

Yarnfield and Cold Meece Parish Council



Your wellbeing is our business

May 2024

Welcome

Dear residents,

It's April again, and for the parish council, this means preparing for our annual parish assembly. This year, it will be held on Tuesday 21st, May at 7:30 in the village hall. We will be serving wine, soft drinks, and savoury snacks, giving a short presentation, and listening to your ideas about the long-term future of our parish. There's no need to book; just turn up on the night. We look forward to seeing you.

In this newsletter, you will find a snapshot of some of the work the parish council has been doing over the past year. Many of these actions are things you asked us to prioritise at our assembly last year. As always, please contact the clerk or any of the councillors with your comments and questions:

- Face-to-face: at parish council meetings or any of our events.
- By phone, text or email to the clerk (see page 6).

With my very best wishes,

Sally

Sally Parkin, Chairperson.

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Parish Councillor—vacancy opportunity

We currently have a vacancy on the parish council and we are now looking for someone to join our team councillors. The main role of a councillor is to engage with local people and to hear their views; help make decisions on parish council services and projects; and to get involved to ensure services meet the community's needs. If you are passionate about the community you live in and could help make a difference we want to hear from you.

Details about how to apply can be found on the parish council website (www.ycm-pc.org.uk). Alternatively contact the parish clerk or one of the councillors. (See page 6 for contact details)

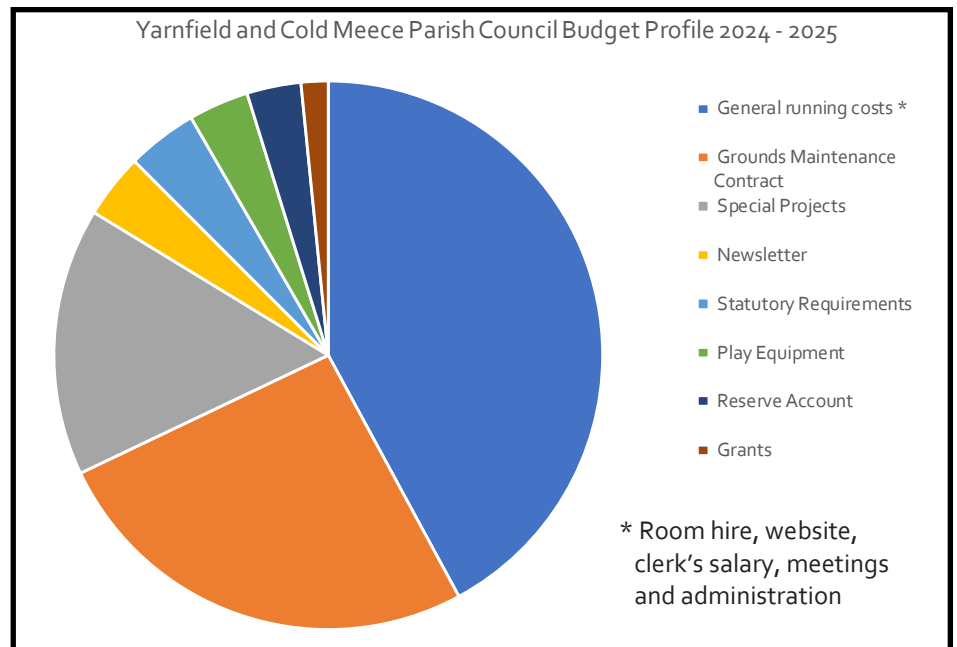
Christmas Party, 2023

37 children and their grown-ups attended the parish Christmas Party. Santa himself made an appearance and it was lovely to see the children having such a happy time. Many families stayed afterwards for carols around the tree: a lovely community event organised by the village hall committee.



Money

The parish council is funded by us all through the precept collected as part of our council tax. In January 2024 the council set a budget for the year 2024/5 for £31,354. To fund this the council will need to raise £28,332 through the council tax system. The parish precept makes up just 1.6% of your total council tax bill, which means that the average band D household contributes £33.46 per year to the running of the parish council.



This is significantly less than the average precept in England: the government has published information on council tax levels set by parish and town councils in England for the financial year 2024/25 which shows nationally that the average band D precept charged for 2024/25 will be £85.88.

For your information, parish councillor's work is entirely voluntary unlike County and Borough councillors, who receive a member's allowance for their work in representing you.

Neighbourhood Plan

We know that people care very much about our lovely environment and our friendly neighbourhood. We are grateful for your support for our Neighbourhood Plan. This work continues and we have now submitted a draft of our plan for early feedback from the Borough Council. Once approved by referendum, the Neighbourhood Plan will have legal standing relating to the built and natural environments of our parish.

Roads

We understand and share your frustration about the floods and potholes on Yarnfield Lane which have been causing delays and damage to vehicles using the lane. Your clerk and councillors continue to lobby Staffordshire County Highways and HS2 Ltd, presenting evidence and pressing for action to remediate these persistent problems.

