

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting

Date: 12th May 2026

Time: 6pm

Venue: The Pavilion, Tithes Lane, Tickhill, DN11 9QN

Present Chair of Tickhill Town Council Cllr Anita Johnson and Clerk to Tickhill Town Council Maxine Gravill

Members of the public; 22

The meeting commenced at 6:00pm

MINUTES

1. Chairs Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone and explained that as part of the Local Government Act 1972 Schedule 12, Part III every Parish must hold an annual Parish Meeting allowing parishioners on the electoral register the opportunity to hear what is happening in Tickhill and to raise any matters of interest that relate to the local community. Local groups and recipients of grant funding from Tickhill Town Council had been invited to share information on their work in the community and how any grant monies had been spent. The Chair pointed out this is not a meeting of Tickhill Town Council.

2. To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting on 13th May 2025

The minutes of the of the annual parish meeting were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.

3. Chair's Annual Report

A printed copy of the annual report was handed out to each resident on arrival at the meeting, and the Chair gave a brief overview. The full report is attached in [Appendix 1](#)

4. Ward Councillors Annual Report

Ward Cllr Jackie Dudley gave the following report to the meeting.

Since last year's election, we have been pleased to make steady progress on several local issues across Tickhill, Loversall, Wadworth, and Braithwell. Among the improvements achieved so far are the lowering of several kerbs to improve accessibility, tree trimming along Common Lane, the repair of potholes, graffiti removal, and resolving fly-tipping problems on Lord Scarborough's Estate.

We are also continuing work on several ongoing matters, including improving flood defences for Tickhill and the surrounding area, addressing a long-standing resident complaint concerning a football academy that requires retrospective planning permission, and exploring the installation of a pedestrian safety crossing near the Co-op, together with additional dropped kerbs in that area.

One of the most rewarding aspects of the role has been getting to know the members, residents, and community groups throughout Tickhill, Loversall, Wadworth, and Braithwell. We remain committed to working closely with local people to help address concerns and support improvements across the ward.

Ward Councillor Report from Cllr Martin Greenhalgh

Ward Cllr Martin Greenhalgh was unable to attend but sent the following report

Firstly, from a personal perspective, both of your elected city councillors are extremely proud to have been chosen to serve, united by a shared commitment to a role that touches every aspect of modern daily life and its ever-growing demands.

Nigel Cannings, a respected local resident, and Martin worked closely together for around eight years, building strong relationships with the parish councils and community groups across this prestigious ward. Sadly, Nigel's health prevented him from continuing in the role, though we are pleased to say he is now enjoying life again, and long may that continue.

Jackie, although not originally from a parish council background, has fully committed herself to learning and tackling the many challenges faced within the ward. These include dropped kerbs, speed restrictions, fly-tipping, noisy neighbours, funding requests, library clock repairs, cemetery water taps, collapsing park walls, environmental and regulatory concerns, along with the many varied issues raised by local residents and community groups that the city council may be able to support or approve.

Martin and Jackie's reports to Tickhill Town Council are not about self-congratulation. Their aim is to provide both a personal connection and an effective link with Doncaster Council — the authority in which, ultimately, we all invest.

Cooperation between residents, Jackie, and Martin as your CDC councillors is essential. We are on your side and will always do our best to explain what is, and what may not be, possible. Genuine mutual trust is the key to successful working relationships. Jackie is a long-established resident of the town, while Martin brings more than twenty years of parish and city council experience and lives within the Sprotbrough Park ward. Both consider it a privilege to work with Tickhill Town Council and its residents.

And finally, please remember to look out for your councillors' comments in *Tickhill Today*

5. Tickhill Community Speed Watch

The coordinator for the Speedwatch gave a report on the activities of the volunteers over the last 12 months. The report can be read in [Appendix 2](#).

6. Tickhill Community Library

A key Trustee for the Tickhill Community Library gave a report on the Summer Reading Challenge supported by grant funding from Tickhill Town Council and an overview of the Library's activities. The full report can be read in [Appendix 3](#)

7. Tickhill In Bloom

The Secretary of Tickhill in Bloom gave a report on the activity of the Tickhill In Bloom Volunteers and a brief history of the group. The full report can be read in [Appendix 4](#)

8. Bowling Club

The Secretary of the Tickhill Bowling Club explained about the Clubs activities and set up. The full report can be read in [Appendix 5](#)

9. Tickhill & District Local History Society

The full report which was given by the Treasurer of the Tickhill & District Society can be read in [Appendix 6](#)

10. Doncaster Civic Trust

The were no members able to attend, however, a report was submitted to the meeting which is attached as [Appendix 7](#)

11. Tickhill Scout and Guide Association

Two of the leaders gave a power point presentation on the activities of the Scout and Guide movement in Tickhill the slides from which can be seen in Appendix 8

12. Tickhill Together

Paula Thomas gave the following report on behalf of the Chair of Tickhill Today who was unavailable to attend. The report can be read in [Appendix 9](#)

13. To consider any other business.

The Chair gave thanks to Canon Reverend Paul Richardson and his wife for their support, commitment and dedication to the residents of Tickhill and the wider community during their time in the parish. On behalf of the Council, the Chair wished them both well in their new ventures as they leave Tickhill at the end of May and presented them with a bouquet of flowers in appreciation of their service.

