

WHISSONSETT ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 13th May 2019 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

The Chairman of the Parish Council, 12 members of the public (including representatives of local groups and parish councillors, and the Clerk were present.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from County Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris, Mr Mike Pye and Mrs Caroline Wilson.

2. To approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 24th May 2018.

The minutes were approved as a true record and were duly signed by the Chairman.

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

In their absence the Chairman read the reports of both councillors, copies are attached.

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

A copy of the Chairman's report is attached.

5. To receive reports from Village Clubs and organisations.

Copies of the following reports are attached.

- a) Carpet Bowls Club
- b) Outdoor Bowls Club
- c) Women's Group
- d) Village Hall Committee
- e) 100 Club
- f) 20/10 Group
- g) Horticultural Society
- h) Parochial Church Council

6. Parish Council Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2019.

A copy of the year end accounts was circulated, there were no questions.

7. Open Forum – an opportunity for residents to express their views on matters of interest or concern relating to the village and to suggest ideas for the future.

There were no matters raised.

8. To confirm the date of the next annual parish meeting.

The date of the 2020 meeting will be confirmed at a later date.

The meeting closed at 8.06pm.

District Councillor Trevor Carter – Hermitage Ward

Annual Report to Parish Councils

Breckland Council achievements 2018/2019

Serving communities

COMMUNITY RESERVE

£1.4 million committed to help support our residents, via:

- Development of Breckland Innovation Den to support entrepreneurs
- Leisure feasibility studies for Swaffham and Attleborough
- Developing support services for young people struggling in employment and housing
- Supporting a start-up scheme for businesses and entrepreneurs on the high street businesses

Enable councillors to invest £1.4m in 2019/20 into projects which directly support communities across the district.

This follows £1.7m in 2018/19 for similar initiatives.

MARKET TOWN INITIATIVE

- The market towns initiative makes funding available for projects that focus on: "Supporting market towns in the district to be attractive to new businesses and visitors to the area whilst meeting the needs of rural communities and businesses".
- £250k allocated in 2018/19
- Benefits villages as villages use towns as hubs, so strong towns mean more employment and leisure opportunities locally.

Funded projects include:

- Improvements to Swaffham Buttercross, Botten Island and murals in Thetford
- Purchase of the Glutton to improve street cleanliness
- On the Green activities in Thetford Riverside
- New Market stalls in Watton and Swaffham
- Helped establish a new ParkRun in Watton and Swaffham
- ShopAppy and 12 Elves of Christmas Campaign – promote local traders and enable people to choose to shop local / see what's available on our high streets
- BreckWorld App – driving visits to our attractions and towns via films and treasure hunt in an app
- Funding for WW1 associated activities – the Godwick Barn Event organised by Tittleshall and involving contributors from all villages in the Ward was particularly memorable, as was the historical event in Whissonsett church.

Two of our biggest MTI initiatives are our Shopappy scheme and Breckworld app. Shopappy – launched in mid-April. 90 shops now signed up across our 5 towns. Filmed with shops as part of marketing campaign on facebook, youtube etc.
12 elves of Christmas trail saw elves hidden in shop windows to attract visitors to shops/towns
Breckworld – 70+ locations across Breckland, treasure hunt, Stephen Fry support
Around 2,000 downloads since launch in February.

INNOVATION DEN

After receiving applications earlier this year, the Breckland Innovation Den invited 10 potentially promising businesses and new start-ups to pitch for a share of £100,000 business development funding.

The applicants had to demonstrate how the funding would help them to deliver products or services within the district, drive employment, and explain how the grant would help them make their business sustainable for future growth.

BRECKLAND LOTTERY

Breckland Lottery continues to grow and provide a way for communities to support important local good causes. We now have over 60 good causes signed up, selling over 1,200 tickets per week and are projected to raise £40,000 for good causes in the first year.

BRECKLAND LANDLORD FORUM LAUNCHED

Engaging with local landlords to support them and further improve local housing options.

