# Minutes of the Ockbrook and Borrowash Annual Parish Meeting.

# Held at the Parish Hall, Ockbrook, on Wednesday 15th March 2023 at 19.00.

## Present.

Councillors M White (Chairman), S Kitchener (Clerk and RFO) and 17 members of public.

## 01/23 Report from the Chairman – See appendix 1.

02/23 Reports from Other Councillors – See appendix 2.

## 03/23 Reports from Outside Bodies – See appendix 3.

## 04/23 Date and Time of Next Meeting.

The next Annual Parish meeting is scheduled to take place April 2024, a specific date to be decided nearer to the time.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 19.30.

## **Appendix 1 -** REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN

### OCKBROOK AND BORROWASH PARISH COUNCIL, 2023 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING, WEDNESDAY 15 MARCH 2023.

Good evening fellow Councillors and Parishioners’.

2022 was once again a very busy year for The Parish Council.

Sarah Kitchener, our Parish Clerk, continues to fulfil her role to an exceptionally high standard in a very professional manner, thank you Sarah.

The old children’s play area on Deans Drive playing fields was in very poor condition and a safety risk for users.

We invested a significant amount of money for a new children’s play area on Deans Drive playing fields and this is now in daily use.

At the request of residents we also installed a new bench by the footpath adjacent to the play area.

The appointment of Wayne Peapell as our consultant horticulturist has made an enormous difference in the Parish and the many letters, e-mails and phone calls into the Parish office confirm this.

I am very pleased to announce that Wayne has now signed a new contract and will be with us until the Autumn of 2028, at least.

A significant investment by The Parish Council is now paying dividends where we find a completely different landscape to what we had a few years ago not only in open spaces but also Balmoral Road Cemetery and it was a proud moment when we won first prize at The Erewash in Bloom awards in October 2022 for the Cemetery.

In addition to Wayne we now employ Trevor as a ‘litter picker’ who you will see working in the Parish as we try to keep both villages litter free as much as we can.

Councillor Jane White’s snack and drinks table once again became the main focus of attention for children attending the three inflatable fun days we held on Deans Drive play area in August.

We were pleased to be able to offer financial support to Ashbrook Youth Group and Borrowbrook Home Link and this support will continue for the foreseeable future.

Our investment in the Ashbrook Centre continues and it is so pleasing to see the Centre now in regular use.

We have provided support and collaborative work with a number of valued organisations and groups for the benefit of the whole community, Ockbrook in Bloom, Borrowash in Bloom and The Speed Awareness Group, to name just a few.

On a sunny autumn day in November hundreds of residents came together to attend the Remembrance Service at the War Memorial officiated by The Reverend Tim Sumpter.

As winter drew nearer Councillor John Sewell, The Mayor of Erewash, kindly joined us at The Royal Oak in Ockbrook to turn on the Christmas tree lights.

A week later Councillor Chris Corbett, The Deputy Mayor joined us at the Co-Op in Borrowash to turn on the Christmas tree lights there.

Despite a bitterly cold evening the event was well attended despite it clashing with The World Cup England v USA match.

No doubt the highlight for 2022 should have been the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee event on June 5th which was held on the cricket ground at Ockbrook.

Unfortunately the weather was awful from start to finish but despite this the event was well attended, in the circumstances.

We all appreciate the huge amount of work Councillors Jane White, Ana-Maria Stevenson and The Parish Clerk, Sarah put into this event to make it a success, thank you all.

Also thanks to all Councillors who did attend the event to help.

Finally, can I thank every single Parish Councillor for your support over the last 12 months.

Michael White

Chairman

Ockbrook and Borrowash Parish Council

15 March 2023

## **Appendix 2** -Reports from Other Councillors.

### A report from the Recreation Committee for 2022-2023

The installation of new play equipment on Deans Drive play area was completed in March/April . A picnic table suitable for inclusion of a wheelchair was also installed along with a new bench inside the play area which is now fenced and gated.

At the request of members of the public a new bench was situated outside of the play area for people enjoying a walk in the park to take a rest.

In June 2022 we celebrated the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee. Although this was a separate committee from the Recreation Committee I have included this event under the same umbrella. The two villages had celebratory bunting along the main routes through the parish. An event at the Ockbrook and Borrowash cricket club was organised and paid for by the parish council. This consisted of; entertainment, fair rides, stalls and fireworks as a finale. It is not possible to purchase silent fireworks, but we endeavoured to provide quiet ones, with a louder flourish right at the end. This was due to a split in requests from members of the public, some wanting a quiet finale and others wanting some sound.

The entertainment consisted of, a ballet routine from a local group, singers, solo and a local rock band plus two brass bands.

The inflatable days during August took place again on three separate days with the addition of a climbing wall. Refreshments were again provided free of charge and paid for by the parish council. This was, again, very well attended by children and families from the parish.

Remembrance Sunday was a great success. We once again managed to hire a cornet player and a piper. We had a record attendance. Poppies were placed along the main routes through the two villages as in previous years.

The Christmas lights switch on in Ockbrook at the Royal Oak was well attended. The PC provided the tree and lights, two stilt walkers and chocolate Santa’s for the children. The mayor of Erewash came to switch on the lights.