There were no further matters or questions raised by residents. However, a resident asked for it to be recorded in the minutes that appreciation be expressed for the hard work and commitment shown by the Chair-Mayor of Tickhill Town Council, Anita Johnson, the Clerk, and all members of the Council.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 7:15pm.

These minutes will be presented for approval at the next Annual Parish Meeting, which will be held between 1st March and 1st June 2026. Notice will be issued to resident electors through the usual channels, and the agenda will be circulated at least seven days prior to the meeting.

Minutes Approved by

Position

Signed

Date

Appendix 1

Tickhill Town Council - Chairs Annual Report



ANNUAL REPORT – 2025-2026

WHAT DOES THE COUNCIL DO?

Tickhill Town Council, as a Parish Council is the lowest tier of local government in England. It represents members of the community of Tickhill, is responsible for local issues and acts as the voice of the community, making sure local people's views are heard by the City of Doncaster Council (CDC).

It is a statutory consultee on planning applications. This means the council is informed about planning proposals in the area, however whilst the council can comment or object/support applications, the final decisions are made by CDC not Tickhill Town Council

The council's only income is the precept and revenue from the pavilion. An annual budget is set and approved by full council each year which allows provision for supporting local projects, improving local wellbeing and offering grants to community groups.

The council does not have powers over Education (schools), Social care, Major roads, Housing allocation waste collection or any facilities on Doncaster Council owned land, these remain the responsibility of CDC.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Dear Residents

Please accept my annual report as Chair of Tickhill Town Council, in which I am pleased to highlight what the Town Council has achieved during the council year 2025/2026.

Key Developments and Achievements

Over the past year, the Town Council has overseen several important developments. Most notably, we successfully took ownership of the car park on St Mary's Road, along with the Community Orchard. These acquisitions represent a significant step forward in safeguarding and enhancing community assets for future generations.



It was particularly heartening to see so many residents attend the tree-planting event at the Community Orchard. This occasion was especially meaningful as it coincided with both Covid

Reflection Day and International Women’s Day. We were honoured to be joined by Sally Jameson MP, who assisted in planting both the Covid Oak Tree and one of the orchard’s fruit trees. In the years ahead, these trees will flourish and provide fruit for the community to harvest and enjoy, standing as a lasting symbol of reflection, resilience, and growth.

Community Facilities

The Pavilion continued to go from strength to strength during the year, with bookings now nearing full capacity — a clear reflection of its value to local groups and organisations. In addition, another room has undergone refurbishment to provide toilet facilities for girls’ football and other potential organised summer activities, without disruption to current hirers. This room will also be available in the summer as a small meeting room, further increasing the range of facilities available to the community.

Events and Community Life

A wide range of community events took place throughout the year, underlining the vibrancy of life in Tickhill. Highlights included the lighting of the beacon to commemorate both VE Day and VJ Day, events which saw strong attendance and heartfelt community engagement.

The Christmas Lights Switch On was, as always, warmly welcomed. The addition of lamp column lights and extra tree lights at the end of Castle Close helped to brighten the town and lift spirits during the darker winter evenings. The Annual



Carols Around the Buttercross attracted an impressive number of residents and visitors alike, once again bringing the community together to celebrate the festive season.



Also, during the Christmas period, it was a pleasure to attend the Tickhill and District Male Voice Choir concert. This was a thoroughly enjoyable evening,

with a particular highlight being the performance of *The Three Yorkshiremen*, which was very much appreciated by all in attendance.



In April, Tickhill Town Council were invited to officially open the Tickhill Art Group exhibition at



Danum Gallery, with the Mayor-Chair welcoming attendees and thanking all contributors, including artists, gallery staff, and supporters. The community-based group promotes artistic development in a friendly, inclusive environment for all abilities, which is reflected in the diverse range of styles and mediums on display. The exhibition successfully showcased local creativity, offering visitors the opportunity to engage with artists, exchange ideas, and enjoy a shared creative experience.

Council Business and Community Support

Behind the scenes, the Council has had a very busy and productive year. With numerous meetings, discussions, and policy developments, alongside continued grant funding awarded to community groups, the work of the Council has continued at pace.

We facilitated two CPR and defibrillator training sessions delivered to local businesses and community groups and intend to organise further sessions.

