FINDERN PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs Kate Sharpe
Findern Parish Rooms, Lower Green, Findern, Derbyshire DE65 6AS
Tel: 07444 085807

Minutes of the Annual Meeting for the Parish of Findern held at Findern Methodist Church, Lower Green, Findern on Thursday 24 April 2025 at 6.30pm

Present: Councillors T Brown, B Dosanjh, H Hettmann, Y Hughes, M Ratcliffe and C Smith.
Also present: Mrs K Sharpe (Clerk to the Parish Council) and 9 members of the public.

1 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were **NOTED** from Councillors G Cooke, S Holmes and M Woodhouse for Parish Council.

2 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting held on 25 April 2024 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council.

3 **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT ON BEHALF OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

The Chairman of the Parish Council welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave the following report for the year ending 31 March 2025.

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I would like to start by thanking some people-

My thanks go to Vice Chair Mike Ratcliffe for his support during the last year and we would both like to thank all our fellow Councillors for their hard work over the last twelve months too.

I cannot stress hard enough our thanks to the Clerk, Kate Sharpe. She enables us to achieve all the things we do because of her hard work in the background, her wealth of knowledge and her utmost professionalism is evident for all to see.

As a whole Council we would like to thank Dave Tidy, the Findern Lengths- man and Richard Yates, the Highfields Warden. They both do an extremely important job of keeping both parts of the village free of litter but are also the first to see issues or problems that may have arisen and then can report them to the Clerk for prompt attention.

Our thanks go to Trevor Yeomans who voluntarily looks at all the planning applications in great detail and feeds back to the Council.

Our thanks also go to the District and County Councillors for the Findern and Willington wards, Martyn Ford and Ian Hudsen for their ongoing support.

We would like to thank the Findern Footpaths group for all their hard work in the past year in Cotes Close, Cardales Meadow, Stanhope Wood and especially in Stanhope Hole with the addition of the Joan Tidy Eco Garden, an educational learning centre named after a very special lady.

Now I will move on to what we have achieved from 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025.

We held an extremely successful Easter Event, which had to move from Highfields to Findern Village Hall at the last minute due to poor weather.

We funded a second Vehicle Activated sign, allowing us to always have one at each end of the village.

The Speed Watch group was relaunched with some new members, David Anthony, Angela Duffin, Alan Fearn, Lesley Fearn, Paul Klein, Dave Tidy, Maisie Trotman and Martin Wyatt.

The electric box on the Green was updated along with new underground caballing being installed to the trees to allow for lighting at special events.

Extra screw fit links were fitted at several points around the Green to allow for easier access, thank you to Councillor Woodhouse for doing this.

New signage was provided and installed along Lower Green to highlight issues around parking.

We held our 'Party in the Park' event in July, which was well attended with good weather.

Four South Derbyshire District Council led summer activity sessions were held, two at Hillside Playing Fields in
Findern and two at the Mackworth Avenue, green space in Highfields.

We participated in the Harvest Festival Celebrations at All Saints Church by decorating a windowsill with provisions which were then donated to the Padley Centre.

The Village Green was once again decorated for Remembrance Sunday; many thanks go to Councillor Woodhouse for erecting the silhouettes again this year. We had a new addition, a very impressive horses head made from horseshoes, this allowed us to create a separate tableau dedicated to the animals that also gave their lives during wars. The church arch way and the trees on the Green were also decorated with poppies. We were pleased to participate in a service held by both churches on the Green to commemorate the fallen.

With a donation from Greenbelt Group Ltd, we provided a very impressive Christmas tree on Tutbury Avenue in Highfields. This year we had an even better event for the 'Lights switch on', including a live singer, Santas grotto and free refreshments.

We held the Findern 'Lights switch on' on the Green, followed by refreshments and children's entertainment as well as Santa's grotto in the Village Hall. Thank you to Councillor Woodhouse for his generous donation of the Christmas tree and for once again erecting it and lighting the existing trees on the green as well.

The Parish Council decorated a small Christmas Tree, which, along with other village groups' trees were on display throughout December in All Saints Church.

We were pleased to be involved in and support, the Festive Findern Event again this year, with a donation towards entertainment and First Aid.

