

Minutes for the Annual Parish Meeting
Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council
18-04-2026

1. Apologies for Absence Apologies were received from Cllrs Brooks, Whatton and Simpson.
2. Introduction of Parish Councillors
The Councillors present were introduced.
3. Chair's Report for 2025/26

My name is Councillor John Crosby and I am Chair of the Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council.

Councillor Nicky Pulford (Vice Chair) Councillor Trevor Simpson Councillor James Brown
Councillor Rich Brooks Councillor Lee Whatton Councillor Rebecca Tinker Councillor
Christine Stone

The Council is supported and guided by our Parish Clerk, Sharon Ellis, who manages the parish finances and oversees the small number of staff.

These include the Lengthsman, Luke Mazers, and our litter picker, Justina Harper, both of whom are regularly seen carrying out their duties around the two villages.

At the end of each year, the councillors and Clerk scrutinise all spending from the previous year and carefully develop a budget for the coming year. This is then presented to Rushcliffe Borough Council for approval.

We are then required to hold an Annual Parish Meeting open to the whole community.

I am pleased to present the report of the Langar cum Barnstone Annual Parish Meeting for 2025/26.

As parish councillors, we are here to serve the residents and communities of both Langar and Barnstone, including the industrial areas within the parish.

The Parish Council meets every month on the second Thursday of the month, except August when there is no meeting.

Council meetings begin at 7.30 pm in this hall and are open to the public. Residents are welcome to attend, ask questions and comment on issues affecting the local community.

This was evident at a recent meeting when residents raised concerns about the condition of the roads in the area.

Support

We are regularly supported at our meetings by Rushcliffe Borough Councillor Tina Combellack, County Councillors Neil Clarke and Stephen Pearson, who represent different parts of our parish following boundary changes.

They provide information on events taking place across the wider Rushcliffe area. Their presence also enables us to raise matters of concern to residents at a higher level.

Parish Council Work Over the Past 12 Months

Planning

There have been 27 planning applications in the past twelve months. Each councillor reviews the applications, taking into account the views of residents and using their knowledge of the area, before passing the Council's comments to the Borough Council. This may include support, suggested amendments or objections.

These applications have included requests for new buildings, extensions to existing properties, industrial buildings, and changes involving vegetation and trees.

Anyone wishing to apply for planning permission is welcome to attend our meetings to discuss ideas and proposals.

The Two Villages and Surrounding Areas

The Parish Council has a responsibility to maintain and improve various sites within the parish.

There is a considerable amount of grass cutting required around the villages, and the Council appoints an external contractor annually to carry out this work.

We also maintain a number of bins.

A considerable amount of additional work is also carried out, and I have asked Luke Mazers, our Parish Lengthsman, to speak about some of his duties.

Sharon Ellis, Clerk to the Parish Council, will provide an update on parish finances.

Other Areas We Are Required to Look After

Churchyard maintenance Airfield memorial maintenance Barnstone play area and adult exercise area Works Lane field and the MUGA Regular safety inspections of equipment

The MUGA can be used for various activities such as football, basketball and tennis, and the skateboard bowl is well used.

Last year we installed the tennis nets for the summer season, which saw good use, so we intend to do this again.

The Parish Council would like to extend the use of the area and has applied for funding to add equipment, particularly for older children, teenagers and adult groups. We would welcome suggestions from potential users.

Local Support

The Parish Council runs a taxi voucher scheme supporting residents with travel to local healthcare facilities and shops for those without access to transport.

In addition, we maintain a fund for providing small grants to not-for-profit organisations whose work supports the local community.

Applications can be made by completing a grant application form and sending it to the Clerk.

One example of community support has been organised litter-picking events in the villages and surrounding area.

Parish Magazine

The parish magazine is called The Signpost.

I have asked Councillor Pulford, Vice Chair of the Parish Council, to speak about the magazine.

Email and Website

To comply with government regulations, we have recently changed all council email addresses to .gov.uk and updated the website.

This provides improved security for our network.

We would also like to increase the use of our email information system, so anyone wishing to keep informed in this way should send their email address to the Clerk.

Police and Support Officers

I have asked PC Matthew Pooley to speak about his and others' work in the area.