Grant Funding to Local Groups

During the 2025/2026 grant funding period, we were pleased to support a range of valuable community initiatives. These included funding for Tickhill Community Library's children's summer activities and reading challenge in 2025, as well as funds towards the repair of the iconic and historic library clock, helping to preserve an important local landmark. Grants were also awarded Tickhill Community Connections to deliver an additional event for vulnerable members of the community and to the Tickhill Scouts and Guide Association to provide additional children's activities at the Tickhill Gala.

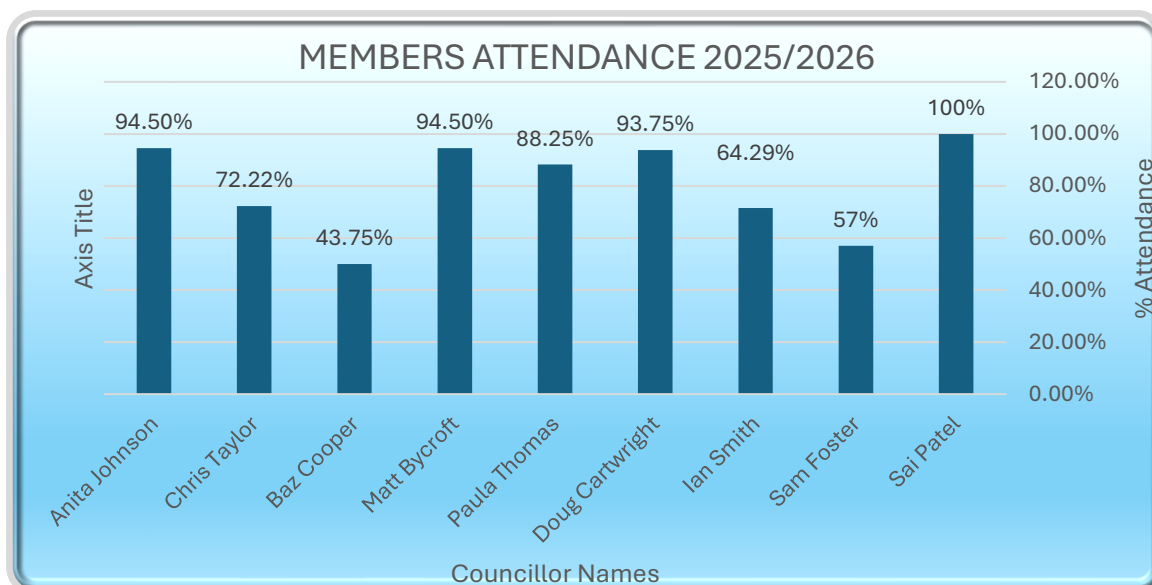
Awards

We were delighted to reintroduce our community awards in 2025/2026 with a fresh new look. The relaunch was met with great enthusiasm and showcased the incredible talent and dedication within our community. A total of four awards were available with three being awarded at the presentation evening on 12th May, including The Alison Award, the Group Impact Award and the Community Award, with strong nominations across all categories making the judging process particularly challenging. The high standard of entries highlighted the positive contributions being made locally and made for a truly inspiring celebration.

As I reflect on my year as Chair of Tickhill Town Council, I am struck by the extraordinary breadth of community life that continues to make our town so special. It has been a genuine privilege to serve a community with such amazing residents, volunteers, businesses, and organisations, all of whom give their time and energy so generously. Having proudly called Tickhill my home for over 40 years, it has been an honour to be able to give something back to the place that has given me so much.

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE MAY 2025 TO APRIL 2026 In addition to the Annual Meeting, there were 12 ordinary meetings, 2 Extraordinary Meetings and 3 committee meetings during this period. The average attendance was 80%.

If you'd like to find out more about the council, you're very welcome to come along to one of our



monthly meetings, usually held on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:45pm, we'd be delighted to see you there. The first 15 minutes of each meeting are set aside for public participation, giving residents the opportunity to ask questions or raise any topics of interest. Meeting dates for the council year May 2026 – April 2027 are posted on the noticeboard in St Mary's car park, our website and Facebook page.

Alternatively, if you'd prefer to get in touch directly, or if you have a project, you'd like the council to consider supporting or an issue to discuss, please don't hesitate to contact us—we'd love to hear from you.

Best Wishes,

Cllr *Anita Johnson*

Chair-Mayor Tickhill Town Council

Appendix 2

Tickhill Community Speedwatch

Community Speedwatch is a national scheme where communities work with their local police to record details of speeding vehicles. Tickhill works closely with South Yorkshire police who provide supervision and support including the use of a speed gun.

Registered keepers of vehicles who exceed the speed limit are contacted with a letter explaining the potential risks and consequences of their dangerous behaviour. Repeat offenders will receive a visit from the local police, irrespective of where they live. Potentially repeat offenders may face prosecution.

The Tickhill speed watch scheme was set up in 2023. It was initially set up to gather data to give evidence to Doncaster Council that road safety measures through Tickhill are required; i.e. additional crossings, traffic calming measures etc. Doncaster Council refuses to even consider road safety measures without data to evidence they are required, which we don't have without schemes like this.

