

Bowsden Parish

Annual Bowsden Parish Meeting on Tuesday 6th May at 7.00pm In Bowsden Village Hall.

Present: Councillors Ian Jackson (Acting Chair), Emma Anderson and Shaun Young

Former Councillor Dominic Elsworth

Parish Clerk: Sue Sim

Parishioners: 6

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Councillor Graeme Reavley
Councillor Chris Betts

2. Parish Council Report 2024-2025

Parish activity 2024 - 2025

This is the report of the Chair of Bowsden Parish Council – Councillor Graeme Reavley.

At last year's AGM on 13th May 2024, I remained Chair for the second year with Dominic Elsworth remaining as vice. I have completed two years as Chair and will stand down but remain a councillor.

In total 7 Parish councillors with the support of our parish clerk have held office over the last 12 months and met the statutory requirements of a functioning Parish Council.

For a meeting to be quorate there needs to be a minimum of 3 in attendance at any one time which we achieved for each of the 4 Parish council meetings held throughout the last year.

It was great to see a few parishioners in attendance at all meetings. We continue to encourage parishioners to attend Parish Council meetings.

Councillors on rotation completed a Risk Assessment of The Park and I thank you all for your support with that. We consider any issues relating to the park at our ordinary meetings throughout the year.

As a parish we voted to keep the Precept at the current level. The costs for maintain an effective Parish Council in Bowsden are relatively low and once those costs are met it is the view of the councillors that there is little merit in holding large reserves. The accounts are discussed during the Annual General Meeting and throughout the year during our ordinary meetings. The council has considered how best to provide for our communities with the limited resources we possess. Our conclusion was supporting community events in the village hall allowed the widest possible benefit. As such the Parish Council provided £600 to the Bowsden Village Hall committee to finance the events of the Christmas and New Year festive season.

The heart of our Parish is the Village Hall. On behalf of Bowsden Parish Council I would like to congratulate the committee over the last 12 months for not only hosting and delivering a wide range of events but for engaging and bringing the community together. A wonderful community effort which we know will continue throughout the coming year!

The Parish Council responded to planning applications in the period which the PC was consulted upon. We also responded to the concerns raised by parishioners in relation to planning matters.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Councillors for their support over the last 2 years. This year has been an election year and Councillor Jayne Watson decided to stand down from the Parish Council. I would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her ceaseless dedication to our council and the parishioners we serve. Our meetings will not be the same without her wise counsel. I wish her well for the future.

I would also like to thank, Deborah Hudson for her role as independent internal auditor to the PC. Thank you very much Deborah.

Lastly thank you to our Parish Clerk Sue who has kept us all on track with all Parish Council matters. Sue your attention to detail, thoroughness and clear provision of facts is very much appreciated by us all.

Acting Chair Councillor Jackson thanked Councillor Reavley for his time as Chair.

3. Matters Parishioners Wish to Raise – None

4. Date of Next Meeting – May 2026