ARMTHORPE
PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD IN ARMTHORPE COMMUNITY CENTRE, WELFARE PARK, CHURCH STREET, ARMTHORPE, ON TUESDAY, 05 MAY 2026

PRESENT:

Parish Council Members: Councillors A Barrington, C Brodhurst Brown, A Duckitt, C Head, M Jackson, L Monks, T Needham, E North, and C Parry.

Sixteen members of the public.

Clerk to the Council: Sarah Youngman.

01 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27 MAY 2025

Attendees were provided with a copy of the minutes.

RESOLVED: To confirm the minutes as a true record.

02 PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

Councillor C Brodhurst Brown delivered the Annual Report.

03 UPDATES FROM LOCAL GROUPS

Markham Main Colliery Brass Band: Len Hodgkiss introduced himself to members and reported that the band had enjoyed a successful year, collaborating with several groups including Doncaster Ukulele Group, Doncaster and District Pipe Band, and a number of local singers. He advised that the band held their first charity event at Armthorpe Community Centre, raising £2,400.00 for The Hygiene Bank Doncaster. Expressions of thanks were extended to the Parish Council team, and a recommendation was made for a projector and screen to be installed in the main hall of the Community Centre. The group are now looking ahead to 2026–2027, with plans underway for The Last Night at the Proms event and Remembrance, and they expressed their enthusiasm for continuing to support the Parish Council and future public events.

Armthorpe Miners Welfare Recreation Ground: Tony Walton introduced himself to members and provided an update on the activities of Armthorpe Welfare Bowling Club. He reported that the group is preparing for the upcoming season of events, including the Ken Booth Classic, and noted that the club is currently seeking volunteers. He also provided an update on Armthorpe Welfare Football Club, which has experienced a challenging year due to flooding issues, drainage works are ongoing to resolve the problems. Despite this, the facilities continue to support a large number of teams and remain well used. The first team has enjoyed its most successful season in 15 years and is currently 15th in the NCL. The club has submitted a planning application to City of Doncaster Council for the replacement of the floodlighting on the main pitch, with the proposed new lights costing £72,000.00. Attendance at games has increased by 51%. As the club celebrates its 100th year, plans are being explored for the installation of a 4G pitch and improvements to the clubhouse facilities.

Armthorpe Community Theatre: Andy Barrington provided members with an update on the group's activities over the past year. The group had successfully delivered two pantomimes, a cabaret evening and an open mic night. These events are supported by a large team of volunteers who work hard behind the scenes, and the committee has recently appointed a new Chairperson. Thanks were expressed to the Parish Council Clerk and staff for their continued support.

SUPPORT Armthorpe: Colin Head informed members that the group is now meeting on a monthly basis, on the first Thursday of each month at Armthorpe Community Centre, from 11.00am to 3.00pm. He reported that the group has been running successfully for two years. Tony Walton agreed to display posters promoting the group at the football club facilities.

32nd Doncaster (Armthorpe) Scouts: Colin Tidmarsh introduced himself to members as the group's volunteer representative. He reported that the group celebrated its 100th anniversary last year and currently has 60 children, aged between 4 and 14, attending sessions supported by 22 volunteers. The children take part in a wide range of activities, including week-long and weekend camps, craft sessions, tree planting, and outdoor pursuits such as sailing and canoeing, with the group tending to steer away from mainstream sports. Expressions of thanks were extended to the Parish Council for approving the extension to the land leased by the Scouts, which has provided the opportunity for the group to practice erecting tents and lighting fires without leaving the site. Armthorpe Brownies also make use of the facilities, although the Scout Hut itself is underused and is available for hire by other groups during the day and at weekends. Colin also reported that new fencing has been installed on the land and that Albemarle Homes has provided a paved area.

Armthorpe Brownies: Two volunteers from the group attended the meeting and reported that they provide sessions for girls aged 7 to 10 and are actively seeking new members. They advised that the group recently held their first camping trip, which was funded by City Councillors. The group undertakes a significant amount of charity work and is focused on helping the girls develop new skills. They also noted that the group is currently seeking additional funding.

Councillor T Needham: City Councillor T Needham provided members with an overview of his work as Civic Mayor over the past year. He reported that his chosen Mayoral charity had been The Hygiene Bank Doncaster, with £35,000 raised through a series of events, including a curry night at Shimla, a civic gala evening, an event with Markham Main Colliery Brass Band, and a civic service. Armthorpe Welfare Football Club also supported the cause by wearing the charity emblem on their shirt sleeves. He informed members that the Mayor's Thank You Awards had been introduced to recognise individuals who volunteer their time within the community, and a special event had been arranged specifically to celebrate Armthorpe volunteers. Councillor Needham concluded by expressing his thanks to the Mayoress and to everyone who had supported him throughout his Mayoral year.

04 UPDATES AND QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A member of the public thanked the Parish Council for the excellent work it undertakes but expressed concerns, as a volunteer litter picker, about the amount of litter outside local schools. It was noted that the issue appears to lessen during school holiday periods. Councillor C Brodhurst Brown advised that the Parish Council would discuss the matter further at the next meeting.

A member of the public reported fly tipping in the Pittam Road area, the rubbish includes paving slabs and roof tiles. Councillor T Needham agreed to report the matter to City of Doncaster Council.

A member of the public reported issues with congestion outside the recycling centre on Armthorpe Road. Councillor T Needham agreed to raise the matter with Council members at City of Doncaster Council.

A member of the public questioned the 16.75% increase in the parish precept which is unprecedented. Councillor C. Brodhurst Brown explained that the increase was necessary due to insufficient rises in previous years and the Council's commitment to delivering several major projects over the coming year. These include the introduction of an in-house grounds maintenance operative and the installation of solar panels, which will generate long-term savings for the Council.

A member of the public raised concerns regarding the information contained within the traffic report submitted as part of the planning application for the Ladycroft Road development. The report indicates that Armthorpe's highways network is currently operating at 99% capacity. It was suggested that the Parish Council should lobby City of Doncaster Council to acknowledge the issue and implement appropriate changes.

A member of the public asked for the annual fun run to be reintroduced, noting that it provides a valuable opportunity for the village to come together and for local businesses to be promoted. Councillor C. Brodhurst Brown advised that the Parish Council's Events Committee is exploring the delivery of a village-wide gala in 2027 and will be contacting community groups for their involvement over the coming months.

A member of the public reported an issue with vehicles being parked over footpaths in the Tranmoor Lane and Winholme areas. Councillor T Needham advised that the Parish Council has established a Traffic Committee to work with agencies including local schools, South Yorkshire Police and City of Doncaster Council to tackle issues surrounding parking.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7pm.