

WHISSONSSETT PARISH COUNCIL
Chairman: Cllr Sally Dye

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 24th May 2018 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Cllr Sally Dye (Chair)
Cllr Bruce Andrews (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Graham Buckley
Cllr Caroline Edge
Cllr James Daniels

Three members of the public.
Sheryl Irving (Clerk)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from District Councillor Trevor Carter.

2. To confirm the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in May 2017.

Cllr Dye proposed acceptance of the minutes of the meeting held on 25th May 2017, this was seconded by Cllr Daniels and unanimously agreed. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman.

3. To receive reports from District Councillor and County Councillors.

In the absence of either Councillor, a written report was circulated (copies attached). A query was raised regarding funding availability for upgrading kitchens in village halls. D/Cllr Carter will be approached for further information.

4. To receive a report from the Chairman of the Parish Council.

A copy of the Chairman's report is attached. There were no questions.

5. To receive reports from Village Clubs and organisations

a) Carpet Bowls Club

A report was received from the Carpet Bowls Club (copy attached).

b) Women's Group

A report was received from the Womens' Group (copy attached).

c) Brisley & Whissonsett Age UK

A report was received from the Age UK Group (copy attached).

d) Village Hall Committee

A report was received from the Village Hall Committee (copy attached).

The representative stressed how difficult it was to recruit volunteers to the committee and it was becoming increasingly difficult to keep the hall open – anyone wishing to assist is very welcome to contact a member of the committee for further information.

e) 100 Club

A report was received from the 100 Club (copy attached).

f) 2010 Group

A report was received from the 2010 Group (copy attached).

g) Parochial Church Council

A report was received from the Parochial Church Council (copy attached).

h) Horticultural Society

A report was received from the Horticultural Society (copy attached).

6. Parish Council Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2018.

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Parish Council were in the fortunate position of being financially secure. However, there were some major works planned for the year with repairs to the Play Area and works to the trees in Church Lane.

A copy of the end of year statement is attached.

7. Questions to Councillors.

A query was raised regarding the weed spraying – it had been done and then rained on very shortly afterwards which would not be effective. Parts of the church did not appear to be looked after and the Council will check the contract to see what should be done.

A query was raised regarding the pigeons on the play equipment – the council confirmed that this was being dealt with and a deterrent will be installed shortly.

A request was made to paint the inside of the bus shelter – Cllr Edge volunteered to deal with this.

8. Date of next meeting.

The date of the next meeting will be confirmed once the village hall availability is known.

The meeting closed at 7.58pm.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Hermitage Ward District Councillor's Report to Parish Councils

2017/2018

Government Funding for Councils

Central Government has continued to reduce the amount of funding available to local authorities. The cuts will continue for the next 2 years and will require local councils to reach a point where they are able to make up the shortfall in funding by 2020.

Fortunately Breckland Council anticipated the Government programme of cuts and through prudent housekeeping have been able to produce a balanced budget for 2018/2019 with a minimal rise in Council Tax. Despite the rise, district council tax in Breckland remains the lowest in the country with approximately 1.9% equating to 7/8pence per week for Band A-C properties. As a result of its careful management of resources the authority remains in a good financial position and is on track to remove its reliance on the New Homes Bonus, therefore the funding received is now being contributed into reserves for community projects to the tune of £1.7m, followed by a further £1.4m in 2018/2020

Furthermore through the Council's work in reorganisation and development of staff and services, as well as introducing new ways of working, the council has made significant improvements in productivity. The Breckland model is also being adopted by other councils seeking to reduce cost without impacting on services.

Shared Services

Breckland continue to share services with South Holland saving each council thousands of pounds and enabling them to continue moving forward with improvements in services and development in housing, retail and slam business units. Breckland has also expanded its Revenue gathering operation and has formed an organisation incorporating 7 other local councils. The operation is very successful and again is helping Breckland deal with the reduction in government funding.

Partnership Working

The council continues to work with its partnership with a private development company. During 2017 we saw the successful completion of the Riverside Project in Thetford which has regenerated that part of Thetford Town Centre. We have also seen housing projects in Mileham and Attleborough and anticipate other projects being brought forward.

Throughout the year work has continued on revision of the Local Plan required by the Inspectorate. It is anticipated that the final version of the plan will be passed by the Inspectorate and adopted during the next few months. It is hoped that the revised Local Plan will seek to reduce speculative building applications and where possible ensure that any building in villages is limited.

