

**BONSALL PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF BONSALL PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF 20<sup>TH</sup> MAY**  
**2008 AT BONSALL VILLAGE HALL.**

**1/2008/MAY– PRESENT.**

Cllr Cartwright (chair)  
Cllr Rowlands  
Mrs C Smith (clerk)  
Mr Robertson (RFO)  
Cllr Lane  
Cllr Gregory  
Cllr Engelbregsten  
Cllr Pountain  
Dist Cllr Purdy  
Dist Cllr Hume  
County Cllr Ratcliffe

**2/2008/MAY- APOLOGIES**

None

**3/MAY/2008 – WELCOME & OPENING OF THE MEETING**

Cllr Rowlands welcomed all the residents who had attended.

**4/2008/MAY – OPEN FORUM**

See Chairman's Report.

Cllr Rowland gave a brief over view of the Parish Councils activities over the past year.

See Financial Report.

**5/2008/MAY– VILLAGE QUESTIONS.**

**6/2008/MAY– OTHER ISSUES RAISED.**

The PC are still supporting Mutterings and the Clerk will submit a monthly report  
Road safety issues are being monitored.

Concerns raised over the damage to the walls and surrounding area by motorcyclist going up to the Moor.

Concerns regarding parking in the village and speeding through the village.

The Parish Council thanked County Cllr Ratcliffe for her help in Bonsall matters this year, and thanked Dist Cllrs Hume & Purdy for their work this year.

The Parish Council thanked all the part time staff for the work during this year.

The Chair welcomed the new Parish Councillors.

Meeting closed at 7.40pm

**BONSALL PARISH COUNCIL**

**CHAIRMANS REPORT 2007-2008**

Looking back over another busy year for the Parish Council there has been good times and some sad ones.

The sad death of our great friend, colleague, mentor, Parish Councillor and District Councillor John March. John had a great enthusiasm for village life and was involved in so many projects over the years. He literally put Bonsall on the map, with help of course from many others. John's advice and knowledge is greatly missed by the Parish Council.

Currently the Parish Council are involved in the Bonsall in Bloom competition. The village always looks beautifully tended, and all residents are a credit to this. The Parish Council staff, Village Handyman, Leigh Johnston, contributes greatly to the attractiveness of the village by removing litter. However, that task would also be enhanced if people were to make greater use of the litter bins provided by the Parish Council. Peter Spencer, Lenghtsman for the village is keeping the footpaths and verges cleared. Peter has managed to reopen footpaths long forgotten. Mick Biggin continues to keep strimming the Churchyard to keep it looking nice, and a pleasure for relatives to visit.

Accessibility of the footpaths around the village has become a major issue over the last twelve months. New legislation has compelled the County Council to register all footpaths, in particular designating, which should be open to vehicular use by motorcyclists and other motorised users. Naturally this is a complicated process involving reference to historic documentation and wide-ranging consultations. The Parish Council has been fully involved in those consultations, both with officers of the County Council's legal department and Countryside Agencies.

The Parish Council has continued to support and, wherever possible, promote organisations within the village. This year we assisted the development of the Sustainable Energy Group and very much welcome that group's efforts to promote awareness of the threat of global warming and reduce the village's carbon footprint. We continue to provide financial support for *Mutterings*, in recognition of the valuable role the newsletter provides in keeping people in touch with news and events in the village. The Parish Council also continues to liaise with the framework knitters group, the allotments group, the field barn restoration project, pensioners group, village hall and carnival committees, and the village school.

The Council also maintains strong links with a number of organisations beyond the village. Irene Ratcliffe has diligently consulted the Parish Council over issues arising at County Offices and has also represented our views to the County Council, particularly, on the traffic through the village and along the Via Gellia, and on matters relating to local footpaths.

Due to the sad death of John March, an election was held and Garry Purdy was elected as District Councillor for the Masson ward. A warm welcome to Garry. Peter Hume, continues to offer help and support with the District Council.

Hannah Burns is our local PSCO, and we are in consistent dialogue with Derbyshire Constabulary. Over the year we have also maintained close relations with the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils, consulting with its officers on a number of matters and also making good use of its training courses. We continue to liaise with other parishes in the Peak District, particularly on planning matters. We also play a full part in the Quarry Liaison Group, which allows us to keep up to date with

developments in the local quarries and to comment on those developments to ensure they do not impact negatively on the village.

The Parish Council has commented on a large number of planning applications considered by Derbyshire Dales and the Peak District Planning Committees. Our brief on all of these has been to conserve the best features of the village environment and to consult with applicants, wherever possible, to prevent developments which have a negative impact. Over recent months that latter objective has coloured our consideration of the application for a waste composting plant at Dunsley Mill. Fortunately, the vast majority of planning applications over the last year have not been at all contentious.

There were some changes of personnel on the Parish Council over the last year, with still more to come over the next twelve months. It is in a changing situation that you come to appreciate more fully the constant features. In the case of the Parish Council that means our Clerk, Caroline Smith, who contributes much more to the Council than her job description dictates, and Derek Robertson, our Finance Officer, who has kept the finances in order and kept us aware of the pitfalls of local government finance and VAT legalities.

Unfortunately Nigel Wood was only able serve as a parish councillor for three months before he moved from the village. We would like thank Nigel for his contribution to the Parish Council.

I am pleased to welcome Dorothy Lane, Beverley Taylor, Alison Gregory, Liz Howsley and Margaret Askew as new members of the Council, and hope they will find the experience a valuable one. The Parish Council are still seeking toe co-opted two more members to bring the Council up to full strength.

Finally, a big thank you to the residents of Bonsall who continue to show they care about what happens to the village by their willingness to turn up in significant numbers to Parish Council meetings and the public meetings we have organised, and who get in touch with the members frequently to express their views on decisions we have made or things we should be doing.

Sharon Rowlands  
20.05.08