CO-LOCATION OF DEPARTMENT OF WORK AND PENSIONS

Following the successful co-location of the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) into our offices at Elizabeth House in Dereham we have moved DWP into our Breckland House office in Thetford. This has created greater efficiency for our residents who use both services.

NATIONAL AWARDS SHORTLIST

- **Best Local Authority Arts Initiative** in the Heart For The Arts 2019 awards – Silver Social project. An arts programme to engage rural, socially isolated people to engage in the arts and make new friends
- **Innovation Award** at the Local Government Chronicle Award 2019 – finalist for commercialisation of Breckland Training Services and unique service offer across the country.

SUPPORTING BUSINESSES TO THRIVE

REGENERATION TEAM

- We have established a new Regeneration team in the Place directorate with a focus on business engagement and support, skills development and regeneration of the District. They were fundamental in supporting Banham Poultry through their recent challenges.
- Two new Skills Engagement Officers.

TRIPSTART

Tripstart, a new project to help people overcome barriers to get back into employment launched on January 25th. The scheme is being funded by Breckland Council, the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and Department for Work & Pensions (DWP). It is being delivered across the district by Dereham-based Kickstart and is expected to support and engage with 138 individuals.

FOOTWAY LIGHTING

The replacement of Breckland owned footway lighting continues at pace with most of the lights listed as needing replacement on the lighting survey now being replaced and commissioned by local lighting firm Westcotec of Dereham, progress has been good and the contract is on time and within budget.

LOCAL PLAN

The Local Plan is out for consultation on main modifications... a major step on the journey towards to adoption of a local plan for Rockland.

THETFORD SUE PHASE 1

Work has begun at Kingsfleet in Thetford, which will see the delivery of the first 300 homes on the site.

ATTLEBOROUGH SUE

Outline planning permission given for up to 4,000 homes plus infrastructure.

BRECKLAND BRIDGE

Planning permission was granted for a 16 unit scheme at Litcham in late 2018. 21 further units at Colkirk are going to Planning Committee in April; both will be delivered by Breckland Bridge.

Good progress is also being made at Chapel Road, Attleborough where Norfolk County Council have confirmed that the necessary statutory approval is in place for the release of land from education use, thus Breckland Bridge will be pursuing the delivery of 10 new houses here this year.

GRANT FUNDED SCHEMES

We cleared the final stage of due diligence in advance of the formal £7.95m grant offer being issued by Homes England – the Thetford Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) bid to support delivery of 5,000 new homes and associated development. Key detailed work is now underway on the detailed delivery plan, working closely with Pigeon.

The Council has successfully reserved 11MVA of power from UKPN for delivery of the Thetford Northern SUE with scope to utilise some of this to enable development of the TEP site and continue to work very closely with the land promoter Pigeon for both sites.

£110k of Business Rates Pool funding recently secured - £75k for TEP Infrastructure feasibility work and £35k for demands and needs study around skills and innovation. Including Snetterton power, over £900k of BRP funding has been secured in the past 12 months and more bids are in the pipeline.

SNETTERTON (EMPLOYMENT SITE) POWER PROJECT

UKPN appointed and scheduled to complete the detailed design by the end of March, a key milestone. £3.4m scheme totally funded from grant (LEP and BRP).

INVESTMENT STRATEGY

- A new Investment Strategy has been drafted and investment prospectus created to focus activity on opportunities to achieve growth, i.e. NNDR, jobs, innovation, etc. The 'Invest in Breckland' prospectus will be officially launched during the summer with an initial emphasis of targeting businesses to relocate to Snetterton Heath and other major employment areas.
- Total portfolio value is £45.2 million. This includes all the commercial properties (including Riverside, Warburtons & Barnham Broom) and the Thetford & Dereham Business Centres.
- Income included in the budget for 19-20 is £3.53 million.

Trevor Carter

Breckland District Councillor for Hermitage Ward

County Councillor for Necton and Launditch Annual Report Report 2018-2019.