Our Neighbourhood Plan has been progressing throughout the year, the Steering group, the consultant Helen Metcalfe and the Clerk, Kate Sharpe have all worked extremely hard to get us to the point of the Pre-Submission stage with the Parish Council having drop-in sessions for residents to give us their thoughts, this is in preparation for the final Regulation 14 Submission to South Derbyshire District Council.

We have also supported several charities this year:

£250 to Etwall Air Cadets towards their Gibraltar Expedition;

£133 to All Saints Church to support the external lighting over winter;

£250 to The Village Hall Fete Committee towards costs for this year's Fete;

£150 to the Padley Trust at Harvest time;

£250 to the Royal British Legion poppy appeal;

£550 to Findern Fest to pay for individual services for the event.

That is the end of my report, but I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of our community, of which there are too many to name, we thank you for all that you do on a day-to-day basis for our Parish. All of us at Findern Parish Council look forward to what the next year will bring and what we can all achieve together.

REPORTS FROM LOCAL GROUPS / ORGANISATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY

To receive reports on the activities of Local Groups / Organisations for the Year Ending 31 March 2025. This gave an opportunity for groups and organisations active in the village to give an update to residents on their activities over the previous year.

District Council & County Councillors

District and Councillor, Ian Hudson was present at the meeting, and he gave the following report: -

In the emerging Local Plan there were two large housing developments identified that may have an impact on Findern – the major one being off Staker Lane in Burnaston Parish.

The two recent by-elections had been won by the Conservative Party.

It was the 50th anniversary of South Derbyshire District Council this year.

However, with the new proposals for two-tier structure, South Derbyshire District Council would disappear in 2027/28 to be replaced by a new Unitary Council in its place. Parish Councils were encouraged to keep an eye on the changes.

Councillor Hudson thanked Members of Findern Parish Council for being effective and friendly.

He looked forward to working with the Council and the residents of Findern in the year ahead.

District and County Councillor, Martyn Ford was present at the meeting and he had submitted the following report: -

The year had been dominated by Finance with budget challenges remaining across the County Council, especially in Adult Social Care and Children's Services (for SEN services and also school transport) because of escalating cost pressures. There would be a 2% Council Tax rise to fund social care.

There was much talk about the reorganisation of Local Government into a two-tier structure. There were many different views; there would be a public consultation to gather views; with a decision to be made by November 2025 on what the new Councils will look like geographically.

There were several contentious planning applications were coming up that referred to applications relating to Battery Storage Systems.

Findern Methodist Chapel

Robert Hudson read the report on behalf of the Methodist Chapel group.

Our minister, Rev Jacky Quarmby, was on a 3-month sabbatical at the beginning of this period but we were under the care of another minister Rev David Owen who has also led some challenging Bible studies during the year.

The stewards gave each congregation member a questionnaire to ask for suggestions and comments on various aspects of chapel life and collated the results in June 2024, which were reported at a meeting. A suggested social event was a BBQ held outside chapel on a warm summer evening.

Jacky was back at work and could lead the Remembrance Day service on the Green along with Rev Emma Mallord. It was well attended and included 3 poems written by Findern School pupils. All the poems, beautifully written and illustrated by other class members were displayed in All Saints church for all to see while having coffee after the service.

The period around Christmas is always very busy;

- *30 shoeboxes were filled with gifts and sent to Eastern European countries,*
- *A large order was sent to the Leprosy Mission for Christmas goods*
- *A large collection of food and toiletries was delivered to the local Padley group*
- *Christmas stockings for Rainbows Hospice and the Leprosy mission in chapel raised £326 in total.*
- *Together with church members every house in Findern received a Christmas card with details of services and a message from our minister.*
- *Chapel decorated a tree for the festival at All Saints based on the carol "See Amid the Winter Snow"*

On 7 January the 2 churches took over the catering for the Warm Welcome Space, providing soup, a roll and cakes. Cash donations received were included in the Christmas stockings total.

Chapel provides a small, flexible space for a variety of regular groups, some run by chapel members and others by outside groups like the Historical Society and the Piecemakers. It is a warm, welcoming place and well used.

All Saints Church

The report was given by Pat Maddock, of the Parochial Church Council of All Saints Church.

We have settled down to a regular pattern of Sunday Services throughout the year since the end of March 2024 with our appointed team of Ministers, Lay Readers, and musicians from St Peter's Littleover, with more shared services with the Methodist Chapel.

