

# WENHASTON WITH MELLS HAMLET PARISH COUNCIL

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Clerk Richard Day

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Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 18/3/26 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Present; Cllr. A Musk, Cllr. J Townsend (Vice Chair) Cllr. S Cooke, Cllr. K Canham, Cllr. G Leech, Cllr. T Cushion, Cllr. F Desborough, Cllr. M Wilkinson, Cllr. S Mann, District Cllr. Wakeling, one Parishioner and Clerk Richard Day.

1. Chair welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs. Stammers and Way
2. There were no declarations of interest.
3. There were no requests for dispensation to vote.
4. The minutes of the meeting held on 18/3/26 were proposed for acceptance by Cllr. Leech seconded by Cllr. Wilkinson and unanimously approved.
5. **CLERK REPORT.**  
Audit preparation has commenced and the inspection will be undertaken by SALC during week commencing 4th May. Statutory notices have been posted to the website.  
Agendas for Annual Parish meeting have been posted both to website and noticeboard and this will take place immediately prior to the May meeting.
6. No matters arising from previous minutes.
7. No County Cllr. report pending elections
8. A copy of the report from District Cllrs. is available from the Clerk.
9. (i) A representative from Wenhaston Utd FC explained the difficulties they are experiencing attracting players and volunteers to run the club. There is a real danger that the club will fold due to lack of support. A final decision will be made in May. Clerk requested that the PC were kept fully informed of all developments and stressed that should alternatives be forthcoming in the form of other clubs wishing to use the facility then this would require prior and formal agreement of the PC. (ii) Following discussion with Wenhaston Commons Group a suitable site for the memorial bench for the late Heather Phillips MBE has been agreed by Councillors, this will now be placed on Blackheath. Also agreed by Councillors was the alternative design following problems identified with the original agreement. There will be no cost impact. The existing bench at the childrens' play area will also be replaced and both benches will be of similar design. Cllr. Leech has donated a significant sum to the PC for the purchase of the latter which will replace the current bench which was in memory of her late mother and has been in use for over 30 years.

- 10. PLANNING. (i) Clerk advised members that the outcome of the call for sites by East Suffolk Council Planning Dept. has now been published. This is simply the start of a process and the notes which will accompany the information should be referred to in the event of any Parishioner query. We await further correspondence following review by East Suffolk Council.**
- 11. Annual Governance and Accountability Return. The Annual Governance Statement had been provided to members prior to the meeting for their review. Following proposal by Cllr. Mann, seconded by Cllr. Leech and unanimously supported the document was approved and signed on behalf of the Parish Council.**
- 12. Annual Governance and Accountability Return. The Accounting Statement had been provided to members prior to the meeting for their review. Following proposal by Cllr. Canham, seconded by Cllr. Mann and unanimously supported the document was approved and signed on behalf of the Parish Council.**
- 13. No reports from representatives.**
- 14. CORRESPONDENCE. None.**
- 15. RFO REPORT.**

**Final quarter figures have been produced and circulated to members for qtr4 expenditure vs budget and there are no issues of concern. The annual accounts will be prepared as part of the preparation for audit and circulated in due course.**

**Payments for authorisation this month total £ 1899.59 and balance at bank prior to payment is £43387.00. which has been reconciled to the spreadsheet figures and is available for member monthly audit.**

**The VAT reclaim for the financial year ending 31/3/26 has been submitted for £1851.86.**

**Report proposed for acceptance by Cllr. Wilkinson, seconded by Cllr. Cooke and unanimously agreed.**
- 16. Meeting Closed at 8.10 pm. Date of next meeting 20<sup>th</sup> May 7.00 pm ANNUAL PARISH MEETING immediately followed by PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.**

**(Agenda item volunteer recognition)**