

# Wickham St Pauls Parish Council

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY  
OF WICKHAM ST PAULS PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON TUESDAY 19<sup>th</sup> MAY 2022 AT 7.00PM  
AT THE VILLAGE HALL

\*\*\*\*\*

**Present:** Cllr. D. Stokes, Cllr. M. Cooper  
**Parish Clerk:** Mrs D. Jacob  
**Apologies:** Cllr. J. Brewer, Cllr. P. Snazell and Cllr. I. Ward  
**Also Present:** Forty-two members of public present and invited guest speakers

\*\*\*\*\*

22/0001	CHAIRMAN	Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly meeting held on 22 <sup>nd</sup> . May 2019, already confirmed and approved/signed at the Parish Council meeting held on 30 <sup>th</sup> . July 2019. No annual parish assembly meetings have taken place until now owing to Covid.
22/0002	CHAIRMAN	<b>CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR WICKHAM ST. PAULS 2021/2022.</b> Cllr. D. Stokes read out the Chairman's report - see attached Chairman's Report.
22/0003	ALL MEMBERS	<b>GUEST SPEAKERS</b> Bowls Club Church of All Saints – Church Warden The Look Out Magazine Cricket Club Village Hall Management Committee WI – Report read by WI Chairman Wickham St Pauls Consolidated Trust  This was a very informal meeting, and reports were read out by Guest Speakers/Representatives of the above organisations, outlining their activities, and events throughout the year.
22/0004	ALL MEMBERS	<b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/ QUESTION &amp; ANSWER SESSION</b> Various questions were asked throughout item 22/0003.
22/0005	ALL MEMBERS	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING - ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY</b> To take place from 1 <sup>st</sup> March -1 <sup>st</sup> June 2023 – This to be confirmed and arranged by Wickham St Pauls Parish Council. The meeting closed at 7.45pm

## Item 22/0002

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

#### May 2020 – April 2022

##### Membership.

At the start of the 2020 financial year we had a full complement of six Councillors, during the year we were sad to lose two councillors, Bev Trew and Dave Sear, but were pleased to be joined by Paul Snazell and Ian Ward, so we did have a full council. During 2021 we were sad to lose Angela Johnston and as yet have not found a replacement, so there is a vacancy if you wish to join us. Our Clerk, Diane Jacob, continues to guide us and keep us in-check and her knowledge is invaluable.

##### Meetings.

The Parish Council met six times during each year for general meetings and because of Covid-19, we had some meetings via Zoom. Our meetings have been attended whenever possible by our

District Councillor Wendy Scattergood, who represents our interests at District level and County Councillor David Finch, Leader of Essex County Council, our thanks and appreciation to them.

David Finch had decided not to go for re-election on the 6<sup>th</sup>. May 2021, so he will no longer be our Leader of the Essex County Council. On behalf of the Parish Council and I'm sure on behalf of all or residents, may we take this opportunity to thank David for his help and support over many years and that he will enjoyed a well deserved retirement. Our new E.C.C. Councillor is Peter Schwier and we look forward receiving his support.

### **Acknowledgments.**

I'll start off by thanking all our residents, committees, social groups, our volunteers and contributors, I can't name them all otherwise it'll sound like a Meryl Streep Oscar acceptance speech! Anyway, you know who you are, so on behalf of the Parish Council, thank you.

### **What's happened over the last two year.**

We were very active (*as usual*) and here are some of the main projects we undertook:

Reinstalled the Victorian village pump on the corner of the Green.

Planted five trees on the Green to do our bit to fight climate change.

Planted a Christmas tree near the flag pole and then a second one near the Village Hall. They will look spectacular with illuminated and at 30 foot high (*please be patient*).

Completed the Historical Nature Trail, which is now up and running. There are booklets available, (free of charge), for residents and visitors if you would like one.

Replaced the stainless steel slide for one with a longer run-off, which is safer.

Replaced the safety surface beneath the swings.

Enhanced the Village Hall pond by clearing the brambles and installing planters.

### **Although not projects as such, we also:-**

Reported and pursued issues of our public footpaths.

Continue working with Essex Highways over the traffic issues at Long Gardens A131.

Maintained the village assets by preserving and painting benches and equipment.

### **General.**

We now have a **Fireworks Committee** comprising of Tina Humphreys, Peter Trew. Martin Cooper and myself with sufficient funds raised previously by Tina and Martin Humphreys to keep our fireworks night alive, certainly for the next 3-years. Whilst it's free to attend, donations would be appreciated so we can continue to finance the event.

Our Handyman, Lee Sear, (funded by the Essex Association of Local Councils), is kept busy maintaining the Parish Council (your) assets.

Our village green is kept in first class condition by the Cricket Club, who look after our green and the W.I. and lots of volunteers do regular litter picks around the village.