Waste and Recycling

The council has continued to develop its recycling programme to deal with a greater selection of recycling options. It is important, however, that residents continue to take note of what can be placed in the black bin for recycling in order to avoid contaminating the whole load. Remember – no food waste, no black plastic bags, no wood or materials such as clothing or shoes. If any of these are found in a bin on collection day it will not be emptied.

Breckland Supported Community Activities

During the year Breckland, through Norfolk Community Funding have enabled many community organisations to apply for and received grants of varying size for a large variety of projects. These have ranged from Village signs, sports and play equipment, funding for disabled access to village halls, upgrading kitchens in Village Halls and funding for Gifted and Talented individuals to help towards the cost of their activity. Breckland will continue to support its communities whenever possible.

Better Broadband for Norfolk – Update

Eleven million pounds of new funding has allowed BBfN to further extend the reach of the programme. Thanks to five Norfolk District Councils, plus money from government and £10 million under spend it is expected that high-speed broadband will eventually become available to more than 95% of homes and businesses by 2020. BBfN have also been working with other providers to seek ways of improving the quality of reception in certain areas.

Boundary Review

Although the consultation on changes to the constituency boundaries in Norfolk has been completed the Government Bill has yet to be presented to Parliament. Should this happen it is probable that part of the Mid Norfolk constituency north of Dereham will become part of the Broadland constituency. This will mean that the MP for Broadland (currently Keith Simpson) will become the MP for Hermitage and not George Freeman. A decision is likely to be made before the next election in 2020/2021.

Trevor Carter

Breckland District Councillor for Hermitage Ward.

WHISSONSETT ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
THURSDAY 24TH MAY 2018

County Councillor for Necton and Launditch - Report 2017-2018

Finance: The County Councils finances continue to be subjected to pressure. The Rate Support Grant (RSG) is gradually being withdrawn so that it will be zero by financial year 20/21. This means we will lose around £30m in income in 2018/19. These financial changes plus growing demand for costly care services mean that we can't continue to do things the way they have been done before. We need to use our resources in a way that will help our communities to help themselves and to target our greatest support on those with the greatest need.

In setting this year's Council Tax the Council has looked carefully at not just 2018/19 financial year but all the years up to 2020/21 to ensure any savings are achievable and that a balanced budget is achieved every year. For 2018/19 we have raised Council Tax by 5.99%, 3% is for the support of Adult Social care and 2.99% is for general Council Tax. We understand that a 3% increase for Adult Social Care will not be allowed next year and the previous cap of a 1.99% increase in general Council Tax will return and our future budget calculations are based on this. The net revenue budget for 2018/19 is £388.8m.

Adult Social Care: Over 23% of Norfolk's population is aged over 65 and this section of the population is growing faster than others. We currently spend around £1m every day caring for vulnerable adults. This amount represents 27% of Norfolk's budget. We have increased the budget by £40m for 2018/19 much of which is linked to the use of the Improved Better Care Fund which is providing an opportunity to invest in both new ways of working and in preventative services that should help the care system deliver improved services and minimise increased demand.

Childrens services: The Council has allocated an extra £18.5m to support the Childrens Services budget. This will be used to support budget pressures due to the increased number of Looked After Children (LAC), leaving care costs and funding work to prevent the break up of family units by removing children into care.

An OFSTED inspection was carried out early in the new year focusing on the adoption service, LAC and early help support for children and families. These services were considered "inadequate" in 2015. The adoption service was found to be "outstanding" and no services were labelled "inadequate" and Childrens Services will no longer be subject to special measures and regular inspection. There is still some work to do to bring the service to an overall "good" rating. However, OFSTED felt there was now culture within the organisation which can achieve a "good" rating in short order.

Highways: This winter has been particularly wet and we have had period of very cold weather and snow. This has led to damage to the highway in the form of potholes and localised flooding issues. Only temporary repairs to potholes are carried out in wet and cold weather using traditional methods. However, a new

machine (I call it the "elephant") is being used for the first time which allows permanent repairs to be carried out. Solving flooding issues can be problematic, although a section of highway may be flooded it is not always possible for NCC to alleviate the problem as the cause is a problem on adjacent land.

