

# Wilby Annual Parish Meeting 2022

Minutes for the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 18<sup>h</sup> May 2022 7.00pm  
in Coronation Hall.

**Attendees:** Cllr Steve Lee (Chairman), Cllr Karen Collins, Cllr Robin Cross, District Cllr Julie Flatman, County Cllr Peter Gould, Clerk Julie Collett, 4 members of the public.

1. **Introduction and welcome by Chair of the Parish Council.**
2. **Apologies for absence.** Received from Cllr Ian Williamson, Cllr Rebecca Regis, Roisin Wiseman and Mary Pipe.
3. **To approve the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021.** Minutes agreed, and no matters arising.
4. **To receive a report from the Parish Council.** Attached. Appendix A
5. **To receive reports from:**
  - 5.1 Wilby School Appendix B
  - 5.2 Wilby WI Appendix C
  - 5.3 Wilby PCC Appendix D
  - 5.4 Coronation Hall Appendix E
  - 5.5 District Councillor. Please see [www.wilby.suffolk.cloud](http://www.wilby.suffolk.cloud)
  - 5.6 County Councillor. Please see [www.wilby.suffolk.cloud](http://www.wilby.suffolk.cloud)
6. **Public Forum.** An opportunity for members of the public to express views or ask questions.

Matters discussed:

Concern was raised re school safety, any action would be good. Accident waiting to happen. Highways may have moved enquiry to the School Safety Team rather than the Highways Safety Team. Cllr Peter Gould will consult a contact at Highways to try and progress.

Initial programme for the ANPR is due to be rolled out within the next month. 10 cameras but over 200 parishes have applied.

Good idea to apply for an additional site for a SID post nearer to the school.

Cllr Gould confirmed he had Highways Locality money available to help with safety measurers.

Also, we were informed that CIL funds are available in Pot 123.

A resident suggested using Wilby Green for allotments. This was doubted to be possible as it is common ground. Other sites may be more viable.

Finally the chair made a presentation to the clerk who was attending her last meeting.

Meeting closed at 8.25pm

Minutes signed as correct.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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## Appendix A

### REPORT FROM WILBY PARISH COUNCIL

#### Introduction

1. As the new Chair of the Parish Council I am very pleased to present this report in which I will highlight the most significant issues your Council has dealt with over the past year and mention some important changes.

2. Our last Annual Parish meeting in 2021 was conducted on Zoom but I am very pleased that we are now able to meet again in public. Since the last APM, the Council had regular scheduled meetings: in June, September, November 2021 and in January, March and May this year. In addition we held two extraordinary meetings to deal with planning applications that fell outside our normal meetings. We are most grateful to Wilby Primary School for making facilities available for our meetings on the occasions we were unable to use the Village Hall.

#### Planning

3. We entered the year with our new Neighbourhood Plan in place and to date we have not had to face any challenge to its content. The majority of the planning applications we have offered comment upon have been domestic alterations.

#### Wilby Green

4. In June 20221 we undertook a detailed review of the Council's policy regarding Wilby Green following an approach from a resident regarding its maintenance. We agreed that we would not change our policy position and seek ownership of this area of common land. We did agree however to contribute to the costs of annual maintenance by means of a donation towards the costs incurred by residents in grass cutting, ditch clearance etc. In practice no request has been made for funding support and the Green has been well maintained.

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## **Play Area**

5. We listened to requests of residents in Church Close some of whom were seeking a Children's Play Area for the development. Surveys were conducted and nearby residents views sought at public meetings. Unfortunately there was not overwhelming local support for this proposal and the owners of the land in question. Additionally Orwell Housing Association, were unable to agree the proposal even on a joint venture basis with the Parish Council. We thus concluded that we could not pursue the proposal further.

## **EV Charging**

6. An Electric Vehicle Charging Unit for two vehicles has been installed at the Village Hall for community use, the original installation being funded wholly by Suffolk County Council. The Parish Council has agreed to fund the monthly card costs and a maintenance plan for a period of two years after which a review will be held jointly with the Village Hall Committee.

## **School Safety**

7. A detailed consideration of possible measures designed to improve the safety of pupils and parents crossing the road to and from the school was undertaken jointly with the Headteacher. Following consultation with parents and governors, a detailed schedule of options was submitted to Highways. Regrettably the initial response was unhelpful and we continue to seek an on site meeting and hopefully a more positive response to our well thought through proposals.

## **Finance**

8. Our finances are well founded and we have not incurred any adverse audit observations. Our thanks are due to our Clerk, Julie Collett, for the careful management of our accounts in her role as Responsible Financial Officer. In the financial year ending 31 March 2022, our income was £6212 and expenditure was £4391. The balance of funds carried forward was £13771. Income was pri-

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marily the precept and expenditure covered the Clerk's salary and expenses and a range of regular donations. Our reserves amounted to £9530.