Norfolk County Council agreed a net revenue budget of £409.293m on the 11th February. It was agreed that Council tax would rise by 2.99% adding £39.51 per year to a band D property and that an adult social care charge of a further 3% rise was not to be made. The financial climate in which local government operates continues to be challenging with significant and ongoing reductions in core funding at the same time as substantial service cost pressures. The agreed council tax increase of 2.99% will enable the Council to protect vital services and will help to ensure a robust and sustainable financial position in future years. This years budget is balanced, robust and allocates our resources across Norfolk's people and communities in the best way we can.

The Council has absorbed significant and ongoing cuts in government funding, a total of £204m between 2010-11 and 2018-19. There are significant cost pressures such as inflation, demographic changes, unfunded burdens such as the National Living Wage and the need of vulnerable social care users becoming increasingly complex. Despite those pressures the Council is continuing to deliver savings and has plans in place to deliver £79m of savings by 2021-22. This includes £32m of saving in this financial year.

The Council has also agreed a £549m, 3 year, capital programme which will pay for investment in infrastructure, property and equipment. £120m will be spent on new special schools and resource bases for children with special educational needs, £120m on the third river crossing at Yarmouth, £9m for extra care housing to help older people live independently as part of a total investment of £29m. Most of the expenditure for capital projects is borrowed from the Public Works Loan Board, a department of HM Treasury, and repaid from revenue over a long period.

Adult social care costs continue to escalate, and the Council has made provision in the budget to invest £6m to address growing demand. Although the 3% adult social care precept was not raised this year all council tax rises from 2016-17 to 2018-19 are expected, by government, to be spent on adult social care. Thus, this year's council tax bill shows an adult social care precept of £96.05 for a band D property with no increase for this year. Additionally, government has awarded the Council a grant of £4.2m to help alleviate winter pressure on the Counties health and social care services. The money will go towards measures to avoid unnecessary delays in hospitals for people with mental health difficulties; bolster the short term capacity in the care market

and to provide reablement support to enable people to regain their ability to live independently.

There are also substantial financial pressures on Children's Services. The Council has around 200 statutory responsibilities for children and the government has increased the top of the age range from 18 to 25. There are 1200 children in the care of the Council (the numbers have stabilised), 3000 children in special and complex needs schools, 2,900 children in need (590 with CP plans) and 20,000 children with special educational needs. The under 25 population of Norfolk is 243,00. As an example, home to school transport costs £27.7m pa, placements and support for looked after children costs £57m pa and education and care for children with SEN £56.4m pa out of a total budget of £186m.

The government awarded the Council £12.7m to fund pot hole repairs and highway improvement schemes. The highway team have been doing a good job over the summer and have largely caught up with the backlog of work. The extra cash must all be spent by the end of the financial year so some improvement schemes which have been shelved though lack of funding have been resurrected. In my area much needed resurfacing of 2 miles the B1145 was completed in February. Resurfacing work at 3 busy junctions will be carried out before the end of March. Norfolk has been ranked 4th out of 28 similar councils in a national highways and transport survey. The highest scores for the county were for traffic levels and congestion and the condition of roads and footpaths.

The Council continues to lobby government and the Highways Agency, through the A47 Alliance, to fund the dualling of the A47 from Peterborough to Yarmouth. The stretch of road between Tuddenham and Easton has been approved and work will start in 2021/22, this will provide a continuous dual carriageway link between Dereham and Norwich. Other schemes in Norfolk to 2020 include junction improvements at Thickthorn and at Yarmouth and dualling between Biofield and North Burlingham. Another top priority for the Council is the so called western link, the construction of a road between the A1067 and the A47. This would link the newly completed Broadland Northway (the NDR) with the A47. The final account for the construction of the Broadland Northway has been settled in the sum of £205m.