The following week was the Borrowash lights switch on in the co-op car park. The PC arranged for various stalls, Santa’s grotto, two characters from Frozen and a couple of small fair rides. The tree and lights were also provided by the parish council. The event was a great success and was well attended. Once again chocolate Santa’s were given to the children visiting the grotto.

Jane White (Chairman of Recreation)

### Environment and Neighbourhood Planning – Summary Report

* The Queens Green Canopy tree planting took initiative took place on the 26th February 2022 in Borrowash and was a great success, involving many members of the community in the process, including children. The initiative also included the installation of a gate.
* The three-year flower basket sponsorship with Erewash Borough Council was agreed and will continue in the Parish.
* The pedestrian crossing initiative in Borrowash (from the Cooperative to the Butchers on Victoria Avenue) was approved, with funding from the Parish Council
* “Ockbrook in Bloom” and “Borrowash in Bloom” initiatives were supported and sponsored by the Parish (“Ockbrook in Bloom” had a great year entering into the RHS Village competition 2022 achieving silver gilt, also winning awards with “Erewash in Bloom” for the sensory garden and the village Jubilee display.)
* Ockbrook and Borrowash Parish was proposed and approved as designated Neighbourhood Area for the Neighbourhood Planning process, with the Parish Council being the relevant body for the Neighbourhood area.
* Intensive research carried to select a consultant to assist with the Neighbourhood Planning process. Planning & Design Practice were appointed consultants. Work will continue to identify potential funding sources to cover the work.
* Parish surveys regarding cycling in the area were undertaken, with the process set to continue as part of the Neighbourhood Planning.

### DCC Report 2022/23 - Sandiacre Division

We are in unprecedented times which is creating many challenges for households. The council isn’t immune to these challenges.

This has been the first year you could describe as not being dominated by COVID since 2018/19. Although the risks from the virus have significantly reduced, we are dealing with the aftermath. The biggest change being the new way of working with large amounts of council staff working a significant amount of time from home. This as benefits as well as challenges.

We also face like many industries labour shortages and difficulty in filling some posts at the council.

Putin and Russia’s brutal invasion of Ukraine as created challenges. We have worked hard to house Ukrainian families in Derbyshire.

The finial but largest challenge we face is high inflation prices have continued to rise including wages which has made it difficult to set a budget. We feel we have however got the balance right between the council making saving and increasing council tax.

Adult social Care

This department was impacted the hardest by COVID it however is in the process of changing its focus. We are moving to a model of trying to support people to remain in their own homes as long as possible. This shift as resulted in a number of care homes being closed in Derbyshire including Ladycross in Sandiacre.

Children services

Supporting young people is an essential part of the council services we deliver services on but not limited to: support for vulnerable families and disabled children

* children's centres
* sports and outdoor learning
* school improvement services
* school meals
* school place planning and building
* special educational needs
* adult community education
* services traded with schools.
* pre-school and childcare support
* safeguarding and child protection
* fostering and adoption
* youth offending service.
* leaving care service
* early help

Highway

Highways maintenance feels like painting the forth bridge however in the last 4 years we have doubled the council’s budget for highways maintenance. We are undergoing a program of transformation which includes new and faster ways of reporting road defects. We are also focusing on longer lasting repairs.

Health

Significant work has been carried out by the department during COVID especially in support of the vaccination program. The department continues to work hard to improve health in Derbyshire including mental health.

Climate change

The council as set ambition targets for reducing its own emissions as well as supporting the wider Derbyshire economy. It’s essential we reduce our emissions to net zero while also protecting and improving individual’s standard of living. One policy we have introduced is the £2m Green entrepreneur’s fund.

Library service

We have priorities providing a good library service and Derbyshire service is widely recognised as being good. Locally we unfortunately had the incident with the car driving into the library. Thankfully nobody was hurt, and the library is open. We expect work to the damaged wing to be started in the coming year.

Other areas which have been performing well are:

* public and community transport
* road safety
* economic development and regeneration
* trading standards
* Trusted Trader
* broadband expansion
* minerals, transport and strategic planning
* emergency planning
* household waste recycling centres
* waste planning and management
* building and landscape conservation
* countryside sites
* strategic economic partnerships

### Ockbrook & Borrowash Parish Council, Wednesday 1st March 2023. DCC Report, (Cllr Robert A Parkinson)

**Council Tax 2023/2024**

Derbyshire County Council, on Wednesday 15th February 2023, set a net budget for 2023-24 at £678.2 million and agreed a Council Tax rise which is below the maximum 5% limit set by government and predicted to be amongst the lowest rises in the country.

Council Leader Councillor Barry Lewis and Deputy Leader Councillor Simon Spencer reassured residents that, despite significant budget and inflationary pressures, all efforts were being made to protect vital services to support older and vulnerable people and children.  In setting the council tax rise, not putting unnecessary stress on already stretched household budgets had been a priority during decision-making.

At the Council meeting it was agreed that the 3.75% council tax rise would be made up of a 1.25% adult social care precept (the maximum allowed by government is 2%), and a further 2.5% for general council expenditure (the maximum limit being 3%).  The rise will see an extra 80p per week (£41.55 per year) for an average band B household and for a band D household the rise will be £1.03 per week (£53.42 per year).

As well as DCC’s current financial position, the agreed Revenue Budget Report also detailed savings targets of £16.2 million for the coming year and, over the course of the 5-Year Financial Plan, up to 2027-28 an estimated £46.4 million.