We have met with the County Councillor representing the area, Ian Parry, and he has pledged to make investigations and get back to us on what will be done.



Parish Assembly 2024

Tuesday 21 May 2024
7.30 – 9.00pm
Yarnfield Village Hall



Come along to help shape the future direction of your Parish Council over a glass of wine and cheese.

Everyone welcome!



Labour in Vain

The Labour in Vain has not been sold yet and it is unclear what the owners intend to do. Yarnfield and Cold Meece Community Ltd is working with a successful local landlord to put together a business plan to buy the pub.

The government will soon announce the date of the last round of the Community Ownership Fund. It is hoped that an application will be made to raise the money needed to support the project.

The call for pledges to support the project currently stands at £64,460.

You can still help by making a pledge by using this QR code, or contacting the John Fraser. (See page 6 for contact details.)

Labour in Vain - Pledge Form



Bus shelter

We do not know how the bus shelter in Yarnfield was damaged but it must have been a significant collision as it cannot be repaired. We are working with our insurers to source a new, safe bus shelter as soon as possible.

HS2—latest news

Although the Prime Minister announced the cancellation of HS2 Phase 2 in October 2023, there is still an ambition in some quarters to reinstate the scheme.

HS2 Ltd has not yet removed its presence from the route of Phase 2a and there are many other signs that the company is hopeful that the project will be resurrected.

The Stone Railway Campaign Group (SRCG) continues to work tirelessly on behalf of our local communities, scrutinising the Department for Transport's plans, with the objective of ensuring that HS2 Ltd abides by the Government's decision without further delay.



Community Spirit


Almost all of our community based activities rely on local people volunteering a little time and energy. The parish council is enormously grateful to everyone who helps in any capacity, whether it's a regular commitment or a one-off kind gesture. We all benefit from living in a caring, active community; the more people who help out, the more we can achieve together.

We have two groups that co-ordinate community activities. Environmental and health projects are led by the Community Action Group (Community Committee of the parish council) and the programme of events is managed by the Events Working Group.

We always welcome new ideas and support, so please do let us know if you have an hour or two to spare or any skills or experience you could share and you want to be part of something good. There are lots of different opportunities.

Wednesday Lunch Club

The parish council is continuing to support the 'warm welcome' event that is now in its second year. The event will now be known as the Wednesday Lunch Club. Lunch is served every Wednesday from 1-3pm at Yarnfield village hall and everyone is welcome to join this friendly and sociable group. A small voluntary donation is requested to go towards the cost of providing lunch.



**Wednesday
Lunch Club**

1 May — 31 July, 2024

1.00pm — 3.00pm

Yarnfield Village Hall

Open to everyone, no need to book.

Hot drinks and light refreshments — soup and a roll, cakes will be served.

Come along for a catch up with friends and neighbours and enjoy a sociable afternoon.

Small voluntary donation towards the cost.

Yarnfield and Cold Meece

Events Calendar 2024

May

Tuesday 21, May Annual Parish Assembly
Village Hall

June

Saturday 8, June D-Day Commemoration - Talk by Shaun Farrelly
Village Hall

Sunday 23, June Strawberry Tea
Village Hall

July

Sunday 14, July Annual Parish Picnic
1pm - 4 pm on the village green

September

Friday 27, September Macmillan Coffee Morning
Village Hall

October

TBC Buy, Sell and Swap
Village Hall

November

Saturday 2, November Countryfile Ramble for Children in Need
Yarnfield to the Fitzherbert Arms (Swynnerton)
Start - Labour in Vain

Saturday 9, November Remembrance Day Event,
Cold Meece Memorial

December

Saturday 21, December Children's Christmas Party
Village Hall

Saturday 21, December Carols at the Village Hall

Parish Council Calendar 2024

15 May	7.30pm	Annual Parish Council	Yarnfield Park
21 May	7.30pm	Parish Assembly	Village Hall
17 June	7.30pm	Parish Council	Yarnfield Park
10 July	7.30pm	Parish Council	Yarnfield Park
16 July	7.30pm	Community Action Group	Village Hall

Contact details



Sally Parkin (Chairperson)
Yarnfield Ward
Tel: 01785 761553



Kirsty Treen (Vice-chairperson)
Yarnfield Ward
Tel: 07976461919



David Beeston
Cold Meece Ward
Tel: 01785 642424



Margaret Broader
Cold Meece Ward
Tel: 01785 760800



Stella Hughes
Yarnfield Ward
Tel: 01785 760818



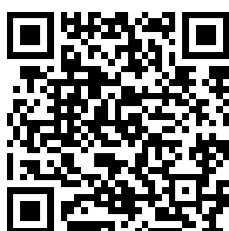
Ed Whitfield
Yarnfield Ward
Tel: 07368 952828



1 x Vacancy
- Yarnfield Ward



John Fraser
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www.ycm-pc.org.uk



@ycmparishcouncil