The local police beat managers and community support officers regularly attend Council meetings to provide updates and act on issues raised.

Where possible, they also hold a surgery at the Vale Market Café or the Welcome Space, where anyone can discuss concerns privately.

Parish councillors also attend or host the Rushcliffe South Police Priority Setting Meeting, held quarterly and attended by councillors, police and representatives from villages across the area.

Local Councillors

We asked Councillor Clarke and Councillor Pearson to speak about their work in the area.

Volunteers

We have discussed how we can expand the activities we support in the villages, such as events for younger people, summer fairs, markets and movie nights.

However, this would require local volunteers to form a group to help run such events, supported by the Parish Council.

If anyone is interested, please get in touch.

Once again, I repeat that the Parish Council exists to serve the community in any way it can.

We still have one vacancy, so anyone wishing to help should initially contact the Parish Clerk, Sharon Ellis.

Thank you once again for supporting us today.

Cllr John Crosby

4. Financial Report for 2025/26 The Clerk shared the financial report and advised that all documents are available on the Parish Council website.

5. **Short Presentations from Various Roles within the Parish**

Cllr Pulford gave a talk on The Signpost and outlined the procedures involved in producing it. Although it requires a lot of hard work and considerable expense, the Parish Council seeks advertising to help cover some of the costs. Cllr Pulford also asked whether there were any willing volunteers to support her, which would be greatly appreciated.

The Lengthsman gave a talk on his responsibilities within the parish, including maintaining overgrowth and creeping plants from Langar to Barnstone, taking responsibility for the wet area in Langar, and helping the Clerk work through play area inspection reports.

Cllr Tinker, who is part of the voluntary litter-picking team, advised that at the latest event 17 bags of rubbish had been collected. The Clerk advised that the Parish Council also employs a litter picker who removes a large amount of rubbish every week.

6. **Presentation from the Police Rural Beat Manager**

PC Matt Pooley introduced himself and explained that he had served as a police officer for 26 years. He said he was now working in one of the nicest areas he had covered, including Langar and Barnstone.

PC Pooley advised that his role mainly involves neighbourhood issues, carrying out ANPR checks, patrolling local areas and managing protests, although it also includes a wide range of other duties.

Residents can view crime information for their area by visiting the Police.uk website and selecting their location. He emphasised, however, that Langar and Barnstone are low-crime areas.

Non-emergency crimes should be reported by calling 101 or online. In an emergency, residents should always call 999. He added that there is also a new online chat service available.

A member of the public asked whether local police work with neighbouring forces and share information across boundaries. PC Pooley confirmed that they do and agreed this was the best way to help solve crimes.

7. **Presentation from Cllr Neil Clarke and Cllr Stephen Pearson**

Cllr Clarke introduced himself and said he had been a councillor for 40 years and Leader of Rushcliffe Borough Council for 15 years. He said he enjoyed supporting Langar cum Barnstone Parish Council as they are a friendly and hardworking council.

He was pleased to advise that Main Road is scheduled for works during this financial year, and potholes are also being addressed. C28 work continues, and he is requesting an update from Via on the next stage and completion dates. He also advised that LGO matters have taken considerable time and no final decision date has yet been confirmed.

Cllr Pearson introduced himself and said he was impressed with the residents' petition to get Main Road repaired, and that the person who counted all the potholes may have helped influence the decision.

He advised that SEN educational support has risen by 26%, with even higher increases in more deprived areas. He also spoke about LGO and confirmed that no date had yet been set for a final decision.

8. **Comments from Residents** Members of the public thanked Cllrs Clarke and Pearson for their support with the petition and were delighted with the result.

Although outside the remit of Nottinghamshire County Council, they were also thanked for the continuation of the local bus services and their reliability.

Two representatives from Tarmac were present at the meeting and were asked whether they would consider holding another open day, as they had in the past. They were open to the suggestion and said it could be considered.

Several members of the public raised issues regarding the Community Hall; however, as this is a separate entity, these items will be placed on the next trustees' agenda.

A member of the public was surprised there was no mention of Welcome Space on the agenda. The Clerk advised that this is also a trustee matter, but agreed it had been a very successful venture and that further funding is being sought for it to continue.

The meeting close at 12.45 and refreshments were served

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