Our defibrillator, sited on the Victory Inn wall, is maintained by the Parish Council. We decided not to fund raise for its upkeep as other Parishes do, because in fairness it is available to all residents. We felt that fund raising for the defib' would also divert funds going to the Church and Village Hall.

Our flag flying continues and we have some 27 different flags for recognising special occasions. We fly the W. St. P. flag to celebration the lady and gentleman of the village who have had the most

birthdays. Since March of this year (2022), we have flown the Ukraine flag in support of their people who are suffering at the moment.

The Village Hall have been busy with their continuing refurbishment, which includes new toilets incorporating a disabled facility, decorating the main hall, refurbishing the hall floor, purchasing new tables and chairs and blinds for the main hall. There is more information about their works in the Look-Out magazine.

Our Christmas tree lights switch-on was performed by Bertie and Kit Brooking and what a great evening it was with over 70 residents, including 14 children, joining in. We had mince pies courtesy of the W.I., mulled wine and mulled Vimto. The highlight was the visit from Father Christmas.

Regular activities include Bowls Club, New Age Kurling, Dog Obedience Training, Soup and Cake, Church Lunches, Crafty Women at Spencer's, W.I. talks and events, cricket and a variety of other social events including quizzes and Race Nights. We have five 'Wickham Chapter' members of the Belchamp Morris and if you like good exercise and great company, do join them, musicians and dancers all welcomed.

Our Welcome pack continues to be a success and we have presented copies to newcomers, copies are also available to all residents free of charge. Our grateful thanks to Pam for keeping it updated and printing them.

### **Wickham St. Pauls Parish Council Responsibilities:**

Our duties include maintaining the assets and land we own, (The Green), local planning advisory and supporting concerns and projects of residents. Your initial contact ideally is with your Parish Clerk, but your Councillors are always there to offer assistance where we can.

Our continued thanks to all our residents who do contact us direct with their concerns and suggestions and we will continue to address them to the best of our ability.

Clerk:	Diane Jacob, 07907 631172	<a href="mailto:parishclerk@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org">parishclerk@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org</a>
Chairman:	Derek Stokes tel: 269284	<a href="mailto:derekstokes@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org">derekstokes@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org</a>
Vice-Chairman:	Martin Cooper tel: 269236	<a href="mailto:martinfooper@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org">martinfooper@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org</a>
Councillor:	Janice Barlow	<a href="mailto:janicebarlow@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org">janicebarlow@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org</a>
Councillor:	Paul Snazell	<a href="mailto:paulsnazell@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org">paulsnazell@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org</a>
Councillor:	Ian Ward	<a href="mailto:ianward@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org">ianward@wickhamstpaulsparishcouncil.org</a>

Wickham St Pauls Parish Council website: [www.e-voice.org.uk/wickham-st-pauls](http://www.e-voice.org.uk/wickham-st-pauls)

### **Braintree District Council Responsibilities:**

Some of the services they provide include refuse and recycling collections, street cleaning, enforcing environmental and other legislation, planning applications.

Website:	<a href="http://www.braintree.gov.uk">www.braintree.gov.uk</a>
Address:	Braintree District Council, Causeway House, Bocking End, Braintree.CM7 9HB
Tel:	01376 552525
Email:	<a href="mailto:csc@braintree.gov.uk">csc@braintree.gov.uk</a>

Your Ward Councillor for Stour Valley South is Mrs Wendy Scattergood.

Tel:	01787 267800
Email:	<a href="mailto:cllr.wscattergood@braintree.gov.uk">cllr.wscattergood@braintree.gov.uk</a>

### **Essex County Council Responsibilities:**

Some of the services they provide include Highways, traffic management, libraries, adult and social care, education.

Your County Councillor is Peter Schwier

cllr.peter.schwier@**essex**.gov.uk. **Tel No.:** 01787 460473. **Essex** County **Council**, County Hall, 08457 430430, e-mail: **contact@essex.gov.uk**. Chelmsford. **Essex**. County Councillor.

Website: [www.essex.gov.uk](http://www.essex.gov.uk)  
Tel: 0345 743 0430  
Email: [contact@essex.gov.uk](mailto:contact@essex.gov.uk)

**Westminster Member of Parliament** is Mr James Cleverly MP

Email: [james.cleverly.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:james.cleverly.mp@parliament.uk)  
Address: House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

or

Braintree Conservatives Association Office:  
Suite 11, The Centre, Lakes Industrial Park, Braintree, Essex CM7 3RU

**Your Local Police Contact**

PC 3655 Craig Wheeler  
Essex Police -C shift  
Community Policing Team - Braintree  
Phone 101 ext 400155 email: [Craig.Wheeler@essex.police.uk](mailto:Craig.Wheeler@essex.police.uk)