Last May the Council took the decision to revert to the Cabinet system of governance from May 2019 (an earlier transition was not possible legally). The

recent departure of the Managing Director has given rise to an opportunity to move to an Executive Leader model. This would mean that the Council would be run on a day to day basis through weekly meetings between Cabinet members and the Senior Management Team (the paid Directors) with the Leader as Chair with all decisions being put through Cabinet or promulgated for consideration by Members. A Scrutiny Committee chaired by a member of the opposition will monitor outcomes and will run a call-in system where decisions taken by the Executive Members and Cabinet can be called in by Members for discussion. 3 Select Committees will develop policies and make recommendations to Cabinet.

An additional £11m contract has been let to increase the superfast (>10mbps) broadband coverage from 92% to 95% in Norfolk. This will typically give coverage to properties and businesses that cannot be connected by Fibre to the Cabinet (FTTC) solutions and will use other technologies including Fibre to the Premises (FTTP). The small improvement in coverage for a sizeable investment reflects the difficulty in reaching premises remote from the FTTC solution. NCC have secured a government grant of £8m to allow a full fibre broadband connection to 208 of Norfolk's schools, 108 of NCCs corporate buildings and 34 fire stations. This will allow broadband speeds of 1Gigabit (about 20 times faster than the average speed currently). Additionally, nearby businesses will be allowed to piggyback on to these connections and government grants will be available to cover part of the cost of the connection.

NCC has won praise for its approach to improving mobile phone coverage. A survey was carried out on mobile phone signals across the county and the results were used to create an interactive map and more than 200 council owned sites have been identified in areas of poor mobile phone reception. These sites are being offered to mobile operators as potential sites for new masts.

Mark Kiddle-Morris.

April 2019

Whissonsett Parish Council
Chairman's Report

The Council had an unsettled start to the financial year and were helped enormously by Di Dann as acting Clerk and support from NALC. We are pleased to have Sheryl Irving on board as Clerk and appreciate her efficient work throughout the year.

The regular agenda items have led to some successful outcomes.

Minor Highways issues were reported following almost every meeting and most have been resolved, if not as quickly as we would like. The resurfacing of the Stocks Hill and, particularly, the London Street junction were welcomed by the Council although this received mixed reaction from parishioners. I would like to thank County Councillor Kiddle-Morris for his perseverance in achieving this.

The Website was upgraded following deliberation on the best way forward. A précis of minutes in the Wensum Diary has resumed.

There were 6 new planning applications, 4 of which received permission. Councillors hope to receive training on its role in this matter in the coming year.

The addition of bird spikes and replacement of fencing have been carried out in the Play Area as part of general maintenance. I am grateful to Councillor Edge and our Clerk for their work towards the more substantial improvements for which partial grant funding has been obtained following a survey of households in the parish.

An Ash tree was felled in the Church Lanes following professional assessment of the trees, many of which are subject to a Protection Order. This was recently replaced with an Oak tree. A small portion of the East Lane was resurfaced shortly after reports that the surface was inadequate.

The Defibrillator has been maintained. Thankfully there have been no activations, hopefully because there was no local need.

Uptake of allotments is low although one has recently been taken on.

The Council continues to have vacancies. We welcome a new councillor this evening but unfortunately recently received a resignation so still have a vacancy.

The Parish Council were in a very strong and stable financial position going into the new financial year. The largest ongoing expense is the grounds maintenance. The plan for using much of the surplus funds is to refurbish and add to the Play Area equipment.

Sally Dye
13 May 2019

WHISSONSETT CARPET BOWLS

ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20

The club is now in its 27th year since being formed, in the past years membership numbers has varied from 15 to 30. We are now struggling to get ten so we badly need some new members to keep the club running.

We have three mats and bowls so you don't need anything to play, everything is provided so just come along and give it a try (help is at hand).

We play every Tuesday night from 7.00pm to 9.30pm with a £5 yearly charge and £1.50 weekly which includes refreshments.

The club also invites other clubs along for friendly matches with mixed results.

Our Christmas dinner takes place every year, mainly the first week in December, somewhere local.

We finish the year with our last night with a bit of party type evening with nibbles, mulled wine, sherry etc with a free raffle and an exchange of cards.

