asset Register – have been updated. Again this has been made electronic and easier to manage. Call Calling Zone – has been earmarked within the village in conjunction with NYC, we hope this is working well, as no issues have been reported. Renovation of the Village Hall – this is ongoing. A major issue identified was the office being a fire hazard. The councillors and clerk recently spent 36 hours, archiving, disposing and sorting through papers to ensure compliancy. Floodlights have also been installed and the pathways recently cleaned up. Replacement Windows and Doors are being looked at
contd.,	

	along with a planning application for submitting for listed buildings consent to determine what is and is not allowed. VH Hire and room bookings remain much lower than is needed for the VHall to remain sustainable. Facebook – as new FB page has been introduced, which is working well. Playing fields, pavilion and MUGA lease is still to be sorted, however much progress has been made in this regard and a 'Licence agreement' is in process. Thanks were expressed to community groups and persons within the village for the work they do throughout the community including the DCC/DCA, Bowl Club, Youth Club etc and the amount of time and work they volunteer. Thanks were also given to fellow councillors for their support and work on behalf of the parish council and to the clerk.
AMP-26/4	**To receive a report from the Community Police -**
	Two officers were in attendance and introduced themselves as Jack and Hannah and gave an update of recent antisocial behaviour incidents involving three youths from within the village. Residents were informed that the police are working with the youths, their families and alongside interventions from the school liaison officers to support and work with the youths to divert them from drifting from the wrong path. The officers said it is important that residents do contact them as soon as issues arise and not just think it's 'kids being kids'. Numbers for emergencies telephone 999 if happening at the time, and if an issue has already happened 101. They also advised it is worth keeping a log. Questions were asked from some of the community groups, about outreach presentations and input from the community police to groups and were told this is something they champion. The police officers were thanked for attending and left details of community messenger to sign-up to media , community news, appeals etc.
AMP-26/5	**DishFest Report**
	Residents were updated that the Dish-fest is a community event, that is mainly music related and raises money for events and local community groups within the village – last year a profit of £5,200 was shared amongst 5 projects within the village. This year funds are to be shared with the Dishforth Youth Club, Dishforth Primary School, Kirby Hill Guides, Topcliffe Scouts and the Bowls Club. There will be a new headliner this year of Alistair Griffin, who is a song writer and musician and first became famous as a solo artist through BBC appearances. There will also be appearances from other local artists. There will be a DJ, very good music, a raffle or tombola – prizes welcome, bar. This is a ticket event, the gazebo / front lines are already sold out. Volunteers are needed please speak with a committee member is interested. A big thank you was expressed to Craig.

AM26-6	**Bowls Club report**
	Residents were informed the Bowl Club offers both Carpet and Lawn Bowls. The carpet bowls the club is held within the village hall throughout the winter September through to March is happy for persons just to turn up as the current group is small. There is a league, that plays Thursday nights at home. Other nights are away. Two teams in the league £10 per year, plus £1 per week. Hoping to organise an open day in September to encourage more members. The Lawn Bowls are held in the Pavilion next to the MUGA, the greens are excellent and well maintained by volunteers. The Lawn club play in the Dalton league Monday evenings. There are 21 members, half of which live in the village, the other half are from outside the area in neighbouring villages. Membership is £71 per annum and members must wear flat shoes. Bowls Club are hoping to join the DCA once the lease arrangements have been concluded. Social memberships currently is not an option but is being considered for the future.
AM26-7	**Dishforth Community Association (DCA)**
	Residents were informed that the DCA has now gained Charity Status and has recently made some impressive strides, the first priority being to establish as a Charity Organisation and to have governance guidelines in place. The aim of the Association is to improve the recreation life for our residents, thanks were given to Councillor Sturzaker for enabling this to happen. Being of charity status helps the DCA apply for grants and work with the parish council and other community groups for the benefit of the village and its residents. Thanks were given to Councillor Watson too, for the work undertaken in refurbishing the Pavilion which was above an beyond. The Pavilion and sports facilities are well used by community groups and individuals. An electronic locking system has been introduced. Thanks were given to Barry Sutton for his work driving the reduction in speed to 20mph on back lane. The cricket pitch sadly cannot be used currently, due to thoughtless recreational driving. Future developments are planned whereby some advanced thinking is required to make the Pavilion attractive and to attract more revenue. Enquiries have been made by the Army to use the facilities, but this is a slow burner.
AM26-8	**Knit Stitch and Natter**
	Residents were informed the group has been running for 4 years and has a core of regular attendees. The group meet on the first Sunday of each month, it's a mixed group of villagers, mainly social, and is not restricted to ladies – gents are welcome. Often the group work on specified projects a recent example being the floral carpet. Christmas, there is a wreath making class, which is always popular – greenery is provided by Lorraine Chester, for which we are most grateful.

AM26-9	**Youth Club**
	Residents were informed that the driving force within the Youth Club is Helen Gillespie and Ali Dods. HG dealing with governance issues, policies and procedure. AD lots of the day to day organisation. Other volunteers include Steve Hunter and Gemma Pratt alongside Jane Herbert and others. The Youth Club was established approximately 18moths ago, charge is £2 per week, and meet on a Wednesday, attendees are aged 10-16 years or are entering year 6 of primary school. They club also caters for children with special needs too. All persons helping in the club have advanced DBS.
AM26-10	**To adjourn for public participation and consider questions from the public**
	None to receive.
AM26-11	**To consider motions presented to the Parish Council by members of the electorate**
	None to receive
The meeting adjourned and closed @ 18: 40hrs.	