Councillor Barry Lewis said:

“Derbyshire County Council prides itself on being a well-run, efficient and enterprising council, but these are extremely challenging times, and a lot of hard work and discussion has gone into setting the budget for the year ahead and ensuring it strikes the right balance.

“We believe the budget and council tax we have agreed will help us to protect vital services for older and vulnerable people and children, while being fair to our residents who are trying to manage stretched household budgets.

“We work hard to balance the books all year round but this year there are many external factors beyond our control which we have had to take into consideration, including inflation, rising fuel and energy costs.

“While we have welcomed additional funding from government for social care which will help significantly, due to rising demands for these services it is never enough, and we continue to lobby for further funding in this area.

“This year we will be using 1.25% of the council tax to fund our adult social care home care service and our home care workers.  This is part of our effort to retain the valuable staff we have doing this work who are getting people out of hospital and into further care or back home, and also to help us to recruit new staff to join these teams.”

Councillor Simon Spencer said:

“We have had no option but to increase council tax to ensure we can continue to provide the services we do, but we were determined not to pass the rising costs in their entirety onto our residents and that has been achieved by agreeing one of the lowest rises in the country.

“Unfortunately it is clear that the money we will receive will not meet our full requirements and there may be difficult decisions to be taken in future.

“As an enterprising council we are looking at a number of ways to meet our savings targets without impacting essential services.

“A key part of that is continuing to explore new ways of working, with the way we operate having already undergone significant change post-pandemic.  We are looking at how we use our buildings and what we will and won’t need in the future, and this will include disposing of some of our assets as we reshape the organisation. This will not only help us to achieve necessary savings but also greatly reduce our carbon emissions.”

## **Appendix 3 –** Reports from Outside Bodies.

### 147th Derby 3rd Ockbrook & Borrowash Scout Group

We are based at 67A Kimberley Road on the corner of Deans Drive Playing Field.

We currently have 65 young members and 14 active leaders.

Our age ranges are :-

* Beaver Scouts 6 – 8 years old
* Cub Scouts 8 – 10.5 years old
* Scouts 10.5 – 14 years old
* There is also an active Explorer unit [Pennine] (14 – 18) affiliated to the group.

As members of the largest uniformed youth movement in the country of which there are 7,500 groups, we are keen on outdoor activities, camping and hiking etc. Our aim is to prepare “Young People with Skills for Life”.

We own our Headquarters and land it sits on.

We have a waiting list for joining and are actively seeking new adult volunteers.

This year we are looking forward to attending Spring Bank Camp at Drum Hill.

If you wish to add a name to our waiting list please contact us at

bosun@147scouts.co.uk

 YiS

Nigel P Tattersall (Bosun)

Group Scout Leader

147th Derby Scout Group (Charity No. 520639)

We prepare young people with skills for life.

### BORROWASH IN BLOOM 2022-23 , Tracy Steare Report to Parish Councillors 15 March 2023

**JUBILEE YEARS**

From a request made at the 2021 Erewash in Bloom Awards our group decided to turn the parish red, white and blue.  The talented Jo Henderson made our centrepiece willow crown which led to Borrowash in Bloom receiving ‘Best Jubilee Display in the Borough’ Award.  At the same ceremony we also collected a joint first prize in the ‘Best Street Community Area or Friends Group’ category.

We have decided to retain the willow crown for King Charles III coronation display, featuring Delphiniums as they are his favourite flowers.

**CHAIRPERSON**

In July Phil Barlow resigned as Borrowash in Bloom’s chairperson and Tracy Steare took over.  We continue to encourage wider participation from people of all ages and abilities.

**WEATHER**

This year’s hot summer led to greater demands on our volunteers to keep our plants fed and watered.  We are looking to find greener ways of using water, rather than from taps.  This may require consideration investment to collect adequate quantities of rainwater.

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

We were represented at the Remembrance Day service and the Christmas Lights switch-on.

**FINANCES**

We continued to fund our activities via fundraising and sponsorship.

**LOOKING FORWARD**

This year our planting colours will be pink, purple and white.  A new entrance barrel will be put at the top of Cole Lane.  We are considering developing the wide pavement space at the junction of Nottingham Road and Central Avenue, subject to the necessary permissions and funding.

Our fundraising has started positively, working alongside Ockbrook in Bloom to fundraise at a skittles evening and a curry night.

We are hoping to enter Erewash in Bloom and the RHS East Midlands in Bloom competitions.

### OCKBROOK IN BLOOM ANNUAL REPORT 2022/2023

Ockbrook in Bloom had a challenging year to raise funds and a decreasing number of Volunteers in the group.

 We did manage to secure funds from Ockbrook & Borrowash Parish Council, Erewash Borough Council & Ockash Trust and also got sponsorship from local businesses and the Community.

We entered the RHS Village Competition after a break due to Covid where we were successful in getting Silver Gilt (2 marks away from Gold!) and had further success in Erewash in Bloom where we were awarded a Special Judges Award & Community Award.

We have now been able to extend the Barrels in the Village as you come into the Village on Victoria Avenue after final approval by Derbyshire County Council. Wildflower/Perennial areas have also been added around the Village and a Sensory Garden too.

Moving forward 2023, Ockbrook in Bloom is to remain but expanding more into the Community as Ockbrook Village Fund, all projects are to remain or be enhanced.

