

**Minutes of Farmborough Annual Parish Meeting held on
Tuesday, 24 April 2025, commencing at 7.30pm**

1. The Chair of Farmborough Parish Council, Sam Ross, welcomed the parishioners attending the meeting.
2. Apologies were received from Darren Roberts.
3. Speakers were invited to the meeting and gave talks to the attendees on the following subjects:
 - a. Avon Needs Trees – Vicki Cracknell and Amy Timms
 - b. Community Speed Watch – Shaun Stephenson-McGall
 - c. Youth Connect South West – Jayne Lewis and Rob Rumming-Pain
 - d. Police incident briefing – PC Stephen Carey – unable to attend but a report was presented
4. The 2024 Annual Parish Meeting minutes were agreed upon as an accurate record.
5. Sam Ross, Chair of the Parish Council, gave the Parish Report. The Parish Council had another varied year. Jess Davis stepped down as Clerk in February, and Debbie Tutchell will be joining as the new Clerk on 1 May. The Parish Council currently has eight councillors, with three vacancies remaining, and is keen to hear from anyone interested in joining. There were 12 planning applications last year. The long-running Old Lane development remains frustratingly unresolved after nine years. The refurbished Pavilion on The Rec was recently opened, featuring new changing rooms, showers, toilets, a clubhouse with bar and kitchen. Thanks were given to Temple Cloud Cricket Club for their additional fundraising contribution. Cllr Phil Gray continues to manage the Recreation Ground and Pavilion, and attention will now turn to upgrading the play facilities. The Vehicle-Activated Sign on Timsbury Road has been hit twice and is out of action again, and conversations with Highways and Police are ongoing regarding speeding on the A39. Alex Vowles has joined as the new village street sweeper and is receiving positive feedback from residents. Most allotments are in good use, with some plots now available and no waiting list. Thanks were given to all Parish Councillors for their hard work and commitment over the past year.
6. Cllr Martin Carter provided the financial report.
7. Ward Cllr Sam Ross gave a report covering Farmborough, Clutton and Chelwood. Common concerns across the ward include traffic speed, highway condition, and flooding and drainage. Farmborough has experienced traffic safety issues and localised flooding this year. Concerns about speed and the lack of safe pedestrian crossings along the A39, and the need for speed reduction and improved signage on Timsbury Road have been raised. Funding has been secured in this year's budget to progress a phased raised footway between Farmborough and Timsbury. Sam attends Somer Valley and Chew Valley Area Fora, Parish Liaison Meetings, and council meetings, and continues to contribute to Local Plan consultations, highlighting the area's unique constraints.
8. Village organisation reports were given on behalf of the following organisations, including the use of their Section 137 grants:
 - Farmborough All Saints Churchyard
 - Farmborough CAMEO
 - Farmborough Good Neighbours
 - Farmborough Goodwill Club
 - Farmborough Flower Show
 - Farmborough Memorial Hall Committee
 - Farmborough Sports and Social
 - Farmborough Pre-School
 - Farmborough Primary School (read by the Chair on behalf of Headteacher Darren Roberts)
9. Any other Business

There being no further business, the Chair thanked the parishioners for attending and invited everyone to mingle and enjoy the refreshments.

The meeting was closed at 9.05pm

Signed by

Chair to the Parish Council, as an accurate representation of the meeting, agreed on