### Personnel changes

9. I would like to take this opportunity to mention two changes in the composition of the Council.

As your new Chair I took over from Ian Williamson late last year who unfortunately cannot be here tonight due to an unexpected personal engagement. Ian joined the Council in 2007 and became Chairman in May 2010 leading this Council in a professional and honourable way throughout his tenure. As Chairman he worked tirelessly, with an energy that belies his age, to research, provide supporting information and making contact with various bodies as necessary to guide and inform us and the Parishioners. I speak for the whole Council that we hold him in the highest regard and with great respect. Ian has agreed to continue serving on the Council and plays a very active part, including being a great help to myself as Chair where and is very much our corporate memory.

Robin has taken over from myself as vice-chair and though our roles are both fairly recent we are working together and with the help and full support of the other Councillors, Ian, Karen and Rebecca.

10. It was with much regret that we have received notice from our Clerk, Julie Collett, that she will be resigning from her post following this APM. Julie has been our clerk since October 2014 and has throughout carried out her work with skill, and effectiveness. Her procedural knowledge has been invaluable to the Council and although she lives in Huntingfield I have always thought that she has shown an interest in this village as if it were her own. She will be very much missed. We are currently looking for a replacement, in the interim Ian has kindly agreed to help with the clerk's duties where his experience will be invaluable. Our thanks go to Julie for her hard work.

### Conclusion

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11. I would also like to thank my fellow Councillors for their support and in particular the individual roles they have assumed. We are most grateful for the interest and support given by our new County Councillor, Peter Gould, and our District Councillor, Julie Flatman, regular attendees at our meetings.

12. We continue to have two vacancies on the Council and it would be really helpful to have these filled. We would like to see younger members of the community represented on the Council but acknowledge that they have busy lives with jobs, families etc. It is important however that your council is as representative of the community as it can be so that a wide range of voices are heard and influence our decisions.

13. That concludes my report from the Parish Council. I will be happy to try and answer any questions you might have.

May 18<sup>th</sup> 2022

### **Appendix B**

**2021 2022 news from Wilby Primary School**

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After once again experiencing school closure and lock-down in the Spring of 2021, the Summer Term at Wilby School felt much more 'normal' once more. Although we continued to operate our 'bubbles' system, staggered drop off and collection times and rigorous hygiene procedures, the children managed to enjoy many of the summer term activities that they usually engage in. Although our Year 6 pupils were unable to do their usual trip to London and they didn't get to do their trip to the Peak District, they did enjoy a fun-filled activity day at Thorpe Woodlands, we had a fantastic Pizza and games night and a perfect Leavers' assembly. Along with challenge days at Thorpe woodlands, all classes (YR to Y6) also took part in Sports day and Owl Class produced a brilliant version on the musical 'Ye ha.

The Autumn Term at Wilby School started really well with lots of new pupils to welcome on board. Because we had returned to mixing year groups we were able to have full school collective worship again (which we love) and organised lots of whole school events including a cake sale for the Macmillan Cancer Trust, face to face parents/carers evenings, phonics, handwriting and E-Safety training for parents, celebration assemblies and not forgetting our Harvest Festival in St Mary's Church in October which was packed with parents/carers and extended family members. Wren and Kingfisher Classes enjoyed a visit from Kimmy's Zoo-Kingfisher Class learnt about all how animals are specially adapted for life in the rainforest and Wren Class had to find out where in the world their animals may have come from. Both classes enjoyed their sessions and loved handling the animals. Owl Class visited Duxford at the end of November to extend their learning about World War One.

Owl Class took part in the Big Sing which is being organised by the BrittenPears Arts Foundation at Snape Maltings. The children learnt six specially written songs in school with lessons being led through online tuition and face to face sessions with choir leaders from Snape Maltings. They joined schools across Suffolk for a mass online performance on November 19<sup>th</sup>.

Also in the Autumn term, Spring Dance Company came in to work with all classes. During their Christmas Story/ Refugee workshop, children explored the story and its themes, and learnt to create movement in response. The workshops provided cultural and political context at the time of Jesus' birth helping the children to make connections between Jesus, Mary and Joseph's first journey and that of refugees today. This work on refugees and belonging will be revisited and developed in the Summer Term of 2022 when the children will be learning about and reflecting upon the plight of the people of the Ukraine. Our Music for a Summer's Evening concert (date to be confirmed) will be organised this year to raise funds for the victims of the war in the Ukraine.

The Autumn term finished the Wren class Christmas play 'A little Bird told me' and Christmas parties and a visit from father Christmas was organised for each class.

The Spring Term began with great excitement as this year marks a special event in the school's history as we prepare to celebrate 150 years since Wilby Primary was opened as a church school. To mark this special event we performed a special celebration musical which tracked the school history back to its beginning in 1852. Original entries from the school log book, and a variety of songs relating to the different periods in our history, helped the audience to understand the changes that have occurred both in school and national life since the school was opened.

Dressed in the Victorian clothes that children might have worn when the school first opened, the pupils performed for their parents/carers, friends and relatives on the 16<sup>th</sup> of February and then again on the stage at the Snape Maltings Concert Hall, on March 9<sup>th</sup> as a part of the Celebration of Schools' Music 2022. They were absolutely incredible and had a day that they will never forget.