The Tickhill group currently has 11 registered volunteers with an active core of about 7 members. There is a website that volunteers register with, this prompts an initial short training course which includes instruction on how to use the speed gun. The training is simple and straightforward and instruction on how to use the speed gun takes all of 2 minutes.

The locations for where the volunteers can stand and monitor traffic is determined by the police from a request by the speed watch group. In other words, we cannot stand anywhere we like. The Police will consider road safety for both the volunteers and drivers when signing off on a location. Tickhill currently has 8 authorised sites. Each site has a sign warning motorists that they are in a speed watch zone. These are permanent signs similar to those used by neighbourhood watch schemes. The design and usage is authorised by the police. The number of speed watch events is down to the group to decide. For Tickhill this is predominantly dictated to by the availability of its volunteers. Each session must have a minimum of 3 volunteers. We aim to run one event a week, but it is usually only 2 a month. Each session lasts about 1 hour and can only be run in daylight hours and not in the rain. This is for safety reasons.

Drivers are logged and reported if they are driving 35 or above in a 30-mph zone or 24 or above in a 20-mph zone. Each session is reported back to the police via the web site. Any incidents of abuse by motorists are also reported back to the police.

Stats:Tickhill - last 12 months

24 Sessions carried out

7439 Vehicles monitored

148 reported as exceeding the max limit

6 offenders on average per session

2 vehicles detected without a valid MOT

2 vehicles detected without tax

1 vehicle detected that was on SORN

Appendix 3

Tickhill Community Library

Tickhill Community Library is run entirely by volunteers. No income is received from the City of Doncaster Council. CDC provides the book stock, pays the utility bills and carries out building repairs, however the Community Library has to cover all other costs, for example everyday items such as printer paper and cartridges (£333 in December and May), pens, craft materials, cleaning materials, toilet rolls, window cleaning, plants for the garden, tea, coffee, milk etc. It also has to plan ahead for larger projects such as redecoration, new carpets, furniture and in the past refurbishing the kitchen and transforming the derelict garden. CDC will repair but not improve or replace. With the recent abolition of book fines by CDC, fundraising is needed even more for all projects large or small and the Library holds regular such events; coffee mornings, author talks, fashion shows, book sales are just a few examples. Donations from local organisations such as Tickhill Town Council and the Lions are a great help.

Possibly the most important library activity in the year is The Summer Reading Challenge. This is an annual national scheme run by The Reading Agency during the school summer holidays. Its mission is to encourage primary school age children to read during the holidays. This goes a long way to maintaining their reading level during the long vacation and thereby avoid a dip in reading ability at the start of the new autumn term. It is a sad fact that children (and adults) simply do not read enough.

It also seeks to encourage children to use/join a library and introduce them to a free resource that is always readily available. The Summer Reading Challenge always has a theme; in 2026 it will be "Read to the Beat" exploring how music and storytelling unite.

The Summer Reading Challenge is free to join. Children sign up at their local library, receive a small folder to record their reading journey and collect stickers and small incentives along the way. The Challenge is to read six library books during the summer holidays and if the child completes the Challenge, he/she will receive a certificate. The children may choose any library book to read, it is entirely their choice, it could be a cookery book or a book on dinosaurs, it doesn't have to be fiction. It's all about reading for fun. Children can read independently, with parents or be read to. It is a very flexible scheme designed to accommodate everyone.

For a number of years Doncaster Libraries subscribed to the national scheme and provided all Libraries with the core materials of folders, stickers, bookmarks, incentives, posters, certificates etc. However, in 2021, 2022 & 2023, the Doncaster Library Service devised its own scheme, which for numerous reasons was not a success.

In 2023 disappointed at the results in previous summers of the local scheme, Tickhill Community Library decided to follow the national scheme run by the Reading Agency. Going it alone involved purchasing all the supplies, which in the past had been freely supplied by the Doncaster Library Service. Purchases included the aforementioned display banners, certificates, folders, stickers, bookmarks and door hangers. The Library also purchased books to give to all children completing the challenge. This was entirely funded by Tickhill Community Library. The gamble paid off and there was a huge uptake in children signing up to take the challenge.

In 2024 TCL received a grant from the Town Council towards the cost of providing Summer Reading Challenge materials, the grant covered approximately half the total cost.

Anticipating a similar situation in 2025 the Library again applied for and received a grant of £500 for the same purpose.

However, after the grant was awarded Doncaster Libraries re-joined the national scheme and once again it supplied some, but not all, core materials to its community libraries, including Tickhill. Tickhill Community Library made up for the shortfall with the purchase of colouring books and books.

Throughout the 2025 summer holidays the Library, as always, held a number of events, including various crafts and Lego activities and these included a visit from the ever-popular author and illustrator Liz Million.