Ockbrook Village Fund is hoping to expand into the Community more as we are coming together with Borrowash in Bloom for shared events to raise funds after a successful Scarecrow Festival and this year to hold Open Gardens.

A Well Dressing was reintroduced into the Village of which it was well received and will be going ahead again this year.

We are continuing to engage in the Community with Redhill Academy School, reintroducing their Garden Club, updating their Garden area and having an Inter Class Competition, also engaging with the Pre-school, encouraging new members to the Group with specific skills.

We are marking the Coronation of King Charles III by a display which will be sited outside the Queens Head, Ockbrook.

Ockbrook in Bloom will only be entering a few entries into Erewash in Bloom as of present we have insufficient core members to enter RHS.

All the infrastructure for the groups is in place but it will depend on new members coming forward to enter the RHS Competition next year hopefully, and expanding more into the Community.

We will continue to finance Planting/Projects as possible with funds raised through Community Events, Sponsorship and Grants but consider it to be another challenging year.

Maureen Overton

Chair

### Ashbrook Youth Group Annual Report - March 2023

The Youth Group has gone from strength to strength over the last year! We have seen up to 60 young people attend in one session and there are over 100 children on the register now.

We have a newly formed committee with some fresh volunteers and our new leader, Kerry, who replaced our Jess in October. Jess is still a member of the committee and volunteers when she can. Liz, Kerry and Christine - with their sturdy team of volunteers - have kept the group filled up by offering a variety of snacks in tuck shop every week and putting on themed nights including chip shop. milkshakes, biscuit decorating, pancakes, pizza, smoothies and more! Liz has also been to chat to the local green grocers to see if there's a relationship we can build there too.

But it's not just food, the children enjoy crafts, hairdressing, sports in the MUGA, games consoles, jewellery making, homemade playdough and even their first trip out to Rollerworld! Rollerworld was a roaring success and the children were fantastic with staff commenting on their manners too. They celebrated Halloween, marked Remembrance Sunday with poppy crafts, did a face painting stall at a charity event and had an amazing Christmas Party that was free entry, free buffet and disco. The Parish Council donated some chocolate Santa’s too.

We have been so proud of the staff and children this year. They are truly a remarkable bunch of people. We would like to end the report by sending our well wishes to the re-founder of the Youth Group, Christine, who is very unwell at the moment. We wish her the speediest of recoveries and hope to see her well again soon.

Stevie - Chair of the AYG Committee

### Elmcross Allotment Holders’ Association, Annual Parish Report, March 2023 , A Year of Challenges.

Stunted, scorched and shriveled crops amidst a drought which brought record-breaking temperatures were only one aspect of many gardening challenges during 2022, yet the least of some Elmcross gardeners’ problems. Some long-standing and key members experienced life-changing conditions diagnosed which kept them from their plots; on-site friends and relatives rallied to help keep plots tidy. We miss their warm company and friendship, feeling a loss – if only temporary – within our growing community.

The extremes of climate change were not the only difficulties making an impact upon horticulture, whether on a domestic or commercial front. In a worrying world situation, inflation and fuel costs have pushed up the cost of supplies such as fertilisers and composts even more than last year, further threatening food security in this country as witnessed during recent weeks. The inevitable autumn deluge followed by freezing conditions scuppered winter crops and stored squashes – a double whammy for constant gardeners no longer able to reap crops which had required so much careful tending and who were now having to rely more heavily on local markets.

As if this were not enough to contend with, there are still security issues especially on Elm Street, where crops have been stolen and our only lock has been malfunctioning for months. Although a replacement combination lock has been offered by our landlord, it is totally unsuitable in semi-darkness and for those with cold or arthritic hands and/or those wearing gloves. The installation of security fencing has been roundly rejected by the Parish Council after previous suggestions by its Chair that it would go ahead. What other landlord would think it acceptable to let property or grounds without lockable doors or gates? Meanwhile, unauthorised people wander on site regularly, whether bored young teens who when challenged lie about ‘collecting apples’ (in mid-winter?) from a relative’s plot despite not knowing its number, women engrossed deeply - and loudly - in work conversations over their lunch hour as they plough round the paths completely oblivious of the environment, or dog walkers looking for a way through. This all despite signs on gates. We pick up dog muck (occasionally in bags but often having trodden in it first), litter-pick (the length of time taken to drink a can or bottle of beer equating to walking distance between the Co-op supermarket and the lower end of Elm Street) and are still battling to have fly-tipped rubble removed. Other pests come in different guises however, with pigeons being the worst offenders and gardeners having to net virtually all emerging crops; whole pea rows can be devastated in minutes despite the most carefully constructed obstructions of canes and chicken wire.

More of us are aware that soil health is a very important issue, and that repeated digging and use of weedkillers will reduce the activity or indeed deplete the wide variety of organisms which keep soil in prime condition. Some gardeners have adopted a ‘no dig’ policy, spreading farmyard manure in autumn with a covering such as cardboard and left over winter for worms and other creatures – many microscopic – to do the work, and found it very successful, as well as better for one’s back! We are fortunate to have access to excellent supplies of cow manure from the local farm delivered at a very reasonable rate, while on Elm Street we also have regular deliveries of free horse muck, which anyone can help themselves to. Considering that we need to provide safe havens for wildlife and maintain an ecological balance, we have adopted organic alternatives to spraying with pesticides, using garlic, soap and even paracetamol instead, all of which prove useful.