So why not come along on a Tuesday night and give it a try as we all had to start from the beginning.

Hope to see someone in the future.

Many thanks.

Mike Pye
Chairman

WHISSONSETT BOWLS CLUB

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Last season was not as successful as in the previous years. We finished fifth in the county league, third in the mid-Norfolk and ninth in the Whissonsett league.

The club is always looking for new members and if you wish to try we can supply the bowls.

At present only four of our members live in Whissonstt.

It is a game which can be played by all ages, not just elderly people.

Richard Andrews
Secretary

This is the report for Whissonsett Womens' Group for 2018/19

May We enjoyed a visit to Stody Lodge to admire the rhododendrons and azaleas in full bloom followed by teas and cake in the pop-up café.

June We spent a lovely sunny afternoon in Jo Osborne's garden where we all contributed to the refreshments. Most had brought photos of themselves as children and the challenge was to identify the adults they had grown in to!

July Paul Stevenson from Castle Acre gave us an illustrated talk about the work of the Landmark Trust that rescues buildings of historic interest or architectural merit and then makes them available for holiday rental.

August We enjoyed an afternoon at Natural Surroundings on the Bayfield Estate.

September Marie Townley and Sarah Parker from Butcher Andrews solicitors gave us advice on planning for the future – mainly on the importance of making a will!

October Trevor Carter, our District Councillor spoke about his life in the teaching profession.

November Claire Dunne from the Ceres Bookshop in Swaffham spoke about books and the trials of the book trade.

December We spent an evening at Fakenham Community Centre to enjoy the FADLOS performance of White Christmas.

January Our annual meal out was at the Fox and Hounds at Weasenham this year.

February Stephanie Israel brought her dog Marcus and explained the duties of a 'therapy dog', with Marcus ably giving a demonstration.

March Jayne Winterbone from Green Willow Yoga introduced us to Chair Yoga and some relaxation techniques which many of us found beneficial.

April AGM Once again we have difficulty finding members to fill posts – mindful of the fact that most members are well over 70 and some are over 90. With fewer members we shall find it increasingly difficult in finding speakers we can afford. However we shall soldier on for another year!

WHISSONSETT VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE REPORT for 2018/2019

In June 2018 the committee responsible for the Village Hall resigned as required at the AGM after a year of service. Dawn Rangeley volunteered to continue as Treasurer and Sarah Gore Clough volunteered to continue as secretary if someone else would share the role. Julie Long kindly agreed to do this. George Rutter volunteered as chair-person and his offer was gratefully accepted. 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 a few events this year to bolster the Hall income and our small but willing group of volunteers have worked very hard. The **Craft Fayre** in conjunction with the PCC, 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 **Lady Hamilton's Concert Party** in a super evening enjoyed by many. We were kindly supported by a bequest from Robert Cox, whose ceramic collection has slowly been sold at a number of events, to benefit the hall and a donation of £200 was received following the brilliant Open Farm, held by the Stangrooms.

Caroline Wilson continues to run the Village **100 Club**, which I'm delighted to say 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

Various Village Hall Events are in the early stages of planning, including **Open Gardens** on 7th July, the **Craft Fayre** is booked for November 30th 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.

Whissonsett Arts is currently in limbo and the funds belonging to the organisation are being kept safe under the control of Dawn Rangeley & Caroline Edge (separately to village hall funds).

