**Minutes of the Annual Village Meeting for Broughton Moor Parish, held in Broughton Moor Community Centre on Thursday 16th May 2024 at 7.00pm.**

**Present**: Cllrs Denise Scott, Claire Howsen, Helen Little, Allion Pearson, Jemma Dakers, and Judith Morgan, Parish Clerk

**Apologies for absence** were received from Lesley Dakers (work commitment) and Cumberland Councillor Bill Pegram (annual holiday).

**Chairman’s Report**

The chairman gave her report, as follows:

Good evening, thank you all for being here this evening.

A very warm welcome to our newest councillors, Jemma, Helen and Allison, thank you so much for joining the parish council and helping us to do our best for our village.

I begin by expressing my thanks to you all for all the hard work and dedication you have shown over the last 12 months, you have all gone well over and above the expectations for a parish councillor, your dedication to improving our village is an inspiration. Together we make an amazing team who work well and who all have the same focus, to make our village a happy place to live.

Over the past 12 months we have accomplished many things:

The coronation event last May was a huge success and enjoyed by all those who attended. £700 was raised at this event for our chosen charity GNAAS.

We held a tabletop sale in June which unfortunately was unsuccessful, but lessons Were learnt, and we won't attempt another any time soon.

We tidied up the yard by adding fencing around the bins to keep them from blowing around, mesh fencing for privacy, a gazebo for shelter and some tables and chair for use by groups in the good weather.

The toddler group also acquired a small shed and storage box to store toys etc in meaning the main shed has more storage space for the parish council.

The McMillan coffee morning in September was a success again this year and we raised £326.

The children's Halloween party was well attended again. This year we are changing it slightly in that we will be holding the party in conjunction with the Friends of Broughton Moor school in the school hall meaning more children can attend.

The laying of the poppy wreath was attended by 3 councillors, and it was nice to see Miss Simcox the early years teacher there representing the school.

The Christmas craft fair in November was another successful event and well attended, at this event we raised £208 for Owl Blue.

The Christmas light switch on was well attended and enjoyed by everyone, and special thanks go to our new Santa who was thrown in at the deep end but did an amazing job the children loved him.

The Carols by Candlelight service was enjoyed by everyone who attended, and it was lovely to hear everyone singing some of our favourite carols and Christmas songs.

We still have the D-Day tea party and the Family Fun Day to look forward to before planning starts again for the winter festivals.

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Onto other areas, we now have a cleaner employed who has done a great job of keeping the community centre lovely and clean.so a very big thank you to Jess who has made our lives so much easier. Jess has been with us several months now and cleans once a fortnight.

Claire trialled a sweet shop over several weekends and at the beginning was very successful but tailed off to the point that it wasn't worth Claire giving up her time to sit in the community centre.

The library hasn't had much success either but hopefully in the future we might find ways to improve that.

The issue with the handover of the church is still ongoing, we look forward to getting the final handover so that we can begin to plan for its future.

The strip of land containing the allotments is finally on the home straights and the ownership of the welfare has been sorted so that is good news.

The play area still needs some attention with some equipment needing removed and replaced in some way this is ongoing.

The renovations are progressing with the interested contractors making site visits and submitting estimates within the next few weeks for us to discuss and decide on how we move forward. Hopefully we can get this all approved and completed asap.

The community centre continues to be used regularly by the over 60's bingo group the craft club and the toddler group.one off usage of the hall stays the same but hopefully once it has been brought kicking and screaming into the 21st century its use will grow.

We have also reinstated the village newsletter, issue 2 just having been distributed over the last few days. We hope that this will ensure all villagers are kept abreast of all activities undertaken in and on behalf of the village. I think we should aim for 3/4 newsletters a year. We could maybe approach any village businesses and offer advertising space at a small fee to cover printing costs. Just a thought.

Looking back over the last 12 months I can see just how much we have achieved which only goes to highlight the dedication and hard we have all given to our roles as parish councillors. we should feel extremely proud of our efforts, and I think we can see that slowly step by step we are bringing together a village and fostering community spirit.

It just remains for me to thank you all again each and every one of you for your amazing dedication and hard work. So, a very big thank you.

There were no questions from the floor and the meeting closed at 7.15pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Chairman

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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