

# WACTON ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

## 6<sup>th</sup> May 2026 Minutes

### at 5.30pm

Although this meeting is organised by the Parish Council and chaired by the Parish Council Chairman it is **NOT** a Parish Council meeting. It is a meeting for the electors to discuss matters that concern them in the village. Various groups/organisations are invited to give reports. After each report an opportunity to discuss and ask questions will be given.

4 members of Public had arrived at the start of the meeting

1. Welcome

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

2. To approve the Minutes of the last meeting

These were approved as a true record of the Annual Meeting of the Parish held in May 2025

Proposed Pete Fraser Seconded Freddie Boone

3. To allow non-electors to speak at the meeting.

No non electors in the meeting

4. To receive any apologies

Alison Thomas sent her apologies

5. To receive reports from: -

- Norfolk County Council – Alison Thomas

No report as the County Councillor is not standing for re-election

- South Norfolk Council – Kim Carsok

CAF Funding grant of £13,000 to Wacton was a great help with their woodland project.

Leisure centre upgrades at Framlingham Earl and Diss have passed planning.

Diss leisure centre will start construction in the coming weeks

Kett's Park in Wymondham is being look at for expansion

Wymondham Town Centre improvements after the highway's consultation have been held after the elections.

Community grants are around £1million for community facilities

£150, 000 in South Norfolk in Bloom grants have been approved

Food waste collections will start soon in phases

No changes to other bin collections

Field BESS not scheduled for planning as yet but when it does the district councillor will be opposing and she feels the officers will recommend for approval.

- Wacton Parish Council

The chair gave the following report.

He thanked the councillors for their hard work during the year. He also thanked the clerk for his hard work during the year and also, we have increased our numbers with a new councillor and all councillor's recently attended training with NPTS.

Really happy with the CAF grant of £13,000 for the woodland project and other areas around the green.

- **Wacton Community Woodland**

Funding has been received to repair the bridge and this will take place soon once contracts have been sorted at today's main Parish Council meeting.

- **All Saints Church**

### **Services**

As a reminder, Wacton is part of the Pilgrim Benefice (Aslacton, Bunwell, Carleton Rode, Great Moulton and Tibenham). We continue to have services on the first and fourth Sundays of each month, with a loyal congregation, and we always offer coffee afterwards to hopefully extend a warm welcome to all.

### Remembrance Sunday -

Our annual Act of Remembrance, which commemorates the fallen of Wacton and those who served from the village was again appreciated by parishioners. We mark all the relevant graves with a wooden cross.

Christmas Carol Concert - We were gratified with the response from the village for the much-loved Wacton candle-lit Carol Concert, which filled the church.

Finally, our sincere thanks to our rector, John Madinda.

### **Finances**

The day-to-day

costs of running the church continue to rise. Whilst we are extremely grateful for all the support we receive, income remains quite limited in the face of ever-increasing costs, particularly electricity and insurance. The monthly coffee mornings are an essential fundraising activity and the PCC would like to thank everyone who contribute cakes, raffle prizes and help and attend.

### **Events in Church**

#### Concert

We were treated to an excellent concert given by Leela Taylor in church last August which filled the church and was much enjoyed by everyone.

#### Quiz

We held a second quiz in March in the Village Hall, which brought in people from elsewhere.

#### Pop-up Dinners

A new idea came to fruition during the year, namely the concept of privately held pop-up dinners, which are a marvellous way of making wider use of the church.

### **Churchyard**

Dakota Sillett continues to cut the churchyard on a regular basis. Robert Maidstone remains an invaluable help in advising us on how to manage the churchyard. We know that more people visit the churchyard (and indeed the church), which is excellent, however the maintenance and upkeep of the churchyard is inevitably costing us more.

In this regard, the PCC is very grateful to the Parish Council for its valuable contribution, which has been increased this year, thank you.

#### **Lottery Bid**

As parishioners probably know, we did submit a bid to the National Heritage Lottery Fund. Unfortunately, this was not successful, but we have been encouraged to reapply. In the meantime, there are a few remedial works which need to be carried out and we are in the process of organising this.

#### **The PCC**

We are delighted that Jeanette Walpole joined the PCC during 2025, which has boosted our numbers and the rest of us are very grateful to Jeanette and Colin for all the work they do in keeping the church clean and spruce.

- **Wacton Village Hall**

A brand-new committee has been formed at the April AGM after resignations of the Chairman and secretary of the previous committee, with 3 trustees being re-elected along with 4 new trustees. The new Treasurer stated that she has not had a full and concise handover from the previous Trustee administration. She stated that we are about £2000 under predicted income for this time of the year from what information she has received. The hall has some way to go to get back to its normal state and has some regular hirers.

Finally, it was agreed to change the locks and new keys will be given to the relevant people. Also, a full inventory will be done asap, as well as the terms and conditions being updated along with the website which has many events out of date.

- **Social Club**

No report received

- **Wacton Coffee Mornings**

No report received

- **Speed watch Group**

The numbers are dwindling due to ill health and it is hoped we can get round and get at least 4-5 new members to join to ensure we have a full complement when we get moving forward

Any further reports

None

6. **Any other business**

Question raised on having solar panels on the roof and they are already there and on the correct south facing side of the building.

We ask that you keep your reports brief as there is a lot to deal with please

Thank you for attending

Meeting closed at 17.50pm