During the summer the Library always has a Treasure Map. The children receive a sticker for this each time they visit the Library. The map is almost as popular as the Summer Reading Challenge, children and volunteers have fun, lengthy deliberations as to where the treasure could be buried! The winner receives a book token.

At the end of the 2025 summer holidays the results were arguably the best in Doncaster. 99 children joined the Summer Reading Challenge, 81 of whom completed it. Slightly fewer children joined than in 2024 (107) but more completed it, (75).

The Summer Reading Challenge is something as a Library we feel strongly about. It is the highlight of our year and is primarily what we are all about, encouraging children to read. By visiting regularly children become familiar with us and the welcoming children's area we have created. They look forward to visiting the library and it is hoped their visits will continue long after the summer. The children love collecting the bits and bobs throughout the challenge, these incentives encourage the children to keep going. The volunteers give lots of support, discussing stories and authors and making recommendations. A great rapport is established between both parties, and it is wonderful to see. The library is working hard to encourage a love of reading. How many times do I hear authors say their love of reading began in childhood with visits to their local library, who knows where the authors of tomorrow may be?

The Summer Reading Challenge has enabled the Library to build relationships with both schools. As in previous years, at the end of the summer term I (Lesley) visited both primary schools to promote the reading challenge and returned again in September to award certificates in assembly or worship.

The grant from Tickhill Town Council has been a boon, allowing us to participate completely in the Summer Reading Challenge and provide effectively what is a fun filled summer long children's activity.

Ultimately not having to purchase all the items for The Summer Reading Challenge in 2025 as initially anticipated, resulted in a surplus. The Town Clerk advised that this was acceptable if the monies were subsequently utilised for the benefit of the children. Therefore, for the SRC 2026 we have already purchased 48 books and a map. We are considering alternatives to the colouring book and will need to purchase a book token for the winner of the Treasure Map, which will fully utilise all monies, albeit a little later than anticipated.

By sheer good fortune the national start date for the SRC, "super sign up Saturday", is often on Tickhill Gala Day, as it is this year and was in 2025, we will once again have a stall, complete with the Treasure Map, where children can sign up to take the challenge. Why not come along and see us and all the good work we do.

Hopefully I have demonstrated value for money! The grant has enabled a large number of Tickhill children to immerse themselves in reading, always a good thing.

Appendix 4

Tickhill In Bloom

The Secretary of Tickhill in Bloom gave a report on the activity of the Tickhill In Bloom Volunteers and a brief history of the group. The full report can be read in Appendix 4. Tickhill in Bloom has been in existence for over 30 years. It was created in its present form in 2003. Previously it had been run by Tickhill Town Council with funding from the Council. In 2003 a new group was formed that was a partnership between local residents, all of whom are volunteers and Town Councillors, two of whom were Trustees of the Group.

We care for the flower displays in 24 beds and planters all of which are owned by the Town Council. Winter plantings consist of around 1750 plants grown on by members from plug plants to reduce costs and summer displays of around 1200 garden ready plants. We have in the past received recognition from Doncaster in Bloom and have received two gold awards. We support Tickhill wide events e.g. the Scarecrow Festival and the St. Mary's Christmas Tree Festival.

Residents and visitors will see our members and helpers, wearing hi viz vests, kindly donated to the Group, with the words "Tickhill in Bloom Volunteer", at different times of the year, planting, weeding and generally maintaining the various beds and planters. We currently have 17 members/volunteers. As with nearly all voluntary groups we face the challenge of an elderly membership. In 2023 a recruitments campaign brought in 11 new members, seven of whom are still with us. Last year 4 long standing members were unable to continue. Thus, recruiting new members will be a priority and possibly difficult. If Councillors know of anyone who they think might be interested in joining us, Gill Hill (Tel. 743317), our chairperson would very happy to speak to them.

In a year we normally spend around £1600, the bulk of which is spent on plants. Costs since 2003 are met through donations and fund raising e.g. Cream Tea, coffee morning, Street Collection. In the last 5 years we have received a grant of £50 from the Town Council (Aug22). We are grateful for this support and are hopeful, that it will continue in future as necessary. Additionally, the Council continues to recognise the value of Tickhill in Bloom in publications and comments.

Although as you would expect finances are tight, but we are fully funded for this year and thus there is no crisis in the short term and so Tickhill can look forward to the colourful displays for some time ahead. However, we are not complacent. As I reported last year, we do face some issues going forward, for example:

1. The beds themselves are quite old and will need increased maintenance which we are addressing alongside the Council
2. Recruitment of new membership as referenced above.
3. Currently the country is facing economic problems which will not improve in the short term; thus, some donations may cease or reduce in amount, and our various fund-raising activities may well raise smaller amounts. If we can recruit some younger members this inevitably will cause difficulties in supporting fund-raising activities as such members may well be working full or part time.
4. We still need to undertake a full risk assessment of our activities. Of particular concern are the beds close to the Market Cross. We are working closely with the Council to resolve this issue.