Tenants go way beyond the terms of their allotment agreements maintaining common areas, which should be the responsibility of the landlord, including main paths and tracks, open spaces, internal hedges and turning each site’s water on and off plus draining the systems at the appropriate seasons. We are grateful for what little maintenance is done by the council’s contractor.

Collyer’s continue to support Elmcross by offering members 10% off goods supplied at their excellent nursery, while the convenience of Borrowash Hardware, a veritable Aladdin’s cave of all things useful, is much missed and not necessarily just by gardeners. It is a challenge to find another such source; we thank Phil for his years of service in providing for the villagers’ needs and wish him a long and happy retirement.

The social side of Elmcross has not yet fully recovered from the pandemic; whilst numbers at meetings have grown to almost pre-covid levels, our Annual Show did not happen this year, in part because of the difficult growing season but also for lack of a judge. Neither were there any offers for organising the annual barbecue. However, as in previous years, we did enter both sites into the Erewash in Bloom competition, still being judged by photographic evidence, securing joint second places for each and quelling any inter-site rivalry! Our AGM was well-supported in November with buffet, quirky gardening quiz and presentation of the Elijah Highton Trophy for the best kept allotment, demonstrating that there remains a spirit of community amongst Elmcross members particularly when a carrot is offered! Support, co-operation and flexibility go a long way in creating and maintaining solid relationships, especially in such challenging times.

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Julie Smith, Secretary

Peter Ball, Chair

Elmcross Allotment Holders’ Association, March 2023

### 3rd Ockbrook Brownies, Guides and Rangers

This year we have been back in full swing after the Covid-19 pandemic.

Starting off with a trip to York for our oldest Guides and Easter themed pack holiday for Brownies in April. On to Guide camp in May learning camp skills and preparing for our first big International camp.

Celebrating a beacon lighting for the platinum jubilee and a day trip to light water valley theme park in June.

A long and hot practice DofE walk took place in July for those who wanted to give it a try and finishing July with Poacher International Jamboree 2022 where the girls met girls from all over the world.

3rd Ockbrook Rangers opening in September, allowing our oldest Guides to move onto the next section and carry on their guiding adventure was a very exciting time for us.

A trip to Arnold maze in September saw the girls competing for victory and then an all-sections camp in October getting ready for our Disneyland Paris trip.

Remembrance parade and light switch on event attended in November and Matilda screening and plank n legit Christmas outing in December.

Moving onto this year, January saw sleepovers for all sections, with a special sleepover at Wollaton Hall for Rangers in February.

March has seen us attend Nottinghamshire Gang show 2023 and we look forward to a visit to Cadburys world at the end of the month.

This year we are looking forward to our International adventure to Disneyland Paris and our summer residential to Wales.

We are immensely proud of our two Young leaders, Abs and Freya who both got The Spirit of Guiding Award presented in November for their dedication to 3rd Ockbrook Brownies.

Throughout the year we have been fundraising at Co-op, raising money to allow us to continue all the exciting adventures we put on for the girls. We are eternally grateful to the community for all their continued support.

We continue to meet weekly learning new skills, making new friends, playing games and doing craft.

We have spaces in Brownies, Guides and Rangers for anyone who wants to give it a try or likes the sound of our adventures.

Just get in touch!

Bex, Hilary, Tregi

### OCKBROOK REDHILL WI, 51ST ANNUAL REPORT 1ST April 2021 – 31st March 2022

This is the 51st Annual Report of Ockbrook Redhill WI.

Another year of uncertainty but we soldiered on holding committee and monthly meetings virtually until our September meeting when we were able to meet in person at The Moravian Lecture Hall.  Committee meetings are still being held via zoom.

Membership at the end of the year 31st March 2022 was 42 two of whom hold dual membership.  We welcomed 7 new members and one of our members moved to live with her daughter in York. The average attendance over 11 meetings was 19    The average attendance at committee meetings was 11. The Committee members from 1st April – 31st March 2022 were as follows:-

* Joint President/Assistant Treasurer/Zoom Host​​​​ - Denise Archer
* Joint President/Secretary/Email contact​​​​​ - Margaret Scott
* Treasurer/MCA/Posters/Newsletters​​​​​ - Pauline Cassere
* Vice President/Outings Secretary/WhatsApp​​​​ - Sue Maclaine
* Assistant Secretary – No-one appointed but Sue Walker took minutes for the members meetings.
* Committee Minutes​Secretary - Linda Aldred
* Press Officer and Facebook - Michelle Dymond
* Register and County Link Co-ordinator​​​​​ - Ann Phillips
* Competition​​​​​​​​​ -  Phyl Bostock
* Programme Secretaries – Ordinary meetings​​​​ - Helen Rigley​

 Zoom meetings/hostesses - Sue Maclaine & Denise Archer

* Sick Visitors - Helen Rigley & Phyl Bostock
* Craft Leader – to be left until we return to normal meetings.
* Produce Leader and 50/50 Club​​​​​​ - Janet Pinchbeck
* New Members/Visitors Hostesses/Refreshments​ - Ann Ramsden & Mary Smith
* Raffles and Prizes​​​​ - Helen Rigley, Ann Ramsden & Mary Smith
* Birthday flowers/cards​​​​​ - Tessa Brooks & Ann Ramsden
* Boards - Janet Pinchbeck to prepare boards, Helen Rigley to collate and Sue Maclaine to prepare her own boards for trips.
* Scrap Book ​​​​-  Linda Moss

After lockdown we were meeting at The Moravian Lecture Hall but were told in early November that only 30 people could meet there so we quickly booked The Parish Hall for our Birthday party and subsequent meetings.

