

Bramham cum Oglethorpe

Minutes of the Annual Parish at

6 pm on Wednesday 14 May 2025 at the Bramham Parish Centre

In attendance Cllrs M Corrigan [Chair], H Buck, L Richards, P Corrigan, K Huggins, 7 residents, Ward Cllr Lamb., Ward Cllr Harrington and Bramham Parish Council clerk.

1. Cllr M Corrigan welcomed the residents to the meeting and provided them with copies of the Annual Parish Newsletter. Cllr M Corrigan thanked Cllr Prest for her assistance with producing the newsletter.
2. The minutes of the Parish Meeting on 8 May 2024 were received. It was agreed that they were an accurate record of the meeting.
3. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Ingham.
4. Cllr L Richards provided the Annual Crime Report. It was noted that the PACT meetings take place on the first Tuesday of the month at the Wetherby Methodist church and all residents are welcome to attend. This is a useful forum for residents to raise any concerns about crime in the area. Overall crime rates are low though many residents remain concerned about speeding. The data from the fixed SIDs in Bramham is reported at each council meeting and there is evidence that they are having an impact on driver's behaviour. The data is sent to LCC Highways who will ask the police to undertake enforcement action if this is indicated.

Other issues of concern are car theft and burglary though the rates remain low. There has been a rise in antisocial behaviour in the area. The Parish Centre, Village Hall, playing field and Bramham House have all been affected. The antisocial behaviour team have been involved and they are working in local schools. The council made a choice to allow open access to the Parish Centre although the police advised against it. The installation of CCTV has reduced incidents of anti-social behaviour in the Parish Centre.

It was stressed that residents should report all incidents to the police.

A resident hoped that the Neighbourhood Plan addresses the lack of facilities in the village for younger people to keep them occupied.

Cllr Richards noted that the Parish Centre is open for all. The Youth Service at the Deepdale Community Centre can be asked whether any activities can be undertaken in Bramham. The number of children involved in antisocial behaviour incidents is very small so the council wanted to ensure that the Parish Centre is a place for children to use. Deepdale and Wetherby youth services often just provide a space to meet for young people to meet rather than organised activities.

Cllr Pumfrey noted that youth antisocial behaviour incidents in Bramham is very low.

A resident queried whether there were any drug problems in Bramham.

Cllr Richards advised that there were no significant issues. There have been problems at Bramham House before the site was secured.

A resident suggested that the data from the SIDs may be misleading if it is averaged over the day.

Cllr Richards advised that the data does show speeds by hour not just daily. Cllr M Corrigan explained that you can drill down into the SID data to specific vehicles and this is sent to the LCC Highways. Ward Cllr Lamb has set up quarterly road safety meetings with LCC Highways, Bramham and Clifford Parish Meetings. As a result speed is being assessed in a number of key areas and LCC Highways will be addressing cutting back of vegetation from signs. It has been a positive process which is helping to ensure that key highways issues are being addressed.

Cllr Richards advised that LCC have not followed up on a police request for lighting at the Paradise Way and Bowcliffe Road junction. She agreed this low level work should be undertaken as soon as possible.

5. The Annual Report from the Chair of the Parish Council was received. This has been included in the Annual Parish Newsletter which has been published on the website. The Chair thanked the councillors who compiled the Newsletter and all the contributors to it.
6. A presentation was received from Cllr Pumfrey about the Neighbourhood Plan Review. A resident asked of the council starting from scratch with the review. Cllr Pumfrey explained that Working Group review will start with the existing plan and will be working with Clifford and Boston Spa Parish Councils. It is an opportunity to identify key areas re housing and facilities. A resident noted that at the Public Meeting about the Neighbourhood Plan Review, Ian Mackay [LCC Planning Officer], suggested there is an opportunity to be more prescriptive than the existing plan. Cllr Pumfrey advised that if Bramham House is developed then this will meet most of the housing target for the parish. There is an opportunity for the Neighbourhood Plan to be more prescriptive about the location and type of housing in the parish. A resident queried whether the council was in contact with North Yorkshire Council which is reviewing its Local Plan. The clerk advised that the North Yorkshire Local Plan will be going out to consultation soon and the council can take part in the consultation process. Cllr Pumfrey stressed that the council is trying hard to encourage participation from to join the Working Group, so far only one resident has volunteered.
7. An update was received about the proposed Bramham House Development was received from Ward Cllr Lamb. The developers are still going through the Pre-Application Process with LCC. There are still a number of issues outstanding. LCC Planning held a workshop with the developers at which 5 key issues were identified:
 - Affordable Housing
 - Highways
 - Accessible Green Space
 - Biodiversity
 - ParkingThe developers are not proposing any affordable housing whereas LCC want a minimum 30% of affordable housing. There will be more consultation between the developers and LCC Planning before the application is submitted. It is likely that the application will be determined by a planning committee. If the site is not developed there may be more speculative development

throughout Bramham. It is accepted that it is a difficult site to development due to the typography and the heritage requirements. It will be very expensive to keep the façade of Bramham House and whether this is retained will depend in part on what the District Valuers says in term of the profitability of the site.

It appears that the main priority for residents is the need for affordable housing. .

8. Matters raised by member of the Electorate.

- A representative from the Village Hall advised that a report from the Village Hall is contained in the Annual Parish Newsletter
- A resident thanked the council for arranging the Annual Parish Meeting.

The meeting concluded at 7.07 pm