On a more positive note, we are well aware of the reserve of goodwill in the village towards our group and are hopeful that particularly given our close partnership with the Council we can continue in the foreseeable future to help to make our village a pleasant place to live and visit.

Appendix 5

Tickhill Bowling Club Report



TICKHILL BOWLING CLUB

Report for the Tickhill Annual Parish Meeting, 12 May 2026

Tickhill Bowling Club is one of 16 clubs across the Doncaster area and continues to thrive with 64 members. There are different types of membership – the majority who want to play competitively, some who play non-competitively and a new category for social members. Membership is £60 or less and this allows members to access the green to practice or play at any time that the green is free, and to enjoy the new facilities. This amount covers our rent and cost of a greenkeeper provided by CDC.

League Matches Last season we had some unusual success with the Over 60s A teams, both Singles and Doubles, who were runners up in their division. Saturday's 2 teams in the Rotherham League also finished top of the A section and 3rd in the B section.

Partly because of gaps in the fixtures and partly because we had too many players wishing to take part, we had complaints from members about not getting enough games. So, this season we entered extra teams giving us 3 on Monday and Wednesday afternoons, 2 on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and 2 on Saturday afternoons. As a new venture, we have a ladies team playing in the Dinnington League on Tuesday mornings. Where we have 3 teams, home matches for the C team must be played in the morning.

All bowlers now get regular games; however, it is more difficult for Captains to organise as there are few reserves and holidays and illness mean phoning around for additional players. Each of the 13 teams has a different Captain and Vice-Captain.

Cup Matches Doncaster and District Bowls Association also organise a series of Cup Matches for which we enter 2 teams. First rounds are being played currently. This afternoon our A and B teams were drawn to play each other which was the luck of the draw. The year before last we did win one of these for the first time ever, however, as we're playing the very best players in the area, we are up against it!

Social Bowling There are sessions Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, Potluck Friday evenings and 3 fun competitions held on Sundays throughout the season.

Gala Day Last year we borrowed colourful plastic games equipment and opened the gates to youngsters and their parents who were encouraged to have a go. It was very popular and we intend to do something similar on Saturday, 4th July. We have plans to buy our own equipment for children and beginners. We already have sets of small, coloured bowls.

Internal Competitions In addition to everything else, we run a knockout competition for Ladies and Gents Singles and Mixed Drawn Pairs, leading to a Finals Day on the first Sunday in September. This is always an enjoyable day culminating in presentations during a substantial buffet.

Social Events As well as bowling, we hold a quiz and pea and pie supper each February and have a Christmas lunch at one of the local venues. This year in June we are organising a bowling trip to play the club in Old Bridlington and have some time to explore the Priory and town.

Community Asset One of our aims is to provide members of our local community with opportunities for a healthy lifestyle into older age. Exercise includes walking, bending, stretching and certainly plenty of fresh air! Friendship and social interaction is also a benefit for mental health. We try through our articles in Tickhill Today to encourage anyone to drop in, to have a chat, watch a game, have a cuppa, and hopefully receive a friendly welcome.

Appendix 6

Tickhill & District History Society Report

The Society was formed in 2004 to increase the awareness of and interest in the history of Tickhill, including local and social history in general. It is a flourishing society. Membership is below pre-Covid levels but at 82 is 10 more than last year. More visitors are coming as well. Attendances are in the 40-50 range; local themes attract the largest audience. The subscription for the 2025-2026 year was £15, unchanged since 2023. The amount for the coming year will be reviewed shortly. Meetings take place from September to May, generally in the Methodist Schoolroom on the third Thursday of each month. For the last few years, the January meeting has been via Zoom avoiding cold winter nights and potentially difficult travel. The Zoom meetings have attracted smaller audiences than those in the Methodist Schoolroom, perhaps reflecting the enjoyment members get from social interaction or unfamiliarity with the technology (Steve Payne provides reassuring support). We must recognize that speakers are increasingly offering Zoom options, which removes any geographical limit on availability, and a few (currently) are only using this. A sharp increase in travel costs could hasten this trend.

This year we have replaced outdated equipment, specifically with a new laptop and high-quality projector. We can now assure visiting speakers that 'it will be alright on the night'.

Our nine meetings have covered subjects ranging from the surrender ceremonies ending WW2 and the history of the Sheffield Master Cutlers, to lighter topics including 'white' witches in the 15th Century and the 'Swinging 60's' (our audience demonstrated expert recall of music and performers.) Our final meeting, on 20th May, features Mike Farley possibly the best-known King Henry VIII 'tribute act', in full costume.