**PROGRAMME –**The programme on zoomwas arranged by Sue Maclaine, covering topics including Mercy Ships, an enlightening talk by the son of one of our founder members on Climate Change and the curator of the Royal Crown Derby Museum all via Zoom then Helen Rigley arranged them from September when we met face to face and we had an interesting evening from the DFWI Archives Committee, followed by the History of Pilates its aims, Principles and benefits.  November, we had a talk and demonstration on making apple and date chutney with December being our Christmas party.  January was The Tales of a Pitman, February a fun evening ‘bits and bobs and March was ‘This is Me’ when we got to know more about four of our own members.

**50/50 Club** – This has been ably run by Janet Pinchbeck and we have 45 members and friends who now pay up front.

**PRESS OFFICER & FACEBOOK**– These roles have been taken on by Michelle Dymond promoting us in Inside’72 and latterly she has been doing our Newsletter.

**BIRTHDAY FLOWERS** – Up until December everyone had a birthday card and in January, we returned to giving everyone who had a birthday a small posy of flowers.

**PRODUCE**– Janet Pinchbeck has arranged our Produce meetings and Steph Clubb has demonstrated Cornish Pasties; Flamiche – a cross between a pizza and a quiche, originating from France and strawberry tartlets all on zoom.  October saw Steph demonstrating in person how to make pasta to produce ravioli.  November saw members making chocolate truffles and March saw members making ‘Harmantashen’ a Jewish pastry with fruit filling.

**CRAFT**– No craft meetings were held during lockdown and in September Wenda Webb

Demonstrated how to make a Spring/Summer wreath, November members made scarecrows.  Decoupage on glass was February’s class, Katherine Free taking this and in March ideas were forthcoming to make a Scarecrow for the village competition in June for the Platinum Jubilee.

**DERBYSHIRE LINK** – Ann Phillips delivered and posted copies to members until we resumed meeting face to face in September.  From January – March we received free ELinks, and we now have to pay for them.

**TRIPS** – Sue Maclaine got us going by arranging our first trip since lockdown to Markeaton Park in July, 10 members attending.  In September 6 joined the DFWI trip to Cromford Canal and November saw 7 of our younger members going to an ‘Escape Room’ in Derby.  It was a pirate themed room and was the hardest one to crack and they did it.  Eleven members plus 1 grandson had an inspiring visit to the Derby Silk Mill Museum most staying for lunch in the café.  February 10 members met at the Tamarind in Spondon where Indian Food was enjoyed.  More outings are in the pipeline.

**50th BIRTHDAY PARTY**– We held a party on zoom on the 17th May when 21 members joined.  We had a toast, quiz questions a game of bingo then some members had composed a limerick.   ln August we were to have a face to face party outside at Denise Archer’s but this was cancelled until November due to members not able to attend and also the weather.  We at last spent a lovely evening with professional singer Lily Taylor-Ward, excellent food and a Birthday Cake.

**SHOWTIME** – This was organised by DFWI being held at Headquarters as there was no County Show this year.  We came 1st for the White Peak entry and 2nd in the Home Economics class.

A WhatsApp Group was formed by Sue Maclaine at the beginning of lockdown and a Facebook page and these have been greatly appreciated by members.

Wenda Web and Margaret Scott continue to be on the DFWI Show Team and Margaret is also on the Recreation and Training Team.  Margaret has also been re-elected as a DFWI Trustee for the two years.

Pauline Cassere has kept our finances in order not only this last year but for the past 38 years and has also kept the MCA register up to date.

I would like to thank all members of the committee for your support throughout the last year.  It has been a difficult year, coming through Covid having to move our meeting venue and trying to carry on as normal as possible and having committee meetings on Zoom.  In hindsight both Denise and I feel we should not have agreed to be joint Presidents as we have both had too much going on in our private lives apart from taking on being Secretary and Assistant Treasurer, but we have come through although not without its challenges which have sometimes been difficult to deal with. I hope that next year will run more smoothly and that our WI will go from strength to strength.

### The Ockbrook with Borrowash Community Food Bank.

The Ockbrook with Borrowash Community Food Bank was set up early summer 2020, as the first Covid-19 Lockdown began to ease. It grew out of an initiative begun by the Vicar to support local people in need throughout the Lockdown. Local people supported this immediately, with food, finances and time volunteering.

There are currently three collection points for non-perishable food and other items (I.E. toiletries): Borrowash Coo-op and One-Stop & Ockbrook Parish Hall.

The Food Bank is currently based at the BorrowBrook Office, on Chapel Row in Borrowash. The team (Rev Tim Sumpter, Sarah Creswell, Dan Bailey and Fiona Dimelo) currently support 50 local people each week (including many children), with customers collecting the parcels on a Wednesday morning. The last few months has seen a rise in customers as the ‘cost-of-living’ has increased – especially energy bills and food..