The Parish Partnership Scheme has been particularly successful for parishes within my Division this year, 8 schemes submitted by parishes have been awarded 50% funding to the tune of £30,207.50.

The extra 1% increase in Council Tax has allowed proposed cuts in non-safety critical maintenance (£220k) and a reduction in gritting routes (£110k) to be reversed.

Each member was allocated £6k to fund further highway improvements in their Division. This year I have allocated this money to those parishes within my Division that do not raise a precept and have funded construction of passing places, highway resurfacing and a small trod. There will be another allocation of £6k in 2018/19.

County Infrastructure: The Council has delivered the Northern Distributor Road (NDR). The NDR has the potential to deliver £1bn pf economic benefits to Norfolk. For Norwich, Broadland and north Norfolk the NDR will unlock new business sites and improve access to existing industrial and commercial premises and also make some of the most attractive parts of Norfolk more accessible to tourists.

The Great Yarmouth Third River Crossing has received government support in the

holiday destination that hosts one third of all tourists staying in Norfolk & Suffolk. Gt Yarmouth would be more attractive to inward investment and should attract up to 3000 new jobs.

The Council have prioritised the Western Link, a new road which will join the NDR at the Fakenham Road to the A47 at Easton. This is especially important as it will complete an outer "ring road" around Norwich and link to the A47 which will be dualled between Tuddenham and Easton starting in 2019/20.

Committees: Two new committees have been formed.

The Business and Property Committee has responsibility for the Councils property portfolio, the County Farm estate and the economic development of Norfolk. The property portfolio is to be made more commercial so that it generates income, to this end a property development company, Repton Development, has been formed.

The Digital Innovation and Efficiency has responsibility for the Better Broadband for Norfolk contract and for encouraging mobile phone companies to improve their networks. The committee also scrutinises the purchase and installation of new hardware and software used to improve the Council services.

Me: Since re-elected in May 2017 I have continued to support the 18 parish councils within my Division with as regular attendance as possible at their meetings.

At the Council, as well as attending full Council meetings I sit on the Communities Committee as Vice Chairman with special responsibilities for Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service (NRFS) and Public Health, I am Chairman of the Standards

Committee and sit on the Business and Property Committee and the Joint Museums and Archaeology Committee. I represent NCC on a number of outside bodies: Breckland Area Museums Committee, the Local Government Association Fire Service Commission, the Norfolk Museums Development Trust, the A47 Alliance and the Friends of Gressenhall Committee. I also attend numerous officer briefings in relation to my committee work and various one off events relating to my NRFS and Public Health responsibilities. I also attend training seminars to keep abreast of local and national subjects.

Mark Kiddle-Morris.

County Councillor

April 2018.

Whissonsett Parish Council

Chairman's Report 17/18

The Parish Council has had a second relatively uneventful year in terms of expenditure and is very fortunate to be financially secure.

There were some issues highlighted by the Audit for 16/17 which took some considerable time and effort to resolve. The Council continues to work through these with advice from various professionals.

Our Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer resigned and we were lucky to have the services of a Locum Clerk for the last month of the 17/18 financial year. We are pleased to have recruited a new Clerk.

Future Plans:

The Parish Council has committed to some financial support for the village WWI event
We will work on updating the asset register, completing a risk assessment and generally improving our procedures

The necessary work to trees in the Church Lane will be completed

The Website will be reviewed

Maintenance to the Play Area equipment, fencing and car park are in the pipeline.

Sally Dye

24 May 2018

WHISSONSETT CARPET BOWLS CLUB YEARLY REPORT 2018

The Club is now in its 16th year since being formed, the membership in the early years were up to 31 members sadly over the time we are at present only 19 members and badly in need of some new members.

We play every Tuesday at 7.30 till 10.00 with a weekly charge of \$1.50 with refreshments, and a yearly subscription of \$5 all equipment provided.

The Club has had a very good year playing friendly matches against other clubs with mixed results.

We hope to start a few stated evenings to try and attract some new members. (we can only hope)

Our Christmas dinner at the Fox and Hounds at Waseca was a great success as it was our 1st year going there.

We finished the year with a last night with nibbles a drink of wine Sherry & mulled wine and our exchange of Xmas Cards.

The new year has started off with very low weekly attendance lets hope for better as the year goes on.