Advertising and Promotion

We continue to look at how the Village Hall is advertised and promoted. We advertise for the year in the Upper Wensum Diary 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

Whissonsett Village Hall Committee for the year 2018/19

The financial position for 1st April 2018 handed over to the new committee was as follows: -

Current Account	£4,455.92
Deposit Account	£3,353.53
Cash in hand	£21.76
Total	£7,831.21
Outstanding Credits	£1,843.00
Outstanding Debits	£0.00
Total	£9,674.21

INCOME

Income received for the period 1st April 2018 to 31 March 2019 is as follows:

Hall Rental	£1,970.00
Coffee Mornings	£675.53
Fundraising Events	£1,559.63
Fundraising 100 Club	£631.61
Recycling	£473.28
Bowls Club	£197.09
Parking	£13.00
Bank Interest	£16.06
Total Income	£5,536.20

OPERATING COSTS

Costs for the period 1st April 2018 to 31 March 2019 are as follows: -

Caretaking and Cleaning	£1,483.62
Utilities	£1,891.90
Insurance	£535.04
Repairs & Maintenance	£368.49
Administrative Costs & Advertising	£160.00
Total Operating Costs	£4,439.05

Comparing Income vs Expenditure for the period.
Increase in funds held for the year **£1,097.15**

Bank Accounts

<u>31.03.2018</u>		<u>31.03.2019</u>	
Current Account	£4,455.92	Current Account	£7,553.01
Deposit Account	£3,353.53	Deposit Account	£3,369.59
Cash in hand	£21.76	Cash in hand	£93.23
Total	£7,831.21	Total	£11,015.83
Outstanding Credits	£1,843.00	Outstanding Credits	£0.00
Outstanding Debits	£0.00	Outstanding Debits	(£244.47)
Total	£9,674.21	Total	£10,771.36
Including Floor Grant Reserve	£159.09	Including Floor Grant Reserve of	£159.09
		Including Messy Church Reserve of	£133.00

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

We have been lucky enough not to 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 resulted in George and Dave giving up their time to repaint sections of the woodwork and radiators. We have submitted an application for a Tesco 'Bags of Help' nomination and if successful hope to address the kitchen and it's equipment to make it easier for volunteers and hirers. Caroline Wilson has kindly been meeting with various kitchen designers and suppliers, to get plans in place in anticipation of being able to move ahead with this project.

OVERALL CONCLUSION

Due to the hard work of a small but dedicated team of volunteers, currently the village hall is just about 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 we receive excellent support from the Parochial Church Council with fundraising.

We are very grateful for the loyal support of all the local clubs and everyone who uses the village hall currently. At the point of writing we do not have any new volunteers for the Village Hall committee for the forthcoming year and will need people to step forward if we want the facility to continue.

I will close by asking for more support, to attract more users and increase the income. It is currently the only place where people in the village can meet socially, use the services of the Post Office and hold social and fund raising events. 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 3rd June and at events and committee meetings in the future.

Dawn Rangeley
Treasurer
13th May 2019

THE 100 CLUB WHISSONSETT (Licensed under the Small Society Lotteries Breckland Council)

The 100 Club runs from July 1st to June 30th and as May 1st 2019 we have 128 members compared with 124 last year. Most members pay £12 in July, but Mr Bill Blake collects 10 monthly subs of £1 each and one lady pays £6, six monthly. The monthly draw takes place at the indoor bowls club in the last Tuesday of each month. 128 members will raise £1536 in total, but approximately 52% of this figure is paid in prize money, as stipulated by the Gaming Act 2005. Each month we pay £50 in prize money; four prizes, £20. £15. £10. and £5. We paid a Christmas bonus of £265 which I divided into eight prize winners.

I will be delivering my renewal invitation letters at the beginning of June and hopefully I will be able to collect a similar number of members to support the village hall and the activities held there.

Once again I would like to thank Mr Bill Blake for his assistance in organising the draw and collecting the monthly subscriptions and also Ms Dawn Rangeley for working so hard with the administration and finances of the Village Hall.

I would be very pleased to register any new members at this meeting, or from reading this report in the UWD. Please contact me at the number below.

Caroline Wilson
01328 700665

The 2010 Group - craft/coffee morning 2018/19

The Group continues to use the village hall twice a month from 10-12 am on the 2nd and 4th Monday . A core number of 10 meet regularly with a full house of 15 from time to time and we welcome new faces. £2 per meeting.