We are grateful to the Parish Council for ongoing support, and to the Ashbrook Centre Trustees, for granting permission for us to operate from the Ashbrook Centre in Borrowash for some months in 2022, which is in proximity to many of the current customers.

We hope that one-day there is no need for a Food Bank locally, but whilst there is need, we are committed to continue to proffer this practical support. Ans as we do that we are deeply grateful to all who continue to generously support this local initiative run by ad for local people.

Rev Tim Sumpter

Vicar of Ockbrook with Borrowash

Coordinator of the Ockbrook and Borrowash Community Food Bank

### Ockbrook and Borrowash School Uniform Bank.

For those who may not be aware, Ockbrook and Borrowash School Uniform Bank has been going since August 2020 and its aim is to both recycle local school uniform and to provide school uniform to anyone who requests it.  Everyone is welcome to come and help themselves to what we have.  We hold and collect donations for uniform for local schools including Ashbrook, Redhill, West Park and Friesland.  We also have PE kits, shoes, coats, brownie/guide/scout/rainbows etc. uniforms and school bags.

Our stock is located at Borrowash Methodist Church Hall and we would like to thank Jane White for helping us to secure this space.  We would also like to thank Gwen Lovegrove from the church who has been absolutely fantastic both in terms of assisting with access to the Hall and also getting actively involved in the Uniform Bank and helping us on collection days along with her son.

We hold collection mornings at the Church Hall where anyone can come and help themselves to free school uniform, regardless of their financial situation or location. We also collect and deliver school uniform around the parish and sometimes beyond.

We estimate that we have supplied uniform to approx. 50 families in the Parish over the last year, maybe more as we do not log attendees at our collection mornings.  We also supplied uniform to Ashbrook Junior School for their uniform swap day.

I would personally also like to thank the lovely people who have helped volunteer this year along with Gwen - Toni Leatherland, Carole Henderson and Josie Gill.  I could not keep it going without their valuable help.

If anyone needs any support from the Uniform Bank we have a Facebook page ([Ockbrook / Borrowash School Uniform Bank | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ockbrookborrowashschooluniformbank)) and can also be contacted via email - ockbrook-borrowashuniformbank@gmail.com or telephone on 07834 360006.

Helen Ward

### THE ASHBROOK CENTRE TRUST , Registered Charity No. 1161417, Report on developments and activities April 2021 – March 2022

The Centre was much affected by Covid and its operations modified as a result.

Developments:

* Several groups moved outside when this was possible and practicable. The outdoor Multi-Use Games Area was cleaned and made safe for regular users and also for others at weekends and during school holidays. There were more young people using the area for football and netball.
* The toilets were refurbished.
* A high-definition CCTV system was installed for the entire exterior of the Centre to protect both users and their equipment
* New window blinds were installed..
* Hot water provision, lockable storage and Wi fi were installed.
* Improved signage both outside and inside was installed.
* The fire safety provisions were updated.
* The business plan was updated.

Activities:

The Centre is used by all sections of the community:

* The Youth Clubs - two ages groups
* The pre-school group.
* The trampoline group.
* The kick boxing class
* The dance class.
* The chair-based yoga group
* The Women’s Institute
* The Seniors’ ‘Live at Home scheme’ lunch club
* The Seniors’ walking football group
* The school uniform exchange
* The food bank.

Problems:

* Litter
* Complaints from local residents about noise, but tests showed this was well below the permitted level.
* Having to decline requests from local groups due to lack of rooms and storage.

General:

Plans were made to upgrade the shower rooms, refurbish and bring into use four smaller rooms, improve the heating and car park lighting, plant a tree and install a memorial bench

Plans were made to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee

### Report for Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday, 15th March 2023, By Ockbrook and Borrowash WI

Ockbrook and Borrowash WI continue to meet on a monthly basis at the Ashbrook Centre and our membership is very consistent, with 25 members currently.

We had a very successful couple of days in June 2022, providing refreshments at the Ashbrook Centre in connection with the Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, which involved a Scarecrow Competition in Ockbrook and Borrowash. Thanks to the Parish Council for allowing us to use the Ashbrook Centre free of charge, the proceeds from which we were able to add to our WI funds.

In November, we purchased a wooden seat and an Acer tree which you were kind enough to let us place outside the main Ashbrook Centre building entrance. This tree was planted as part of the Queen’s Green Canopy event which she launched for her Jubilee Year. The tree has become more special due to Her Majesty’s recent death and is in fact a Memory Tree for all members of the WI to be able to tie on labels bearing personal messages, once the tree has grown a little. Perhaps people visiting the centre will take time in the better weather to sit and spend a little time there too.

Special thanks to Wayne and his assistant who laid the base for the seat and planted the tree for us and to the Parish Council and Sarah for the arrangements necessary to do this.

Our Christmas WI Meeting in December was a wonderful occasion when we had a group exercise class with local lady, Margaret Phypers, followed by the Draycott Sounds Choir singing carols which they did as a choir and then including the membership as well, concluded by a really lovely buffet, which everyone taking part in the entertainment and the membership enjoyed. It was such a good example of local people and communities joining together for a very successful evening.

Our weekly Chair Yoga classes have proved popular and we have classes which range from 11 to 19 people each week. Our new Chair Yoga Instructor, Carolyn Collinson has been instrumental in the success of the group. There is a 60/40 split of WI members and people from our local community taking part and a number of friendships have been formed at the social sessions which take place after the exercise classes. This was one of our main objectives in setting up the Chair Yoga group in that we felt alongside the need for exercise was a need for people to have opportunities to socialise who might be lonely or isolated and this has proved to be the case.