The new chandelier heating system installed since the last meeting has been successful, with lots of good comments.

The church was open to the community on Findern Fete Day, 6 July, for refreshments once again.

Burton U3A visited All Saints on 15 August for a Historical talk about the church led by Rev Robert Harris.

Harvest was preceded by a fun quiz night run by Chapel.

Our shared Harvest Festival on 29 September with the Methodist congregation involved the Local Community once again, the Parish Council and Local Businesses and organisations decorating the Church window Ledges with donations of food and hygiene items to support the Padley Centre once again.

The church was open for our Annual Gift Day held on 2 Nov where we also had material from Findern Historical Society as well as old church registers on display and served refreshments.

The shared Remembrance Service took place with very good attendance from the community on The Village Green led by Ministers from both Chapel and All Saints.

A joint Service on 24 November was held at St Peter's led by Bishop Malcolm for the renewal of vows.

Our Christmas Fair held on 30 November in the Village Hall, run by the 'Friends of All Saints' was a success with lots of Raffle Prizes donated by the Community and craft activities introduced for kids run by St Peter's.

The Christmas Tree Festival held from 7 December for 5 days, (the first since 2017) involved trees being decorated beautifully and displayed by local organisations with members of the community helping to man the church.

There was shared Carol Singing at the sheltered housing in Brook Close and on The Green with the local community organised by Chapel, culminating with much needed refreshments in All Saints' after a downpour of rain.

Our Carol Service was well attended as was the Christingle Service on Christmas Eve.

We helped Chapel to run Warm Space, giving Tammy and Deborah a well-deserved rest for the opening of the New Year with a soup and cake lunch, with monetary donations going to charity. Thanks must go to Tammy and Deborah for the continued running of this very successful scheme bringing those who are lonely together and making new friendships and some renewed from the past. Both Church and Chapel along with the wider community help with the rota of serving and waiting at tables.

We continue to support the Children's society through collections from the Christingle Service and annual collection boxes.

Pointing of our building has taken place earlier in the year with more to do in the future.

The long awaited installation of a wooden glazed screen above the kitchen and toilet was completed in March this year preventing the cold air chimney effect from the tower entering the main body of the church. Thanks have been given to Derbyshire County Council, Members' Community Leadership Scheme (MCLS), Councillor Ford, who helped to fund part of this project.

The churchyard has continued to be maintained by volunteers, but more would be appreciated. South Derbyshire District Council is responsible for the maintenance of the trees and mowing of the grass a limited number of times per year.

The Village seemed very appreciative once again of the outside spotlights being lit from Oct 2024-Mar 2025. All Saints would like to thank the Parish Council for the funding of this.

Findern Historical Society

A member of Findern Historical Society, Robert Hudson read the report on behalf of the group.

This year has seen a good variety of speakers including talks given by two of our own members. The numbers attending have been between 20 – 25 each month, although the number on the membership list is over 30. Since Covid many of our tried and tested speakers have retired, or increased their fees, but in many ways this has allowed us to invite someone new. The committee has had some health problems and we were very sad to lose one of our members, a very knowledgeable person on local history. John Hawkins.

The Society decorated a Christmas tree for the festival in All Saints church with items from the past which provoked memories and conversations with visitors.

Our monthly meetings are on the 3rd Monday of the month except August. In June and July we usually plan to have outdoor meetings. This year we are having a guided tour of Kedleston Hall grounds, looking at the ecology and history, and in July we plan to go to Crich Tramway museum for the day.

Findern Village Hall

The report was read out by the Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Tammy Brown on behalf of Melanie Eckersley, Chair of the Trustees of Findern Village Hall.

The Village Hall currently has a group of Trustees, Chairperson, and Treasurer, with secretarial roles being shared among the Trustees. With the employment of two paid staff, a caretaker and a cleaner, the Treasurer role has increased due to the need to use the Government payroll system.

Over the past year, the Village Hall website (findernvillagehall.org) has evolved to provide a comprehensive range of information about the hall. It serves as a platform for visitors to contact us and keeps the community informed about events and regular group activities. We acknowledge that some attention is needed to refresh the site and ensure all details are up-to-date and accurate.

The Warm Space initiative has continued to be a success, attracting a great turnout each week. This weekly event remains a valuable social gathering for the community, offering refreshments and an opportunity for people to connect. We expect the Warm Space to remain a fixture for the foreseeable future.

