

THE MINUTES OF THE SCAWBY ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2nd APRIL 2025 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

In the Chair: Cllr R Johnson

Also Present: Cllr G Siddall, Cllr R Holmes, Cllr M Keyworth, Cllr J Chamberlain, Cllr N Askew, R Coleman, Cllr M Russell, Cllr L Griffiths, Cllr N Barlow, Cllr J Frost.

In Attendance: Cllr's J Lee, Mrs K Pickering - Clerk, 3 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES : Cllr's Powell and Hall and Cllr C Ross.

2. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman provided a comprehensive report of the activities of the parish council over the previous year which was read to the meeting by Cllr R Johnson.

The report is detailed below.

Chair Report April 2024-March 2025

Once again I would like to express my thanks to the Parish Councillors, Clerk, Ward Councillors and members of the public who have contributed to another successful, busy year in the life of Scawby Parish Council.

We were saddened to accept the resignation of Trevor Barker after many years of dedicated service as a Parish Councillor but were delighted to welcome a new councillor, Lin Griffiths.

Update of the past year:

1. Public forum

Throughout the year we have welcomed visitors from the Sibelco quarry and residents of Scawby parish regarding various local issues and groups/individuals commenting both positively and negatively on planning applications and bringing to our attention concerns and issues within the parish. Our Ward Councillors continue to be a vital part of our monthly meetings and give valuable feedback on NLC matters as well as many matters of local interest.

2. Planning Applications

We have continued to receive many planning applications, the vast majority of which were positively received. As a council our main consideration has been to consider the building line and what is best for the Parish. This has formed the basis of many of our decisions. The planning committee have started to liaise before meetings to discuss any planning matters and to bring comments to the meetings.

3. Reports and Meetings

Thanks must go to the Councillors who attend a variety of meetings representing Scawby Parish Council for their representation and detail of their reports to the council regarding issues affecting the parish.

4. Finance

We have given financial support to SAHS to continue their good work with the annual show and the precept is once again unchanged.

After the very generous grant from the Techrete charity, Community Foundation Ireland, we were invited to apply again this year. We haven't heard the outcome of the application yet but, if successful, we hope to significantly add to the play equipment at the park. We also received grants from Merlin Renewables and NLC for "planting and developing our flower beds" which is gratefully received and put to good use by the Planting Committee. The Nelthorpe Charity have kindly donated the full amount for the addition of mini road signs at the cycle track which should significantly help the children who use the track's road safety. We still have the \$106 money to spend so will look again at this when we have the outcome of the CFI grant.

Income from the hire of the football pitches has contributed to the substantial costs of maintaining the pavilion and the football pitches.

We are proud of the way our finances have been managed and that is reflected in a positive audit report and is a credit to our Clerk, Karen Pickering. Thanks should also be given to Councillor Frost for his monthly monitoring and presentation of finances to the council. We continue to use our funds for the upkeep of the parish as well as improving local facilities through planned future projects.

5. Police Matters

The council continues to be concerned with fly tipping, opportunity theft/burglary and speeding throughout the parish. Our 2 Ward police officers continue to be proactive and we hope to continue the positive relationship with them.

6. Highway Matters

We continue to discuss the movement of HGVs through the parish and are working with the local quarries and our ward councillors regarding the viability of weight limits but this is ongoing. Alistair Logan from the Sibelco quarry attended one of our meeting and is keen to work positively with us and maintain a positive relationship. Potholes, road markings, speeding vehicle and clearing pathways all continue to be issues within the parish so we continue to encourage all residents to report these on the NLC portal.

The ongoing problems on Brigg Road and in Scawby Brook, particularly Silversides Lane and River Meadow, are still unresolved so we continue to inform and liaise with NLC and hope for a speedy outcome.

Our 2 radar speed signs seem to have been effective in slowing down all types of vehicles in the parish so we continue to debate the progress of this, including the number and location of poles to mount the signs on.

7. General Village Matters

We continue to lobby for a lay-by at the cemetery and an improvement in the path from the village to it.

We have continued to support the following events – tallest sunflower competition, horticultural show, Christmas tree lighting and carols and Remembrance Day as well as the VE Day celebration this year.

After the successful D-Day event at the playing field with the beacon once again being lit we hope to light it again this year for the 80th anniversary of VE Day.

The Garden Gnomes and associated volunteers have continued to work independently and with Andy Sissons to improve the landscape of the parish and the PC planting committee continue to meet regularly to keep abreast of matters and to further the community planting around the Parish.

Community litter picking sessions have been organised in conjunction with the Co-Op and are well supported by parishioners. There are also many times throughout the year when parishioners carry out their own litter picking which all helps to maintain Scawby parish as a lovely place to live.

Public transport remains an issue with very few buses in the parish. The Just Go bus service is a regular topic of discussion at the meetings as it doesn't always provide a comprehensive service but may be changed by NLC.

Allotments have also been discussed and investigated this year but with no resolution, though Broughton have now allocated some space for Scawby residents.

8. Playing Field Matters

Scawby residents, and those from further afield, are proud of our playing field and it has regular use. It is in a beautiful setting with many well maintained pieces of play equipment. We regularly monitor the park and are open to suggestions for any updates or changes. The MUGA is still well used and provides a safe play area for ball games and is freely accessible and the addition of the cycle track is still a huge boost for the younger residents. We hope that road safety will greatly improve with the new signs which will hopefully be completed soon. A defibrillator is clearly visible if needed. The trees which were planted at the north end of the football pitches have mostly survived and we continue to monitor and maintain the area.

Thanks to the councillors who maintain the pavilion to keep it well stocked and clean for use. Even with their support the pavilion takes considerable maintenance. Councillors Frost and Coleman continue to give much of their time and plumbing and electrical skills to keep it functioning. We occasionally have to buy in professional help to remedy some issues but thanks to our Parish Council we manage to keep our costs down.

9. Future Projects

1. To continue to pursue the issues and problems at Scawby Brook with a view to resolving matters sooner than later.
2. Pursue a lay-by for the cemetery and improve the path leading to it.
3. To monitor and investigate the issues with HGV traffic.
4. Evaluate the success of our speed awareness signs and consider the provision of new posts.
5. Build on the installation of the cycle track with monitoring groundworks, adding miniature road signs and any other appropriate works.
6. Continue to liaise with NLC regarding the improvement of Brigg Road – white lines, edging etc.
7. Continue to support our devolved group of planters/gardeners financially and practically.
8. Encourage councillors and members of the public to develop ideas and projects to better our parish.
9. Adapt the PC's role in the Horticultural Show to make the competition more relevant and inclusive.
10. Improve the playing park with inclusive equipment.
11. Utilise the S106 money.
12. Progress the VE Day celebration plans to provide an event for as many parishioners as possible.
13. To update the PC committees to involve more councillors with more PC activity.
14. To continue to carry on as usual until May 2027 when the Government Plan will reduce us to 11 councillors from the current 14.

Councillor Keyworth felt that the Community Governance Review had been a very important piece of work this year which will affect many parish councils. Scawby parish council had contributed to this review and Cllr Janet Lee(N.L.C) had been very involved in the process. Cllr Keyworth felt that everyone involved should be commended for their work.

3. PUBLIC FORUM – Two residents advised the parish council that they had taken over the running of the Tuesday morning coffee club and are conscious that they may need further funds. The co-op store have provided vouchers in the past and will be asked again. The meeting advised that they could apply to the parish council for funding – the clerk suggested that she would contact the residents and advise how to apply to the parish council for funding.