The outdoor lighting recently installed at the centre is a very welcome improvement and makes everyone feel much safer and less likely to fall when entering the car park and centre in the dark evenings.

None of this would be possible without the Parish Council, The Ashbrook Centre and the staff who work there, so thank you very much.

Pauline Atkin and Jackie Flint

Joint Presidents

Ockbrook and Borrowash WI

6/3/23

### Borrowbrook Home Link , ANNUAL REPORT TO OCKBROOK AND BORROWASH PARISH COUNCIL March 2023

During 2022, the impact of Covid pandemic continued to affect our funding. activities and membership. However, it has been a positive year for our small charity.

We continue to support the older adults of our parish in living independently in their own homes by providing helpful information from our office, located in the heart of the Borrowash. Our bright and cheerful magazine is full of interesting articles, advice and local news. The magazine remains a positive and welcome addition to our activities for our members and their families. The Easter cards, birthday cards, Christmas cards and newsflyers continue as per norm.

In 2021 we introduced a new social meetup, located at the Ashbrook Centre in Borrowash. The free monthly meetup at the Ashbrook Community Centre which has an activity, such as singing, bingo or drumming, has been a success, but numbers have been dwindling. The Monday Warm Space and Lunch supported by the Parish council and the Ashbrook Trustees continues to be a popular meet up for our seniors. We are able to help our seniors in the Parish with a low cost and tasty hot meal, this will help their pensions go further in these times of rising costs, as well as an opportunity to meet friends for a chat.

 In 2023, we are looking to reach out to more local seniors by developing a home visit befriending service. We intend to start with a small number of visits and build to have a team of befrienders. We hope that this will become a key service that we can offer in the future.

Borrowbrook continues to be a key member of our community by joining with other community groups. In this way we can help our members stay linked in with their community. The local support from both local businesses and families throughout the past year has been incredible.

We have offered a home to our local Food Bank at our premises on a Wednesday morning. This is working well and growing awareness of our small charity.

We are also very fortunate to receive continued donations and support from individuals, churches, groups, pubs, shops, clubs and organisations from around the parish which keeps our charity ticking over. Both our Parish Council and the Derbyshire County Council continue to provide vital grants towards the running costs of Borrowbrook Home Link. These grants are not only significant in keeping our charity running but they also act as a signal to other funding sources that we are a worthwhile organisation which can be trusted to spend money wisely.

Although financial constraints obviously have some effect on how we run the charity we are committed to ensure that we do everything we can to keep Borrowbrook going for both the active older adults and those unable to leave their homes. We try to help all our seniors to feel a part of the community and a valued member of our society.

Our staff, trustees and loyal team of volunteers stay committed to reducing loneliness and improving residents’ wellbeing.

Rachel Page

Project Co-ordinator

### Church Wilne Probus Club

Our regular in-person club meetings have continued on the third Wednesday morning of each month at 10 for 1030 in the Village Hall in Ockbrook. We had an interesting series of talks by several of our own members and some visiting speakers during 2022. We are planning an interesting set of talks at our meetings in 2023 and details can be found on the club's webpage at [www.probusonline.org/church-wilne](http://www.probusonline.org/church-wilne).

We held club lunches at local pubs in September and at Christmas and took part in visits to the Bennerley Viaduct and to the Great British Car Journey in Ambergate. We were joined on these visits by members of other local Probus clubs continuing the cooperation with these clubs that we initiated during the Covid restrictions.

At the end on 2022 the club had 20 members. We are actively publicising the club and its activities in the hope that more retirees will wish to come and join us. Membership of our club is open to anyone who is retired or partially retired and a warm welcome awaits any potential new members. If anyone would like to be part of our meetings, please come along to the Village Hall on the third Wednesday of each month or email our Secretary, Michael Thacker at michaelnewdigate@aol.com, so that he can supply them with the details.

Michael Thacker

Chairman

### Ockash Trust Annual Report.

The Ockash Trust is an independent, local charity existing to raise funds for the benefit of children and young people, up to the age of 18, living in Ockbrook or Borrowash.

Individuals or groups can apply for an award. In the past year in addition to individual awards (such as the help we’ve given to two young cancer sufferers in the parish), we have helped the 3rd Ockbrook Brownies and Guides, Redhill School, Ashbrook Infant and Nursery School, the Uniform Bank and the Borrowash Youth Football team. A total of £2,900 has been paid out in grants.

In additions we operate the ‘Ockash Young Citizens Reward’, rewarding children or young people who for example, have reached a personal achievement, or made a difference in our community, or with their own initiative have fundraised for others. Over £200 has been given in rewards this year.

The Ockash Trust takes an active role in community events e.g., we had a scarecrow for the scarecrow trail, attended the Pride Event and sold mistletoe at the Christmas Light Switch on.

All our trustees and helpers are unpaid volunteers. We raise money by running high quality events such as our annual bargain trail and quiz night, plus other community events. This year we are also pleased to be one of the Co-ops chosen local charities. All additional fundraising benefits local children and young people. Many thanks to all in the community who support us.

Val Bulman

Joint Ockash Chair.