Happy bowling

Chairman

Mike Lee

WHISSONSETT PARISH MEETING. Thursday May 24th. 2019

Report from Whissonsett Womens' Group.

The Group has about 20 members, mostly from Whissonsett but some from other villages. They meet on the third Wednesday of each month, sometimes in the village hall if there is a speaker or demonstration and other times visits to places of interest. The May visit was to see the rhododendrons and azaleas at Stody and in June there will be a bring and share tea in a members garden. There is always a good response for open meetings which cost £2 for non members with tea and cake. More members would be very welcome.

Report from Brisley and Whissonsett Age U.K.

This was Brisley Age Concern but there are now more members from Whissonsett than Brisley and others from Sculthorpe, Mileham and Colkirk. As the name implies it is a social club for older people, indeed some of them are over ninety. They meet on the first Wednesday of each month. During the winter the meetings are usually in Brisley village hall with a hot lunch followed by games of various kinds and a raffle to boost funds. There have been visits to West Acre theatre this spring to see Paddington 2 and to have lunch of course, and to Fakenham for 'My Fair Lady' No lunch but the bar was open. After that they were all invited to a member's 80th. birthday party. All the outings are by minibus which costs £3 wherever it goes. You can join if you feel old enough.

This is a short report on a future happening. In November there will be a commemoration of the end of the First World War with displays and all sorts in the church. We already have a lot of information about the Whissonsett men who went to war, and some who did not survive, as a basis for a display, but hopefully there are more artefacts that could be photocopied or borrowed. A section about all the millions of animals, horses, donkeys, mules, camel, elephants, dogs, pigeons, canaries and cats that died in the dreadful battles will be decorated with purple poppies which are new this years. The cats were there to kill the rats in the trenches. To help make it all interesting and easy to see an application was made to Breckland Council for a grant and they have donated £360.

Ann English

01328 700 486

WHISSONSETT VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE REPORT for 2017/2018

In June 2017 the committee responsible for the Village Hall resigned as required at the AGM after a year of service. Despite appeals to the local community there were no new volunteers for the committee.

Dawn Rangeley volunteered to continue as Treasurer and Karen Rodgers volunteered to continue as secretary if someone else would share the role. Sarah Gore Clough kindly agreed to do this. In the absence of a volunteer for a chair-person, Dawn advised that the committee would be unable to continue and they would now need to consider the future of the Village Hall and discuss the situation with the Parish Council. After a further discussion Carolyn MacArthur offered to stand in place as chair as she did not want the Village hall to close. Her offer was gratefully accepted and all roles were proposed and seconded.

Hall Hire

We continued to receive support from our community groups and rent has been received from the following groups in this financial year: -

- Horticultural Society
- 2010 Group
- Women's Group
- Indoor Bowls
- The Bowls Club
- The Parochial Church Council - Fete and Events
- Parish Council

There have also been some private bookings for parties and other family events on which we have received good feedback regarding the hall facilities and cleanliness.

Fund Raising Events

We have organised more events this year to bolster the Hall income and our small but willing group of volunteers have worked very hard. The Village **Open Gardens** got us off to a brilliant start, followed by the **Craft Fayre** in conjunction with the PCC, which was very successful, both socially and raised funds for both the hall and St Mary's Church. **Christmas Bingo** was well attended (albeit by lots of people from outside the village) and our final event of the year was a musical treat from **The Whicker's** in a super evening enjoyed by many.

Caroline Wilson continues to run the Village **100 Club**, which I'm delighted to say still has more than 100 members. This makes a significant contribution to the Village Hall funds and our endless thanks go out to Caroline for her support with both this and many other aspects of the fundraising.

Future Events

Unfortunately the planned resurgence of **Whissonsett Arts** did not come to fruition, due to the large commitment required and the future is still in discussion. New coordinators and volunteers are required and in the meantime Dawn Rangeley has offered to keep the funds safe and monitored (separately to village hall funds).

Various Village Hall Events are in the early stages of planning, including a **Children's event** to use the gift from the closure of Messy Church, a **quiz & Chips evening** and a talk about the **Great Ryburgh Dig**. The **Craft Fayre** is booked for November 17th to be run jointly with the PCC, **Christmas Bingo** is always popular and consideration will be given to other events, if more volunteers step forward.