We also support our activities with publications and the web. Members receive a free quarterly newsletter which includes our news and interesting short articles on a wide range of topics: for example, a full-page article about local gamekeepers. Since 2007 the Society has published papers dealing with aspects of history of local people, buildings, themes and events. The latest, 'Tickhill's Toll House', gives the history of this house built 1760-1780, originally to house the keeper who collected the tolls on the Bawtry to Tinsley turnpike. Currently, possible redevelopment makes its survival uncertain and, as the only purpose-built structure of its type to survive in Tickhill, TDLHS is supporting Tickhill Town Council in its response. History papers are available to buy from Castlegate Cards and at our meetings. In 2014 Carol Hill, in collaboration with TDLHS, wrote a comprehensive history of Tickhill. This 300-page, well-received book has sold many copies but can still be bought for £20 from Tickhill Community Library, subject to stock remaining.

Our web site 'tickhillhistorysociety.org.uk' houses several gems in addition to information about current activities. The 'Gallery' contains thousands of photographs, accessed via a well-structured index. I found photos of my bungalow taken during its building in 1972 (don't ask me why they were taken!). Also, of great interest is 'Living Memories', featuring recordings of people with stories from decades ago. It's a while since new memories were

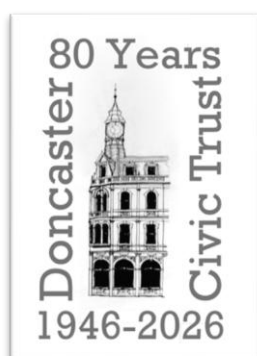
added and we have just embarked on a program to encourage more people to reminisce for posterity. There's plenty more, just browse the 'Articles' menu.

The Society has an extensive archive of material, documents, maps and photographs given into our safekeeping. Until recently they've been a bit of a hidden secret. This year we have launched 'History Mornings' in the library, held on a Saturday from 10.00 – 12.00 a.m. on a monthly basis. Please enquire about dates. Each session has a theme, possibly maps, photos, and publications such as the Parish Magazine or perhaps war time memorabilia. While a limited number of people come specifically to view the exhibits, they generally linger and leave knowing a bit more about Tickhill and perhaps their part in it than before. We are fortunate to now have the services of a trained archivist on a voluntary basis to preserve the materials to a high standard, and would also like to thank the trustees of Tickhill Community Library for housing this space-consuming collection

Finally, as our year draws to a close, 42 members and guests will head to the Richard III Visitor Centre and Museum in Leicester for a talk on 'The King under the Car Park'.

Appendix 7

Doncaster Civic Trust Report



Report to Tickhill Town Council's Annual Parish Meeting

Activities of Doncaster Civic Trust and Benefits to Tickhill

Doncaster Civic Trust has continued its commitment to preserving and enhancing the heritage and environment of Doncaster and its surrounding communities, including Tickhill. Over the past year, the Trust has organised a wide range of activities, including guided walks, heritage talks and conservation projects, all designed to encourage public engagement and a greater appreciation of local history.

Tickhill benefits from the Trust's advocacy for responsible and sensitive development, helping to ensure that planning decisions properly consider the town's historic character and architectural heritage. Through constructive engagement with planning authorities and partner organisations, the Trust seeks to safeguard important landmarks while encouraging thoughtful improvements within the parish.

In addition, members of the Trust regularly share expertise, resources and examples of good practice with community organisations across the borough. This support assists local initiatives such as the maintenance of public spaces, heritage interpretation and the celebration of local history.

Personally, I have concerns regarding the extent to which the Neighbourhood Plan will continue to influence future planning decisions. Preliminary government proposals for planning reform, together with the City Council's appeal for additional building land allocations, may have implications for areas currently regarded by residents as protected under existing planning policy.

Residents in areas such as Meadow Drive, Worksop Road, Rye Croft and Wheatfield Drive, together with communities to the west of Doncaster Road, may understandably believe that existing

Neighbourhood Plan policies provide lasting protection. However, potential changes to Doncaster's Local Plan could place increasing pressure on such protections.

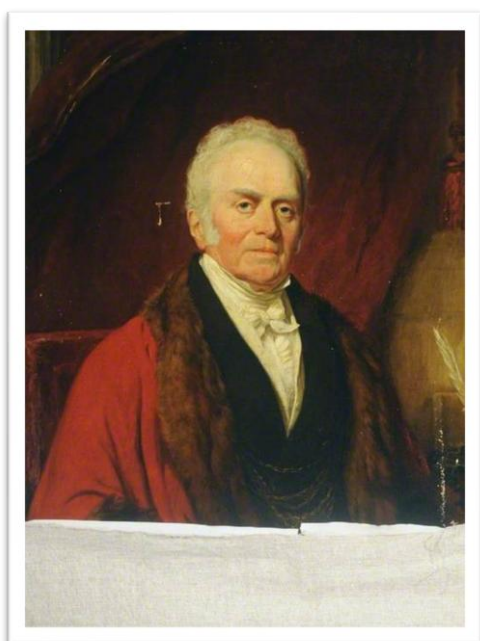
Membership of Doncaster Civic Trust also provides Tickhill residents with access to newsletters, lectures, visits and networking opportunities, fostering a stronger sense of pride, stewardship and community identity.