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In addition to this, Bishop Mike led a special celebration service for us in February at St Mary's Church. Members of the local community and parents joined us for this joyful celebration of 150 years of church school history.

The Spring term is a busy time for trips. Owl Class enjoyed a trip to Dunwich to learn more about coastal erosion; Wren Class visited Norwich Cathedral to learn about the Easter Story; Kingfisher Class went to Stow Saxon Village and Years 4,5 and 6 has a brilliant a residential trip to Thorpe Woodlands.

We also welcomed children's author Amanda Kidd in to school at the beginning of March. Amanda led writing workshops and talked about her work with children in all classes as part of our world Book Day celebrations.

Wilby school continues to thrive, pupil numbers have risen and despite the disruption caused by high staff and pupil Covid absences in the Spring Term, the future continues to look bright for our little primary school

Roisin Wiseman (Headteacher)

### **Appendix C**

#### **Wilby WI**

The WI is thriving with new members giving a membership of 40.

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We have many visiting speakers, and have a monthly informative newsletter.

The WI is very creative with craft clubs and book clubs.

Ladies come from Dennington and Stradbroke as well as Brundish and Wilby.

Draft

**Appendix D**

**St Mary's Church Wilby Report 2022**



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Some of last year continued to be spent in lock-down, with restrictions still in place. When we were allowed to open for public worship, we did hold some services with social distancing, face masks and no singing. Normal patterns of services have now resumed and it is wonderful to be able to meet together and sing again, the carol service was a particular highlight. Our Friday Celtic morning and Wednesday evening prayer services continue on zoom and are well attended. This year we also ran Lent and Advent courses which were much appreciated.

We are planning to start our Drop-in again soon. Also plans are in place for some fund raising events in the future.

Once again we have managed to pay our Parish Share in full which is a wonderful achievement. This is paid to the Diocese and goes towards the priest's salary and other central church expenses. On top of this we have to pay large amounts of money just to upkeep, insure and run this beautiful building.

We have strong links with the school and they usually come to the church for their Christmas and Harvest services. Also they often visit the church for other activities throughout the year either as part of their collective worship or as part of their studies.

Our churchyard as always is well maintained and this is down to the hard work of a small band of people in the village who help with grass cutting, strimming, hedge cutting, tidying and sweeping up the leaves. We are most grateful to them all and if you want to get involved please contact either of the churchwardens.

Finally thank you to those in the village who support us in so many different ways. We hope that we will continue to receive this support in the future – the church is here for you and we need your support.

2022 will be a year of change for us as in April we said goodbye to Revd David Burrell who has retired and moved to Somerset.

### Appendix E

#### WILBY VILLAGE REPORT

The hall was re-opened following the Covid pandemic in September 2021. Regular bookings have picked up including the Yoga classes and LK's School of Dance. We have introduced Foodie Pub

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Nights on the first Friday of the month and Pizza Pub Nights on the third Friday of the month in collaboration with 'The Coconut Monkey' and 'The Suffolk Wild Flour Pizza Bar'. Several private bookings have been made celebrating birthdays, weddings, baby shower and craft fairs.

Wilby village hall has also hosted other Pool Teams from the local league who lost their tables during the pandemic. The pool league continues to attract local people to the hall from surrounding villages, and we have hosted a singles and doubles tournament this season. We have planned two 'summer' tournaments, one in May and the second in September. The pool nights have been again a success and will restart in October.

The Six Nations screenings proved to be very popular along with the Grand National screening, and it is hoped that the hall will screen England World Cup matches later in the year.

The hall is undergoing a Fire Safety upgrade in response to the visit and inspection from the Suffolk Fire Service. This will involve a risk assessment and most likely a refit of equipment, as the hall was deemed unfit as use as a designated emergency centre by Suffolk Fire Service.

The hall has been fitted with Electric Vehicle chargers via a PC initiative, this is currently up and running.

The hall has been blighted with additional costs caused by the treatment plant failures(2), solar battery failures and other electrical issues. The treatment plant issues have now been resolved but the solar battery issues are ongoing.

The hall daily running costs have now increased due to the soaring cost of energy, and a tariff review was carried out and implemented from January 2022.

We continue to update the facilities available in the hall, two new ovens have been purchased, along with a new kitchen water heater and two plate/food warmers.

We have secured a Locality Grant to assist in the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations and have been pleased to collaborate with Brundish village hall and the WI in organising events.

We are always grateful to our local residents who support the committee in maintaining the hall facilities, special thanks go to Robin Cross for assisting with the AV cabinet upgrade, Richard Woolgrove for resolving the electrical issues and offering help and advice on the treatment plant issues, Tony Shearman for his assistance with maintenance tasks.

Thanks also go to our committee for their continued support and help in ensuring that we provide a comfortable, safe and appealing venue for many social gatherings.

Alison Taylor - Wilby Village Hall Chair.