Advertising and Promotion

We continue to look at how the Village Hall is advertised and promoted. We continue to advertise for the year in the Upper Wensum Diary. We have updated the Village Hall page on Whissonsett.com and have an active

Facebook presence. We ensure that events and meetings are well represented in as many mediums as possible (Posters / Printed publications / Online) to reach as many people as possible.

TREASURER'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Whissonett Village Hall & Playing Fields Committee for the year 2017/18

The financial position for 1st April 2017 handed over to the new committee was as follows: -

Current Account	£2,684.19
Deposit Account	£3,345.59
Cash in hand	£20.20
Total	£6,049.98
Outstanding Credits	£3,101.73
Total	£9,151.71
Including Grant Reserve	£159.09

INCOME

Income received for the period 1st April 2017 to 31 March 2018 is as follows:

Regular Rental	£1,424.99
Other Rental	£782.00
Fundraising Events	£1,799.36
Fundraising 100 Club	£578.41
Recycling	£581.18
Messy Church	£133.00
Bank Interest	£7.94
Total Income	£5,306.88

OPERATING COSTS

Costs for the period 1st April 2017 to 31 March 2018 are as follows: -

Caretaking and Cleaning	£1,569.07
Utilities	£2,131.88
Insurance	£529.29
Repairs & Maintenance	£374.26
Administrative Costs & Advertising	£179.88
Total Operating Costs	£4,784.38

Comparing Income vs Expenditure for the period. **Increase in funds held** **£522.50**

Bank Accounts

<u>31.03.2017</u>			<u>31.03.2018</u>
Current Account	£2,684.19		£4,455.92
Deposit Account	£3,345.59		£3,353.53
Cash in hand	£20.20		£21.76
Total	£6,049.98		£7,831.21
Outstanding Credits	£3,101.73	Outstanding Credits	£1,843.00
Total	£9,151.71	Total	£9,674.21
Including Grant Reserve	£159.09	Including Grant reserve of	£159.09
		Increase year on year	£522.50

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

We have been lucky to not need to spend anything on major projects this year. The hall is however starting to look a little tired and recent conversations at meetings have turned to a need to redecorate. We are in the process of applying for a Tesco 'Bags of Help' nomination and if successful hope to address the kitchen decor and its equipment to make it easier for volunteers and hirers.

OVERALL CONCLUSION

Due to the hard work of a small but dedicated team of volunteers, currently the village hall is a viable entity. Should the support from the recycling bank or the 100 Club cease for any reason, it would make a huge difference to the accounts and the Committee ask that the villagers continue to support not just our events, but also these vital income generators.

The hall is situated at the heart of the village and is the only social amenity Whissonsett has. We have had continued support from all the Clubs and it is very important that we continue to encourage this social amenity. The hall continues to provide essential services to the Church, namely toilets, cooking facilities, etc. and it hosts the services of the Post Office. We receive excellent support from the Parochial Church Council with fundraising and the Parish Council provide support via a donation for the post office provision.

At the point of writing we do not have any new volunteers for the Village Hall committee for the forthcoming year and will need at least 3 people to step forward if the facility is to continue in its current format. A number of current volunteers will not be involved going forward due to changes in personal circumstances. We would like to note our particular thanks to Karen Rodgers our outgoing secretary for her enthusiasm and hard work over her years of service and to Jan Davenport for her support in coordinating numerous events over the past few years.

As a representative of the current committee, I thank you for your time and look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our AGM on 4th June at 7.30pm and at events and committee meetings in the future.

Dawn Rangeley
Treasurer
24th May 2018

The 100 Club Whissonsett

The 100 Club year runs from July 1st to June 30th and as at 24th May 2018 we have 124 members, compared with 133 last year. Most members pay £12 in July but Mr Bill Blake collects 11 monthly subs of £1, and we also have one lady who likes to pay six monthly.

Each month we pay our £50 in prize money, four prizes, £20, £15, £10 and £5 and in December this year we paid out a bonus of £300.

I will be delivering my renewal invitation letters in June and hopefully I may collect a similar number of members, but it seems increasingly difficult to attract new participants to support the village hall and the activities held there.

May I thank Dawn Rangeley for working so hard with the finances and administration of the village hall, and also Bill Blake who organises the draw each month and is always very helpful in collecting subscriptions.

