**Bowsden Parish**

**Annual Bowsden Parish Meeting on Monday 13th May 2023 at 7.15pm In Bowsden Village Hall.**

**Present:** Councillors Graeme Reavley (Chair), Dominic Elsworth, Ian Jackson,

Chris Betts and Shaun Young

County Councillor Colin Hardy

**Parish Clerk**: Sue Sim

**Parishioners**: 3

1. **Apologies for Absence**: Councillor Jayne Watson

Councillor Emma Anderson

1. **Parish Council Report 2023-2024**

Parish activity 2023-2024

Councillor Graeme Reavley addressed the meeting.

At last year’s AGM on 22nd May 2023, I was elected as Chair with Dominic Elsworth elected as vice.

In total 7 Parish councillors with the support of our parish clerk have held office over the last 12 months and met the statutory requirements of a functioning Parish Council.

Whilst 5 parish councillors is the minimum to form a council, for a meeting to be quorate there needs to be a minimum of 3 in attendance at any one time which we achieved on each of the 4 Parish council meetings held throughout the last year. It was great to see a few parishioners in attendance at all meetings. We continue to encourage parishioners to attend Parish Council meetings.

Councillors took it in turn to complete a Risk Assessment of The Park and I thank you all for your support with that. We’ll come onto any actions arising later in the ordinary meeting.

As a parish we voted to keep the Precept at the current level. As we know our costs are relatively low and once those costs are met there is little merit in holding large reserves – we will have the opportunity to further discuss the accounts later in the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council but it should be noted that considerable discussion was had amongst parish councillors as how to best utilise the balance of the precept for the benefit of the community. Our conclusion was supporting community events such as the Coronation event in the village hall allowed the widest possible benefit.

The Parish Council responded to planning applications in the period which the PC was consulted upon. We also responded to the concerns raised by parishioners in relation to planning matters.

The heart of our Parish is the Village Hall On behalf of Bowsden PC I would like to congratulate the committee over the last 12 months for not only hosting and delivering a wide range of events but for engaging and bringing the community together. A true community effort!

I’d like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Councillors for their support over the last 2 years. Collectively we owe gratitude to our parishioner, Deborah Hudson for her role as independent internal auditor to the PC. Thank you very much Deborah.

An enormous vote of thanks goes to our Parish Clerk Sue who has kept us all on track with all Parish Council matters. Sue your attention to detail, thoroughness and clear provision of facts is very much appreciated by us all.

1. **Matters Parishioners Wish to Raise –** None
2. **Date of Next Meeting –** May 2025