

**ASKRIGG AND LOW ABBOTSDIE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AND PARISH ASSEMBLY**

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall

**Parish Assembly Meeting**

Members of the Public were invited to ask any questions to the Parish Council. Two older residents raised concerns over the speed in which vehicles are travelling when leaving the village onto Station Road. They told the meeting they feared for their lives when trying to cross the road as there are so many other hazards particularly for older people and those visually impaired. It was agreed the Clerk would ask Highways if a 'slow' sign could be painted on the road.

**Annual Parish Meeting**

1. Apologies for absence – none received
2. The Minutes from the previous Annual Parish Meeting and Parish Assembly held on the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2016 were agreed as a true record.
3. Chairman's review

Cllr Kirkbride said, generally speaking 'the village was ticking along nicely' and he gave an overview of the village, its households and businesses. One big change was the property owned by the Askrigg Foundation is now an antiques shop with a small office alongside which is being used as the Parish Council Office and information centre. The Clerk uses the office on a Thursday morning. The Property Bond attracts up to 130 visitors per week with Low Mill up to 40 visitors per week. The Yorkshire Dales Brewery and Bainbridge Vets now occupy the old station site.
4. Annual Governance Statement 2016/17

The content of the Governance Statement was approved by the Parish Council and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.
5. Accounting Statements 2016/17

The Clerk presented the Accounting Statements internally audited by Carter James Associates Ltd. It was agreed everything was accounted for and they could be signed by the Chairman and Clerk and sent to PKF Littlejohn for external audit.
6. Reports
  - Low Abbotside

The Clerk suggested having a Tenancy Agreement for the land which is rented. The Chairman agreed to speak to James Alderson at the Auction Mart.

- Almshouses

Cllr Fawcett reported they had upgraded one of the bathrooms for disabled access and there had been problems with the drains.

- Cemetery

Cllr Kirkbride said there needed to be a 'tidy up' of the Cemetery. Cllrs Hodgson and Alderson agreed to help.

- Low Mill

Cllr Madley reported occupancy was down on previous years and they were now managing their own bursary fund.

- Village Hall

Cllr Hodgson reported the use of the hall was up slightly. £2,700 had been spent on roof repairs but work is now required internally. Toilet funding from Richmondshire District Council, would be withdrawn and discussions had taken place on how to try to keep them open.

7. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

It was proposed and seconded that Cllr Fawcett would take on the role of Chairman with Cllr Hodgson proposed and seconded as Vice Chairman.

8. Election of Committee Members

Cemetery – Cllrs M Alderson, B Fawcett and A Kirkbride

Low Mill – Cllrs G Kirkbride and D Madley

Village Hall – Cllr J Hodgson

Almshouses – Cllr B Fawcett

9. Questions or issues from members of the public

A member of the public commented on the large notice board in Askrigg being very difficult to hold whilst trying to put things on. Cllr Hodgson agreed to look at the possibility of lowering it.