



St Georges & Priorslee Annual Meeting
Held on Tuesday 20th May 2025 at 7pm
The School Hall, St Georges C of E Primary School, London Road, St Georges

Councillors Present: R. Overton (Chairman) R. Cadman, E. Dabbs, S. Handley, A. Harrison, S. Harrison, J. Smart, P. Thomas, R. Tyrrell

Also Present: Six Electors of the Parish, K. Southgate (Parish Clerk & RFO), C. Lane (Deputy Clerk), J. Ellis (Parish Support Officer).

1. Chairman's welcome

The Chairman welcomed all those present and opened the meeting.

2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 21st May 2024

Resolved: that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 21st May are a correct record. The Minutes were signed by the Chairman.

3. Chairs Annual Report It gives me great pleasure to present this year's Annual Report for the Parish Council. Over the past twelve months, we have continued to build upon our commitment to supporting our community, enhancing our environment, and ensuring everyone feels connected and included.

Thanks to the dedication of our councillors, volunteers, and staff—as well as the incredible community spirit shown by our residents—we've delivered a wide range of successful projects and events. I hope this report offers a snapshot of the many ways we have worked together to benefit St Georges and Priorslee over the past year.

Community Projects & Events This year has seen a rich calendar of events that brought our community together:

- Family Coach Trip to Barmouth – Our first-ever family trip was a great success, with four full coaches heading to the seaside in May 2024.
- Senior Citizens' Trip to Llandudno – Five coaches of residents enjoyed a day at the coast in August.
- Over-60s Trip to Chester Christmas Market – A festive outing in late November was very well received.
- Community Events included a Guide Dog Coffee Morning, raising nearly £200, the Macmillan Coffee Morning, and the National Big Lunch in June.
- In October, the Fish & Chip Supper was once again a hit, and our Christmas Party brought residents together for bingo and festive cheer.

- A 'Meet Your Councillor' event was held in July, with full participation from parish councillors.
- Remembrance Services were respectfully observed at both St Georges Church and the Priorslee Clock.
- Our Thursday Coffee Mornings remain a valued weekly fixture, now joined by the popular 'Warm Up Wednesday' Breakfast Club, which was extended due to strong demand.

Community Grants We are proud to have supported several local organisations with grants this year:

- St Georges & Oakengates WI
- Priorslee Rainbows & Brownies
- Crucial Crew
- 4All Foundation – for the provision of sports activities within the parish

Grants Received External funding also supported our environmental work:

- £1,000 Envirogrant from Veolia for environmental improvements.

Workers' Memorial Site Councillor pride funding in conjunction with the safer stronger team at Telford & Wrekin Council have provided landscaping and restoration planting at the Workers' Memorial site, located at the old WI site. This space is being developed to provide a peaceful and respectful place of reflection, honouring the contributions of workers in our community. Anyone wishing to get involved in this meaningful project is warmly encouraged to do so.

The Gower Project Work is progressing well to transform The Gower into a valuable community asset. This historic building is undergoing significant redevelopment, led by Telford & Wrekin Council, to create a vibrant, multi-use space for local residents. The Parish Council is pleased to support the project where possible and looks forward to its grand opening, which will further enhance the range of services and facilities available in our community.

Enhancing Our Environment Environmental improvement has been a central focus again this year:

- 43 Hanging Baskets brightened the parish during the summer.
- A Free Gardening Service supported 30 residents over 70, each receiving 10 grass cuts during the season.
- Flower beds across the parish have been carefully maintained.
- Regular Litter Picks with community volunteers helped keep our streets clean.
- The Roll of Honour in St Georges was sympathetically restored.
- Priorslee Clock also saw landscaping and maintenance improvements.
- New benches were installed at Redhill Ecology Park, and a new litter bin was placed on the Silkin Way.
- Parish Walkabouts with external partners and the Safer, Stronger team led to several practical improvements.