To date, the Trust has made only limited direct contributions to projects within Tickhill itself, although its nearest recent conservation involvement has been the restoration of Bawtry's historic Market Cross.



This summer sees the return of the national Heritage Open Days festival, which takes place throughout much of September. Doncaster Civic Trust continues to play a significant coordinating and promotional role for events across the Doncaster area, and this year aims to open more than 60 properties to the public. For the first time, Tickhill will participate in the programme, with the Parish Room opening to visitors for a special event day alongside demonstrations and activities involving Tickhill's bell ringers.

September also marks the Trust's 80th anniversary year, culminating in the unveiling of the restored portrait of William Sheardown JP (1797–1877), a notable Doncaster civic figure. The accompanying illustration depicts the portrait prior to conservation work commencing.



William Sheardown JP (1797–1877)
Portrait shown prior to conservation treatment.

Appendix 8 Tickhill Guide & Scout Association

Appendix 9

Tickhill Together at the Annual Parish Meeting 12th May 2026

Good evening all and thank you to the Clerk of Tickhill Town Council for inviting us along to this Parish meeting to update you on the last 12 months from Tickhill Together.

Tickhill Together's philosophy is to promote and bring together all parts of Tickhill's Community – businesses, residents, Community Groups and many other groups and organisations.

2025 was a bit of a quieter year for us not having organised anything other than our regular annual events. The last 12 months have seen continued financial hardship or challenges for many, and we greatly appreciate the fact that our events continue to be well supported by Businesses, Community Groups and Residents.

Scarecrow Festival

The weather was kind again last year for our Scarecrow Festival weekend held on 17th and 18th May with the theme being "Hero". The public vote was popular with more than 140 votes cast and more than 40 scarecrows on display. Last year we decided to donate any funds that we raised to a community cause, and we agreed it would be a Community Defibrillator fund. This seemed to encourage everyone to donate a "little extra" and alongside the refreshments, tombola, raffle and a games board in the Scout Hut – these all contributed to us raising more than £600.

This year's festival is being held on 16th and 17th May with the theme "Music" and the proceeds will be donated to Tickhill Parish Room Essential Repairs Fund.

Yorkshire Day

Yorkshire Day in 2025 fell on a Friday last year so we moved our start and end point to Tickhill Cricket Club. Given the different starting location, it enabled the "picture" based Treasure Hunt to be around a different part of town. The "tasty" pie and pea supper was provided by Fenton's and Lisa at Lotties. The event was well attended with nearly 50 people coming along and enjoying the evening.

Late Night Opening / Christmas Trees

The process of organising Christmas Trees ran smoothly again last year but the difficulty was taking the trees down in January. The wet spell over the Christmas and New Year period followed by a very cold / freezing spell meant that the trees were well and truly frozen into their holders when it came to try to take them down. We eventually got them taken down in the middle of January and Doncaster Council came to collect them at a rearranged date. Disposal via Doncaster Council is working well and we hope that this can continue.

For the late-night opening event itself, this year was the first time we had asked Doncaster Council if we could suspend the on-street parking along Market Place for safety reasons. In effect, this "doubled" the width of the pavement to allow people to watch the lighting of the Buttercross Christmas Tree in a safer environment and we think this worked very well with only 1 car being left parked along this stretch. The weather turned wet towards the end of the evening but none the less it was still well-attended and an enjoyable evening and all the venues and those businesses who opened were busy and offered positive feedback.

Contractor

John of Military Precision (and the Scarborough Arms) along with Craig have continued to do a great job putting up trees and flags and we are pleased that John has agreed to continue to work with us through 2026.

We have 50 businesses in the town who are participating in our Flag package this year.

Year Ahead

Looking forward to 2026, we agreed not to host any kind of event before the Scarecrow Festival as our team of volunteers take a well-earned break. Currently we are organising our usual favourites of the Scarecrow Festival, Yorkshire Day celebration and Late-Night Opening but we may also consider hosting an event in the Autumn. We are conscious that some Businesses are experiencing “slow-trading” at times and that the town is generally quieter so anything we can do to support encouraging greater footfall, shop local or increasing visitor numbers we will do.

As a committee, we meet each month on a Wednesday evening for between an hour and an hour and a half. Unfortunately, we no longer have anyone come along to the meetings regularly who runs any of the businesses, so it is this viewpoint that we are sometimes lacking. If anyone here would like to come along, then please feel free to join us. Alternatively, please don't be afraid to drop us a line via email or grab one of us whilst we are out and about doing a bit of shopping to give us your thoughts on what events you would like us to organise or what we could do to bring people into Tickhill and support Local.