SANDHUTTON PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Parish Meeting,
Friday, 1st May 2026, 18:30 hrs
at Sandhutton Village Hall.

Present:
Councillors: I Corner, B Frank, D Fisher, J Moorhouse, K O'Malley
S Fraser (Clerk)

In attendance: Residents x 1

APM/26-01	**To receive apologies for absence**
Resolved	Apologies are received from NYC Councillor Dadd
APM/26-02	**To receive the Chairman's Statement for the year 25/26**
	Councillor Frank said the past year has kept the Parish Council busy and presented some contentious issues and difficult decisions. By far the biggest issue has been the application to build a biogas plant on Skipton Airfield. The Parish Council hosted two public consultation events and documented residents' concerns and questions. Through liaison with the bio-plant company we sought answers and explanations. These questions were also passed to the planning authorities so that they were fully aware of our consultations with residents and the concerns raised. To inform our views and decision-making process the council visited an operational bio-plant to see what the implications might be, should one be built locally. We also liaised with the company over a goodwill payment for community benefit, should the application be successfully, and once gas production begins. Planning has now been 'granted' and construction is expected to begin at the back end of the year. There have been various other planning applications on the old airfield that have given cause for concern. We have been diligent to keep a grip on development on the airfield to keep the impact in the village to a minimum. It's worth noting that the airfield is privately owned and neither the Parish Council or North Yorkshire Council have an overarching plan or authority over the airfield and each planning application is considered in isolation. Councillors have made several site visits to the airfield to familiarise ourselves with developments and gain a greater understanding what is going on there. The council has identified several unauthorised activities within the parish, particularly on Foss Syke Lane. We liaised with planning enforcement by providing information and photographs. This has culminated in at least two unlawful sites being shut down and equipment removed. These would have had a hugely detrimental impact on our rural setting had they been allowed to continue. Two traffic surveys have been commissioned by the Parish Council and although there is technically no speeding issue the perception is otherwise. Consequently, the parish council is in the process of acquiring speed calming village gateways at the entrances to the village. In the background the council has been developing a policy for the Village Green designed to give a framework to preserve the heritage, look and feel of the village. The green grass cutting continues to ensure the green is uniform and tidy. Other policies are in process.

	The council continues to manage Community infrastructure Levy monies (CIL) This is paid to, parish council by developers from building developments within the parish. We welcome suggestion for how such funds can be spent for the benefit of the village and its residents. CIL funds have been given to the village hall committee towards the replacement of some of the village hall windows. This is a good example of how these funds should be spent. Over the forthcoming year I'd like to continue and conclude ongoing work around policies and speeding. Id like to explore how we can make the most of our CILs money by considered and ethical spending on things which will make changes for the better. I anticipate we will be faced with more planning decisions where a balance will have to be achieved. The council have continued to enjoy a good relationship with the village hall committee and long may it continue. I would ask all to recognise the work of the VH committee in keeping the hall viable, developing and promoting the hall as an asset for everyone and to Lynne Bassnett for looking after bookings. I know much research has gone into the feasibility and funding of sustainable heating and power system for the hall. Please also recognise the work that John Teesdale has done for the council as Internal Auditor (over the past few years) and his valued support of the parish council, not forgetting his production of a regular village newsletter. I am pleased to thank Councillor Gareth Dadd our NYC councillor for attending our meetings and regularly appraising us of the county's bigger picture and representing us at county level. I am most grateful for the support, ideas, moderation, feedback and commitment which my fellow councillors bring to the table. Thank you. It's worth noting that we all serve within our scope to the best of our abilities, with the best of intentions and without fear or favour to preserve and promote our community. Lastly, I'd like to thank our valued clerk. Sue, to whom nothing seems to be too much trouble, keeps us on track and correct. Thank you.
Resolved:	The Chairmans report is received.
APM/26-03	**To receive the report from the Village Hall Committee**
	The Village Hall vice chairman presented his report to members. <u>Refurbishment and future projects</u> – Keeping the hall warm for users during 25/26 was the biggest challenge. We have installed two smart electric heaters (2x 2kw) as an interim measure until we can secure funding for an air source heat pump system. We have some funding in place £16590 to cover some of the works. Solar panels and battery storage are also be explored, with the ability to run as an island system in the event of a power cut. There is urgency to fundraise a further £13250 to complete the project. Many thanks are expressed to John Teesdale for his tireless efforts applying for grants and supporting VH fundraising events. <u>New windows</u> have been installed with modern glazed units – many thanks go to the parish council who have assisted with the funding of these from CIL monies. <u>External paint</u> works have been booked and is due to be undertaken this month. <u>Technology</u> – Wifi has been installed, free of use for all hirers. This is also used to control all smart devices and air source system.

	We have an active Facebook page, advertising all events (thanks to Iona), there are also photos of past events along with other information. Website – the village hall, has a registered domain - https://www.sandhuttonvillagehall.org.uk which includes all policies and contact information. Thanks to Rob for building this (cost only £1 and is hosted by GITub free for registered charities). Bookings – Have increased (many thanks for the hard work of Lynne Basnett) for managing bookings, social functions and private parties. There is a diverse group of users that use the village hall regularly, including: Sewing, Gardening, African drumming, Book club, Children's arts and crafts, Chair yoga, Evening yoga, Band rehearsals and we have a Bridge club due to start. Functions & Fundraisers - Last year there were two very successful Race nights, that raised £1500 split between the Church and the Village Hall. Other functions included the Saltburn Smugglers, a Halloween Party, a Mexican Night, Prosecco afternoons, North Yorkshire produce evening (church function). There are monthly pizza nights, coffee and sausage bap mornings (many thanks to Lynne and Jim), Christmas Craft workshop and Christmas Fayre. Upcoming functions include: - Royal garden party craft workshop – 9th May - Ladies Fashion Show – 16th May - Sausage Bap – 23rd May - Afternoon Tea – 5th July Last but not least the VH have joined Community First – they advertise Community Funding and Grants and have conducted an energy survey and provide contact details of similar organisations.
APM/26-04	**To stand adjourned for public participation to consider questions from the Public.**
Resolved:	There were no questions from residents.
APM/26-05	**To consider motions presented to the Parish Council by members of the electorate.**
Resolved:	There were no motions to consider
	The Annual Parish Meeting closed @18:55 hrs

Signed……..Sandhutton Parish Council Chairman

Dated……