Caroline Wilson 24 May 2018

The 2010 Group 2017/2018

The 2010 Group continues to use the village hall twice a month from 10-12 am on the 2nd and 4th Monday with a regular attendance of 10 plus , each meeting.

It continues as an informal morning of likeminded people bringing their own interest to do in the way of knitting, sewing, drawing /painting, craftwork etc.

Informal instruction ranging from silkpainting, marbling,printing,drawing and embroidery techniques is given and news of exhibitions and events is shared and discussed.

Our annual trip 2017 was to Stamford where we viewed the Stamford Bridge tapestry, had lunch and visited the extensive market all on a beautiful sunny day.

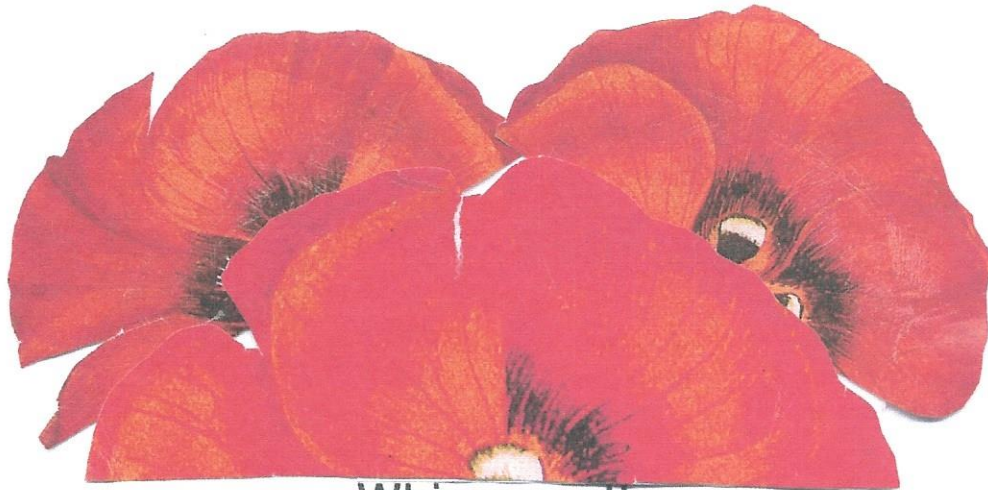
As well as their own personal work some continue to knit hats and blankets for the Kings Lynn Premature Baby Unit.

A major contribution is made to raising funds for the church and village hall at the annual Craft Fayre with a variety of handmade items for sale.

In addition this year - the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1- we are working on a group project to be displayed in St Mary' church during the week (see attached poster) and it is hoped that all in the village and other village organisations will respond in some way.

Jean Hart - Organiser





Whissonsett

CELEBRATING TO REMEMBER

11th november 2018

We all have someone to think on, or a reason to remember.

To give thanks for all those lives

St Mary's Church

will be transformed with poppies

As an individual, or as a group, adults and children

it would be wonderful to have your contribution.

There will be a presentation of one of the intended installations

for you to view at the **summer fete 23rd June**

with an opportunity to have a making taster session

and take away packs to do at home.

A drop in day to make more will be held

in the village hall later in the year.

this will also be a **hand in day** of all the lovely poppies
you have produced through the summer

**Think on how many we are remembering
we need an awesome number of poppies**

If you have personal memorabilia

this would be an honour to have on display.

For more information on how you can contribute

please contact Jean - 01328 700688 / jeanhart37@gmail.com

Annual Report to Whissonsett Parish Council - May 2018

Incumbent: The Revd Robin Stapleford

Committee Members:

Vice Chairman/	
Fabric Officer/H & S	Mr George Rutter
Treasurer	Mr Phil Parry
Secretary	Mrs Susanne Rutter
Fabric Officer/ H & S	Mrs Caroline Wilson
	Mrs Janet Stangroom
	Mrs Hilary Weston

Electoral Roll 2017: 23

Mr Nick Baron retired from the PCC during 2017 as he and Dee have moved away from the village to Starston, near Diss. Mr Phil Parry retired on 31 December 2017. He has prepared the 2017 Accounts.

During the past year there were two weddings, one baptism, one funeral and a memorial service for the late Lesley Pegg.

