

West Rainton & Leamside Parish

Annual Parish Meeting

**Held at St Marys Church Meeting Room, West Rainton on
Thursday 12th May at 6.30 pm**

1. Present

Councillors: M Boettcher, I Diggory, B Kellett, P Morson and A Wallage

2 members of the public

M Ramshaw – Parish Clerk (Minute Taker)

2. Chairman's welcome and introductions

Cllr Wallage welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

3. Chair of the Parish Council to present the 2021/22 Annual Report of the Parish Council

Cllr Wallage referred those present to the Annual Report which had been previously circulated.

Cllr Wallage advised those present that the Parish Council started the year with 3 Parish Councillors with the vacancies being filled by September. Due to the initial low membership Parish Council delayed any key decisions on future developments until further representation was achieved through the co-option process.

Cllr Wallage went through the Report and highlighted some areas which included improving the environment, traffic calming measures, input into parking throughout the Villages, working with DCC and the Doctors surgery around the parking and paths at the Surgery. Most projects involved working with Durham County Council but due to workloads progress has been slower than expected.

Two bigger Projects include the Memorial Tree installation within the Cemetery and the School Avenue Park Project. The latter is anticipated to be part funded with £25000 of S106 monies. A public consultation is also to take place regarding the proposal of an outdoor gym.

Cllr Wallage went on to advise those present that the Parish Council remains in a good financial position and had agreed to keep the precept requirement the same for 2022/23.

The Parish Council also made representation on two planning applications which are still ongoing. These were the proposed relocation of the Football Centre and the development of the fish ponds at Ryehill Farm.

Cllr Wallage advised that many of the Projects are ongoing and will roll into the next Year.

4. Public Participation - parishioners to raise any matters of concern relating to their local community

A member of the public thanked the Parish Council for their work and the continue efforts regarding ongoing issues around the Parish.

A member of the public shared concerns regarding speeding along the top road and the fact that pulling out onto the road is an accident waiting to happen. They asked if a mirror could be installed.

Cllr Wallage advised that this had been mentioned to DCC however they advised that in their opinion a mirror would not work. The issues were raised and DCC have put six slow signs on the road.

There were no further questions and Cllr Wallage thanked everyone for their attendance and input and then closed the meeting.

Signed: Date:

West Rainton & Leamside Parish Council Chairman