Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on Monday 13th May 2019 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall, Bainton

1. **Present**

Mrs B Froggatt (Chair), Mr D Walford (Vice Chair), Mr J Christie (JC), Mr S Smith (SS), Mrs S Christie (SC), Mr P Metcalf (PM), Mr P Galvin (PG), Mrs E Brooks (Clerk to the Council).

1. **Apologies for absence**

Mrs S Lowes (SL)

1. **Chairman’s report**

I would like to thank all PC members who have given their support and advice over the past year. We are fortunate in having a Parish Council with long serving members providing stability and experience together with the necessary enthusiasm. Our thanks must also go to our Parish Clerk who provides an excellent service to council members

The state of the lanes and verges around the village continues to cause concern due to the heavy traffic passing through. These concerns are raised on a regular basis with ERYC with varying results. On a more positive note the main road through the village up to and including the roundabout, the footpath and drainage channels have been vastly improved. It is now fairly certain that the seasonal closure of Green Lane will not take place as ERYC have decided for various reasons that it is not a feasible proposition. Discussions are taking place with the Highways Dept regarding a pinch point on the lane to discourage travellers who have caused so much damage and mess. In April this year the PC planted two oak trees in memory of Ron Whatling one of the main instigators of the Millennium Wood. Additional trees planted in 2017 continue to thrive and help to provide a pleasant country walk through part of the Minster way.

Our village newsletter the Bellwether acts as our main method of communications with village residents and we would like to thank our enthusiastic editor for her hard work. We will continue to give our full support. We also have a website and notice board which give full details of Parish Council matters. Over the past year we have had visits to our meetings by our local PCSO and ERYC councillors responsible for our Parish. These meetings have proved very useful in establishing a point of contact with individuals who may be of some help with Parish matters.

The costs of running the Parish council continue to rise due to maintenance, street lighting, insurance etc, and it was felt prudent to apply for an increase in the Parish precept and this was agreed for the 2019/20 year. The Councils finances are in a stable state, but we are mindful of keeping within our agreed budget wherever possible.

Finally, we were sorry to hear that the Bowls club will no longer be able to compete in competitive games due to lack of members. However, the suggestion that they form a social club with regular meetings for village residents is to be welcomed and the PC fully supports this idea.

1. **Matters raised by the residents of the parish**

None

1. **Close of meeting**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.33 pm