Community Health use of the hall has increased greatly and now offers weekly both reflexology and pain relief management. A pre diabetic group also meets on a regular basis, there is self referral on some groups with a no-cost attendance. Criteria for referral local GP.

Bookings for the hall have continued to rise, and efforts have been made to manage weekend and evening bookings more effectively to accommodate growing demand.

The Glass Fusion Workshop events have been particularly well-received, with strong attendance and repeated sessions. These types of low-cost, community-focused educational events are aligned with our hall's constitution, and we remain committed to offering such opportunities to the community.

In terms of facility improvements, we are pleased to report that the Gents toilets have recently been refurbished, and we are very happy with the results.

Looking back at the 2024 Village Fete, we are proud to say it was a resounding success. It was well-attended and enjoyed by the residents of Findern and the surrounding villages. The event achieved its primary goal of raising funds for the Village Hall, and we appreciate the community's continued support. Planning for the 2025 Fete has not yet commenced, but we look forward to it when the time comes. Page 2 of 2

I would like to express my gratitude to all Trustees and volunteers who continue to dedicate their time and efforts to the success of the hall. It remains a wonderful resource for the community, and we are committed to ensuring it stays a vibrant hub for all who wish to use it.

Findern Footpaths Group

Sue Anderson read out the report on behalf of Findern Footpaths Group.

This is the annual report of the activity of the group up to 31 March 2025.

***Footpath maintenance** – the group continues to maintain the network of public footpaths and five conservation areas around the village, strimming, mowing, planting and carrying out minor repairs to stiles and fences; and undertaking a full program of sowing native seeds, bulbs, and trees. The Blackthorn hedges have been a massive task to cut back and maintain. We have established a supply of wood chippings to be used for mulching the muddy paths. We continue to earn £385 per annum for this work.*

***Members/new members** – at the last annual general meeting some changes were made; the new chairman is Mike Barber and, and Steve Tiso (previous chair) is now deputy chair. The secretary is Carol; fundraiser and temporary treasurer is Sue; project coordinator Hans; and the social media is managed by several of us. There are a few regular volunteers, and the membership has been amended*

to include associate members for those who wish to attend occasionally, and we are advertising for more volunteers to help in the upkeep of our beautiful village. We would also like to mention the fantastic help we've had from Paul who has been keeping on top of the strimming and Stuart Reeves who has assisted when we have needed more professional help, employed by the Parish Council, and Findern Parish Council have been very supportive of the group in many ways. Ian and Caroline at the stables have kindly allowed to use of their water when needed, and they also assisted to cut back the outer edges of Cardales Meadow. The bird-feeders have been kept topped up thanks to Clare.

We have not had as much help from other organisations as we used to, but we continue our links with South Derbyshire CVS with the hope of gaining from corporate volunteers. We have had occasional wonderful assistance from the local Willington Cub Scout group. CPC civil engineering have also given us assistance and advice whilst they have been in the area.

Projects undertaken in a busy year, a brief outline:

Stanhope Hole *- we have completed the eco-garden/education centre (outdoor classroom) and it has been a great success, although we have a few small finishing touches to work on. The opening day was on 13 July 2024 with a naming ceremony for 'The Joan Tidy Garden' in honour of the previous group secretary. This opening event was attended by the volunteers, many people from the village and representatives from East Midlands Airport, who had kindly provided the grant for this project. The Forge nursery has since made use of this area many times as it is a safe area for children to learn about the environment, the Norfolk 4 course rotation system, growing crops; and there is a mini bird screen, mini butterfly bank and a small sandpit. This environment we intend to open to more groups in the near future.*

There have been renovations at the neighbouring waterworks which encroached onto our area. That work is now finished and after liaising with us, Severn Trent have replaced the flora to be in keeping with the nature of this area.

Cardales Meadow and wildlife sanctuary *- Again we have been unable to engage local farmers to cut, bale and take away the hay, so this year we mowed half of the meadow leaving the remaining half for wildlife. This worked well for last year, but cannot be continued as to do so will enrich the soil risking the levels of wildflowers that are needed as food for the bees and butterflies etc. This is something that we need to work on this year.*

Refurbishing of the butterfly bank is ongoing to encourage butterflies, as a national survey found an overall decline in butterflies and that East Midlands had the largest decline.

