

WENHASTON with MELLS PARISH COUNCIL.

CLERK Richard Day

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Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 24th April 2024 commencing at 7pm.

1. Chair welcomed all to the meeting. There were no apologies for absence.
2. The minutes to the previous meeting had been made available prior to the meeting this evening and in the absence of comment or query were accepted as an accurate record.
3. Chairman of the Parish Council gave a full report covering the activities and challenges faced during the previous 12 months. A copy of the report is available upon request to the above e/mail address.

4. Financial Report from the Parish Council.

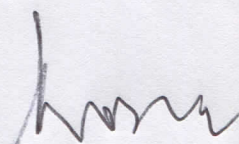
The financial position of the Parish Council remains relatively strong. Significant funds have been invested into the village infrastructure during the previous 12 months whilst, for the third year in succession, the precept charge to Parishioners has not increased. Funds currently held by the Parish Council total £45253 of which £32700 are specific reserves and £12553 are general reserves. (A full breakdown of these figures will appear in the annual accounts)

Funds allocated during the past 12 months include Play area repairs/improvements £2061, Donations to Village Hall totalling £8108 towards improvements to security, fire precautions and toilets upgrade, Cemetery hedge removal and replanting was funded costing £1332. In addition donations were made to Wenhaston Allotment Association £76, Wenhaston Village Show £250, Halesworth Dementia Carers £250 and Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. £100.

Repairs to both bus shelters in the village will shortly commence and funds have been set aside to cover the cost of this work.

This is an overview of the financial position of the Parish Council as at 31/3/24. Accounts are in the process of being finalised and audit will commence on 20/5/23. Full statutory information will appear on the Parish Council website within the prescribed timescales.

5. Cllr. G Leech provided a full report from the recently merged Wenhaston Charities, Pepyn and Lessey Trust and Relief in Need. County Cllr. Richard Smith MVO also presented his annual report and copies of the reports are available upon request to the above e/mail address.
6. Wenhaston Commons Group provided a full report of the previous 12 months work on Blackheath Common which had been undertaken in conjunction with Suffolk Wildlife Trust. A copy of the report is available upon request to the above e/mail address. Additionally, Wenhaston Commons Group will present their plans for the Commons work at the Parish Council meeting in either June or July.


21/5/25

7. OPEN FORUM.

(i) A request for a breakdown of specific reserves held by the Parish Council was made and provided. Full details of this year's position will be published within the Annual Accounts when finalised. Corresponding figures for the previous financial year are published on the Parish Council website.

(ii) Disappointment was expressed at the overgrown state of the Churchyard and graves. These comments will be brought to the attention of the District Councillors. Similar comments were expressed regarding the condition of the wall to the Churchyard which is likely to deteriorate as a result of vegetation growth. These comments will also be passed to the relevant agency.

Meeting Closed at 8pm

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21/5/23