

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 19 MAY 2026 AT 7.30PM IN GREAT WHITTINGTON VILLAGE HALL

PRESENT: Councillor S Gregory, Chairman of the Council together with Councillors M Petrie, W E Robson, A Lawson, H Lewins and Dr W Brittain.

Also present: Mrs M Senior, Clerk to the Council and County Councillor Mrs V Jones

1. Apologies for Absence – None
2. To receive the minutes of the 2025 Annual Meeting held on 20th May 2025. Minutes of the meeting held on 20th May 2025, having previously been circulated, were accepted as an accurate record.
3. Matters arising. None
4. Chairman's Report. The Parish Council have held our six requisite meetings here in the Village Hall, attendance by Councillors has been good but we receive little support from members of the public.

Steven Lawson joined the Parish Council in 2021; he was with us for four years and left early last year. Steven's position on the Parish Council has been taken by Anne Lawson who was co-opted at our AGM last year.

We have increased our precept again by £500.00, a very small increase, but it enables us to manage our rising costs. I feel that it is important to keep pace with increasing expenses and maintain a reasonable surplus, our bank balance is currently in a slightly better position than it was this time last year, our major expenses continue to be grass cutting and tree management. A tree survey was carried out recently, but we do not yet know the cost of the required works.

Over the past year Alncom have carried out a lot of work installing high speed broadband, this work is almost finished, their Wayleaves manager commented to me that they were pleased with the level of help and cooperation they had encountered from people in the area while the works were carried out.

We have not had to respond to many planning applications in the Village over the past year, despite two applications to develop Badgers End, nothing appears to have progressed.

The Village Hall continues to thrive, monthly coffee mornings are popular, and the hall hosts several regular events. The Hall committee have been successful in securing further grant funding to enable better energy efficiency.

Unfortunately, dog fouling appears to be on the increase. Despite information about changes in the law relating to dogs being put out on the Parish Council and Village Hall Facebook pages people are continuing to allow their dogs to defaecate on Village Green and not pick up after them. This is a public health issue and those who are responsible should be held to account.

Nothing has changed regarding the road safety issues on the A68 and accidents continue to occur on a regular basis.

I would like to thank Councillors for giving your time and support, thanks to Veronica and an important thank you to Mandy for your help and advice.

5. Meeting closed at 19:40

Signed as an accurate record