The wildlife sanctuary has been continually maintained and seeded with wildflowers in an attempt to make use of the 'wet corner'.

Many bulbs have been planted around the memory tree and the WI tree. From donations received in honour of Joan Tidy, an additional bench is planned for next to the memorial tree.

Crow Park Way *– the banks were cleared to allow ground plants to flourish and many new bulbs were planted.*

Cotes Close *– vegetation has been cleared, a new space made in the teardrop area ready to move the bird screen to a better location. Steve Tiso has given a master class in traditional style 'hedge laying' which volunteers took part in and has been very successful.*

Stanhope Wood *- roots have been removed and tree canopies thinned. We have established experimental areas which have been temporarily sectioned off for planting to assess for native growing plants (this is an ongoing test).*

Priory Way *- a new strimmer and spare battery have been purchased to allow for us (in this case, Mike) to make the full journey of this lengthy path and have the power available to keep strimming and cutting back.*

The Neighbourhood Plan for Findern parish *- members of the group have contributed to the draft survey in particular about Flora and fauna.*

The total hours worked by the volunteers for the year 2024 was 1038 hours.

Findern and Friends Women's Institute

Councillor Chris Smith read out the report on behalf of the President of the Findern and Friends Women's Institute, Mary Bucknell.

Once again Findern and Friends WI members have met regularly in Findern Village Hall on the third Tuesday of each month (except August) where we have enjoyed a variety of different speakers ranging from advice on the spices that make a good curry to an enlightening talk on the Gretna Girls who made the dangerous ammunition in the First World known as the Devil's Porridge. In addition, our own members led us in a St Patrick's Day celebration, in learning something of the skill of Curling, a summer social and quiz, a craft activity, and our Christmas party and fuddle, to name just a few!

Our membership remains at just over 30 members, and we are always delighted to welcome newcomers from Findern and the surrounding area.

Every year we choose a particular charity from those nominated by members. In 2024 we raised money for the Tremor Association, which conducts research into this debilitating condition and helps current sufferers. With our monthly sales table, raffles and quiz sheets sales as well as other activities we were delighted to raise over £300.00 in total for the charity.

This year our chosen charity is myaware - fighting myasthenia, and so our fundraising continues…

Once again, we have enjoyed taking part in Findern Life. Our junior and senior bottle stall was very popular at the Findern Fete, and we look forward to a successful repetition of this in July 25. We were pleased to collect and arrange harvest goods for the Harvest Festival service at All Saints and delighted to be participants in the Christmas Tree Festival there, where members crafted different angels to hang on our tree for our carol theme - Angel from the Realms of Glory and some members were welcomers to the event too.

We are pleased to report that our new tree planted in Cardales Meadow is flourishing.

We continue to be grateful for the facilities provided for us at the village hall and equally glad that we can go out and about together. We try different places for our monthly Friday lunch club, we continue our Book Club in members' homes, and we enjoy trips, meetings, and excursions put on by the Derbyshire Federation WI and our own Findern and Friends members.

As our name suggests, we always aim to provide a warm and friendly welcome to all, and we are happy to encourage new people to our meetings in the village hall. We would like to thank those who

maintain the hall, allowing us to hire the building so that we feel very much a part of the Findern Community.

Findern Warm Hub / Warm Welcome Club

The report was read out by the Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Tammy Brown who is also a representative of the Findern Warm Hub / Warm Welcome Club.

Warm Space began in 2022 as a result of the cost-of-living crisis with grants from Findern Parish Council and SDCVS. It ran initially from January to March of that year. Myself (Tammy Brown) and Deborah Arnold took over in March of 2023 and as Trustees of the Village Hall we have been running it with their support every Tuesday between 12-2 pm.

We serve a jacket potato with a topping of butter, cheese, chilli, tuna or beans with cups of tea and coffee and a piece of cake. At Christmas, we served turkey and sausage meat stuffing cobs, mince pies and Baileys coffee, at Easter we had toasted hot cross buns and pancakes on Pancake Day.

This is a free event which is available to everyone, no matter their circumstances. Anyone is welcome, and we are so popular that we even have people who don't live in the village. Donations are always welcome, though not necessary. We now have a small library and Jigsaw swap, again available to all.

We regularly have between 35-40 people a week, these are mainly returners who enjoy meeting each other for company, new people are always welcome.