There was an average attendance at services of 27 slightly down on the 2016 average of 28. Christmas services were well attended – 29 for the Christingle, 65 for the Candlelight carols and 60 for Christmas Morning service.

The PCC hopes to install a kitchen and toilet facility. The Church Architect has drawn sketches of the various options available and the PCC is in the process of visiting other churches to obtain ideas before making a final decision.

The PCC would like to thank the dedicated band of helpers who work so hard throughout the year keeping the church looking so clean and beautifully decorated with flowers.

The PCC would like to thank all those who helped, attended or contributed in any way to a number of successful fund raising events. The church would not survive without the help of everyone in the village and the PCC is very grateful.

Once again the Churchyard and Camping Land have been kept tidy by Mr Gary Lake and his team for which we are very grateful and many thanks to Whissonsett Parish Council for their continued support towards this very important maintenance.

Sue Rutter
Secretary/Treasurer
08.05.18

Whissonsett Horticultural Society: Annual Report to Parish Council

May 2018

Regular meetings of the Horticultural Society continued (not quite every) third Thursday of each month. Not quite every Thursday, because sometimes the meeting was replaced with an outing. Like last year we are in good shape financially and not only are we able to keep our membership fees down we are in a position to provide a cost free excursion to Hyde Hall for members next month. The committee felt that we should use some of the money for members benefit directly rather than leaving it in the bank.

Our regular meetings included the usual mix of speakers – one of the highlights being Dr Ian Bedford talking about Garden Bugs. Not everyone's cup of tea, we realise, but it turned out to be one of the best enjoyed talks of the year. Two evening garden visits also took place, the standout visit being to Dale Farm in Dereham, a spectacular 2 acre garden with a large spring fed pond, glorious planting, plants for sale and entertaining ducks. The plant fair at Rudham was once again a real success for the society and we were proud not only of the money we made but the fact that we could honestly say that everything on our stall was grown or propagated by members. Possibly the only society that could say that.

As has been the case for many years, two Shows took place during the year. Numbers of exhibits were a little down for the Summer Show, but we blamed the wet weather that week which had not been kind to some. We always like to blame the weather! Nevertheless there were over 200 entries in the Autumn Show and both shows made a profit and were a real pleasure for all involved to be part of.

Our membership is staying steady, a little down earlier in the year then a new group of members at the start of the year.

As always thanks to the Committee members, who make the whole thing work. We were very sorry to lose Barbara Alexander our treasurer who moved away during the year, but we are also very grateful to Jenny Jones who took this on and does more than her fair share of all sorts.

Sian Griffiths

Chair

May 2018

WHISSONSETT PARISH COUNCIL
y/e 31st MARCH 2018

2016/17 RECEIPTS	2017/18	2016/17 PAYMENTS	2017/18	Bank Reconciliation
£13,000 Precept	£13,000.00	£1,992 Salaries	£1,607.86	c/f at 1st April 2017
£838 VAT refund	£612.96	Open Spaces	£7,384.37	ADD Receipts
£150 Allotments	£170.00	Admin	£2,541.83	LESS Payments
Grants	£1,428.00	S137	£17.00	Balance at 31st March 2018
		VAT	£310.46	
£13,998 TOTAL	£15,210.96	£8,694		£25,298.79
		£10,686 TOTAL	£11,861.52	Bank at 31st March 2018
				LESS o/s cheques
				31 £100.00
				32 £246.04
				33 £2,000.00
				34 £282.00
				35 £15.72
				£2,643.76
				Total in Bank
				£22,655.03

Whissonsett Parish Council
AGAR

	2016/17	2017/18	Explanation of Variances + / - 15%
1 Bal at 1st Apr	£17,995	£19,306	
2 Annual Precept	£13,000	£13,000	
3 Receipts	£988	£2,211	£34,517 2017/18 Grants rec'd total £854
4 Staff Costs	£1,992	£1,608	Clerk left 31st Dec 2017, Locum Clerk paid April 2018
5 Loan repayments	NIL	NIL	
6 Other payments	£10,686	£10,254	£11,862
7 Bal c/f	£19,306	£22,655	2017/18 Grants rec'd total £854; 2017/18 reduced payments of £816
8 Total Cash	£19,306	£22,655	as above
9 Total Fixed Assets	£53,570	£53,570	
10 Total Borrowings	NIL	NIL	