



# EYNESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Parish Meeting 2025 held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7.30pm at Eynsham Village Hall.

Under the Chairmanship of Cllr Ross Macken, Chairman of Eynsham Parish Council

Attended by approximately seventy members of the community including representatives from twenty-three local organisations/businesses.

## **The formal meeting started at 19:35 and closed at 19:50**

1. **Welcome from the Chairman** – Cllr Macken welcomed everyone to the meeting
2. **To approve the minutes from the 2024 Annual Parish Meeting, 5<sup>th</sup> March.** – These were approved and signed by the Cllr Macken.
3. **To receive an update from the Chairman.** Cllr Macken gave a summary of key topics:
  - a) Budgets – explaining rationale for increases to precept. (staffing, energy, projects) and how the council had been successful in attracting grants.
  - b) Councillor recruitment – call for new councillors to come forward to help the council deliver projects in the community.
  - c) Village Hall – work has continued to improve the venue including decoration, lighting, flooring. A new commercial grade kitchen will be installed in May 2025.
  - d) Aurora Solar Farm – The development included £30,000 community funding/ Eynsham Parish Council are seeking suggestions on how this should be utilised for the benefit of the community and asked those at the meeting to share their thoughts.
  - e) Art Trail – Eynsham Art Trail has launched and is calling for artists and groups to think about applying
  - f) Strategic review will take place soon.
  - g) Planning and Developments
    - Salt Cross Garden Village – on hold and awaiting a review of Area Action Plan.
    - West Eynsham Strategic Development Area – delayed due to junction with A40 bus route.
    - A40 park and ride and bus lane – money was now available to create the required bus lanes that would utilise the park and ride. Awaiting full planning application.
    - Botley West Solar Farm – planning application has been submitted, which will be reviewed by the Government appointed Planning Inspectorate. Eynsham Parish Council have registered as an interested party and expect the review to be in Spring/Summer 2025.
4. **Closing remarks and thanks.** Cllr Macken thanked everyone for coming and advised that councillors and officers were happy to take any questions

One question was raised from the floor regarding the 'connected' artwork currently located in the Market Square, asking for it to be removed. Cllr Macken confirmed that the final location has not been confirmed. Several other members of the audience supported its current location.

The evening continued with opportunities to browse the stands and displays from local organisations and businesses, and refreshments supplied by Eynsham Parish Council.