In the last year we have had visits from Sight Support Derbyshire who give support around sight loss, Mercia Safer Neighbourhood Police who come to reassure residents about crime in the area, South Derbyshire CVS Safer Homes mobile joinery service who spoke to residents regarding home safety equipment, the Citizens Advice Bureau, who were giving advice about winter heating as well as giving away free carbon monoxide alarms.

We were also featured in an article by Rural Derbyshire magazine, recognising that we were one of a very few Warm Spaces that remains open all year round.

We have a wonderful group of volunteers who work on a rota basis, and I'd like to take a moment to recognise and thank them all. They are;

Deborah Arnold, Jan Ashford, Diane Collier, Lesley Fearn, Alan Fearn, Anne Gwynn, Jan Howell, Heather Hall, Jean Jacobs, Sally Jones, Roy Milward, Pat Maddock, Lynette Nash, Rosemary Noblet, Maureen Parnell, Eileen Priestly, Doreen Roach, Jenny Wrathall, Mick Williams and Irene Williams. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the sad passing of a regular volunteer Martin Wrathall.

Findern – Relief in Need

Councillor Brown, as a trustee of the charity, read a report on behalf of the group.

The charity now has full access to the funds managed by the prior Trustees, so is now able to open the offer to residents of the parish of Findern who are facing financial difficulties.

Small grants can be applied for in times of need. Adverts have been placed on all the Parish Council notice boards, in the village hall, and at both schools and local churches.

If you need help, please email Findernreliefinneed@gmail.com or write to 1 Gorsty Leys, Findern, Derby, DE65 6QB.

John Allsop Foundation

The Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Mike Ratcliffe read the report on behalf of the foundation.

The John Allsop Foundation is a registered charity that gives grants and awards to young people under the age of 25 and to educational organisations such as schools, pre-schools, youth clubs, guides, etc.

To apply for a grant, you must be a resident of Findern parish (includes Highfields), Willington, or Stenson and Twyford villages or be involved in the running of an organisation in these villages.

Currently we have a GCSE award that benefits students gaining four or more C Grade or equivalent qualifications. This is set at £100. Our Book and Equipment grant is aimed at students at university or college, but does not fund A level study. We can help with the relevant books and equipment for your courses. We have a music grant that can assist with the purchase of musical instruments.

We have a new award for people gaining 3 or more 'A' level passes, and this award becomes effective when results are announced in August this year.

Organisations can apply in writing explaining how they would spend a grant and list the cost of the items needed. All grants and awards are at the discretion of the Trustees, and are dependent upon the income of the Foundation.

For further information and application forms, please contact: Helen Lakin, 13 Chevin Avenue, Mickleover, Derby, DE3 9GW or email: helenlakin@hotmail.com.

Grants and awards are not means tested so if you think you could apply, please do so without fear of disclosing personal information.

We want to support young people and are keen for more people to know about our wonderful charity.

Findern Bereavement Group

A representative from Murrays Funeral Directors Group, Angela Bembridge read a report on behalf of the group.

Good evening, thank you for allowing us to speak this evening.

I'm Angela, General Manager for Murray's Funeral Directors Group, and I am joined by Jayne, one of our Funeral Arrangers, who you will all know.

The past 16 months have seen a lot of internal changes for our company, with Funeral Partners taking ownership. We will continue to serve our communities in Findern, Burton, Swadlincote, and Barton, and our core ethos of Care, Compassion, Community remains the same.

I would like to share with you (hot off the press) that Jayne Ratcliffe will be taking charge of our Findern Office in May. Jayne, who has lived in Findern village for many years, is a familiar face to many. Jayne is passionate about her role and looks forward to working closer to home.

We are proud again this year to contribute sponsorship to the village fete and prizes for the raffle. We will continue with our memory walk through Findern ending with a short service at our memorial tree later this year.

Our Christmas Memorial Service was held in St Mary's Church, Burton and was very well attended. We are currently working on our ABC group meetings (After Bereavement Care) and hope to relaunch this in the autumn. Due to internal changes we decided to temporarily pause the group hoping to grow the support we offer taking on board feedback from our families. These future group sessions (as was previously the case) will be open to all the community (not just those who have used our services). We will continue to support the village as we can and are always open to approaches from the community for assistance.

4 **Matters raised by electors**

There were no matters raised by electors.

Meeting closed at 7.40pm