- Verges across the parish were enhanced for appearance and accessibility.
 - The Community Action Team (CAT) and Neighbourhood Enforcement Officers worked regularly across the parish.
 - A special thank-you to HMRC volunteers, who joined us to plant whips provided by the Woodland Trust—a great example of partnership in action.
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Online Presence

Our communications continue to evolve to better reach all residents:

- Regular newsletters were delivered to every household.
 - Our online channels kept residents up to date with events, services, and announcements.
 - We launched 'Not in the Group, Still in the Loop', an initiative aimed at reaching residents who may not use social media or be part of online community groups. This included outreach and craft activities for those unable to attend events in person.
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Other Highlights

- **Free craft activities** were delivered by the Parish Council at both summer and Christmas events organised by **St Georges Partnership** and **Priorslee Residents Association**.
- The **Christmas Lights Switch-On** was bigger and brighter than ever, with new light features and four additional string-lit Christmas trees throughout the parish.
- **Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB)** continued to provide monthly support surgeries at the Parish Centre.
- A **Falls Prevention Workshop** took place in April and was well received.
- In partnership with local schools, we held a **Dog Fouling Poster Competition**, with winning entries displayed on lamp posts across the parish.
- **Training & Development:** All staff and members completed **GDPR training**. Additionally, all staff completed **First Aid training**, and the Clerk completed **Safeguarding training** and continues to work toward her **CiLCA qualification**.

Parish Room Users - The Parish Centre continues to be a vibrant community space, welcoming a variety of regular users:

- Age UK Coffee & Craft and Knit & Natter
- Sewing Group
- Children's Councillor Sessions
- Singing Group
- Veterans' Fortnightly Model-Making Workshops
- Visits from the Healthy Lifestyles Team and Energy Advice Team, providing guidance and support to residents during coffee mornings

Closing Remarks Thank you to everyone who played a part in making this such a successful year. From councillors and staff to volunteers and residents—your commitment and care make our community stronger.

We look forward to continuing our work together for another productive, inclusive, and inspiring year ahead.

Cllr Richard Overton
Chair, St Georges & Priorslee Parish Council
20th May 2025

Electors asked questions or made comments as follows:

Allotments – thanks were to be given to both Cllr P. Thomas and the Clerk for publicising the allotments now available at Sunnyside Wellington.

Albion Street banks – concerns had been raised regarding the undergrowth on the banks at Albion Street next to the turning point. Idverde had been out to trim the front of the hedge but had not reduced the height. The brambles and undergrowth had put on quite a lot of growth and concern was that the daffodils will be smothered out. This area forms part of the Idverde contract and should not be done by the CAT Team.

TRO's – Residents raised concerns about the prolonged wait for yellow lines to be installed in Albion Street. It is hoped that the orders will be written by TWC in the Summer and the painting of the lines will follow.

The Gower - It was agreed that the Parish Council would put together a survey for residents to fill in regarding the use of the building. This could be done at upcoming coach trips as well as on the website and in paper format.

Youth Provision – Discussion was had surrounding the lack of youth provision in the parish. Councillors commented that the team at TWC Safer Stronger was looking into providing some sort of youth worker. With the aim of running holiday activities.

Bus Stop Priorslee Road – Residents had raised concerns about the lack of a bus shelter at Priorslee Road. This issue would be raised with TWC Safer Stronger Communities who removed the original bus shelter.

Dropped Kerbs – The lack of Dropped kerbs around the Snedshill area was causing difficulties for residents with walkers, ride on scooters and wheelchairs. Cllrs commented that replacing dropped kerbs was a TWC borough responsibility and that they only replaced around 10 per year across the whole of Telford.

Priorslee Flash – Footpaths were becoming overgrown with nettles encroaching them, this is particularly bad near the right side of the lake as you come away from the underpass, heading towards Wordsworth Way.

Hazel Way – Concern was raised at the state of the public footpath that runs from Hazel Way Sheltered Housing Scheme onto Priorslee Road. The fence has been left in disrepair

for many years. It was commented that TWC Safer Stronger Communities were looking into this.

The Meeting closed at 7:18 pm

Chairman.....

Date.....

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