



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

March 7th 2018
at Griffydam Primary School

About 48 people were present, from Griffydam and nearby villages.

Apologies were received from Sylvia Armiger, Ralph Forbes and Elaine and Robert Ward.

Chairperson's report

David Maltby reported on the previous year's activities. He referred to the various activities under the Group's auspices, and to its newsletters, web page and Facebook page. Griffy Well has been improved; we have a large information board, kindly paid for by Breedon Quarry, which will shortly be put in place. Local footpaths have been improved. We are expecting flashing speed signs to be installed in the near future. We are still awaiting a decision on traffic calming proposals for Top Road.

In terms of forthcoming events, David referred to the Open Gardens day planned for July 7th. There are also plans for a history trail round the village; we are hoping to get a grant towards the costs of this. We are hoping to produce a 2019 village calendar.

David finished by calling on local people to support the work of the Community Group, and to consider joining the committee.

Treasurer's report

George Denoon presented the audited accounts for the past year. The Group began the year with a balance of £631. Following various items of revenue and expenditure, this had fallen to £476. However, we may be liable for £250 in connection with the traffic calming proposals, which would leave our net funds as £226.

Both reports were approved by the meeting (proposed Roger Bisgrove, seconded Pat Maltby).

The Community Group's committee, consisting of David Maltby (chair), George Denoon (treasurer), Alan Robinson (secretary), Carole Bramley, Cliff Darby, Brenda Robinson and Brian Thompson, was reelected unopposed.

There was a break for refreshments, provided by members of the committee.

David then introduced **Trevor Stewart**, who gave an illustrated talk on his researches into local history. He emphasised the importance of local newspapers as sources of information.

Trevor described his background as an amateur historian and writer, and explained how his 'Social & industrial history of Griffydam ...' came to be written. He showed old photographs taken around the village, and more recent ones of Griffy Well, and of found objects – prehistoric flint tools, a clay pipe, a stone cannon ball, pottery shards and baubles produced in the area, and a plaque relating to the former Wesleyan Day School. He talked about the history of the old Waggon & Horses inn, and also that of Stordon Grange.

Trevor went on to discuss some of the effects of the 1802 Inclosures act on the area.

Census returns for the period 1841 to 1901 give valuable information about the numbers and occupations of people in Griffydam.

Trevor finished by listing a number of areas for further research. These included: census returns; voting polls; The area around dye house close, the fulling mill, a tenterhouse; the pottery and mine shafts; the availability of more old photographs; further investigation of baubles and pottery shards – someone needs to coordinate the finds.

David thanked Trevor for a fascinating talk. The date of next year's AGM was provisionally set for March 6th 2019.