It continues as an informal morning of likeminded people bringing their own interests in the way of knitting, sewing, drawing /painting, craftwork etc. 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. Our members are also always involved individually in lending a hand at other fund raising activities in the village.

Our annual outing explored the beautiful ,historic Bury St Edmunds with lunch in the cathedral close

In addition this year - the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1- the members contributed greatly to making poppies towards the exhibition in St Mary's Church A good response too from the rest of the village and the wider benefice made for an impressive and moving tribute. A well filled visitors book confirming this.

Jean Hart - Organiser



Photo' s attached

REMEMBERING



Hand
made

Laminated sheets of painted and printed poppies
lined the north and south walls of the Nave.



Whissonsett Horticultural Society: Annual Report to Parish Council

May 2019

Whissonsett Horticultural Society continues to have a steady presence in the village, with a total of 39 members during 2018/19. The Society welcomes membership not just from Whissonsett, but from other surrounding villages. Whilst this helps us maintain a healthy membership and ensures links are maintained across the community more widely, it is perhaps sad that so few members actually live in Whissonsett.

Financially, the Society remains in reasonable condition and again this year we have been able to keep our Subscriptions down to just £10 a year. We have again also managed to ensure that our income and outgoings pretty much balance.

Total income for the year:	£1551.60
Total expenditure for the year:	£1581.19
Deficit:	£29.59

Our most significant costs were, as is typical: Hall Rental (£298) and Speakers fees and expenses (£277). This Year we also subsidised a trip to Hyde Hall for members at a cost of £440 and bought a banner to advertise the society (£100)

Other than Subs, we get most of our income from raffles, a tombola and refreshments. But the income we are most proud of comes from the annual Plant Fair held by the Rudham society in May. In 2018 that came to £251, with all plants raised from seed or propagated by members.

During the year, as well as the Coach trip, we had the regular third Thursday of the month meeting with a range of speakers, as well as taking part and hosting the inter-society gardening quiz.

As in previous years, two Shows took place, in July and September, but also this year there were two other successful events. Firstly a Pumpkin Show in October open to anyone to exhibit, not just members. This was a new departure for us and seemed like a really good idea, but I won't pretend we weren't a bit anxious. As it turned out it went down really well and much to our delight there were a few families and children who came along and put in entries. We are doing it again this year.

Secondly, the society entered the Sandringham Flower Show, Garden clubs category, for the first time, only to win gold. We have been asked to enter again this year, and the work is already well in hand for July.

Overall, whilst we are always keen for new members, it continues to be a small, but lively, self funding society, which gives pleasure to a lot of people locally.



Sian Griffiths

Chair

May 2019

PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PARISH COUNCIL 2019

Incumbent: The Revd Robin Stapleford

Committee Members:

Vice Chairman/ Fabric Officer/H & S	Mr George Rutter
Treasurer/Secretary	Mrs Susanne Rutter
Fabric Officer/ H & S	Mrs Caroline Wilson
	Mrs Jean Hart
	Mrs Ann Seaman
	Mrs Hilary Weston

Electoral Roll 2018: 23
New Electoral Roll 2019: 35

Mrs Ann Seaman was appointed to the Parochial Church Council on 25 July 2018.

During the past year there were 3 weddings one of which was delayed from March to May due to the "Beast from the East", 2 baptisms and 10 funerals/burials/internments.

There was an average attendance at services of 28 slightly up on the 2017 average of 27. Christmas services were well attended – for the Christingle 28 including 8 children, 61 for the Candlelight Carols and 27 for the Midnight Mass.

Three quotations have been received for repairs to the church roof necessitated due to seepage of water in the main body of the church near the organ. Work is due to start February/March 2019 by contractors Eastern Foundry Lead Ltd. They will replace various missing slates on the south and east nave. Re-bed and repoint open flashing, replace any lead tingles with copper, re-point coping stones, replace existing flashing and other repairs to loose flintwork. Since this quotation has been accepted, the P.C.C. has received the Quinquennial Inspection Report from the Architects. More work is urgently needed on the roof and the gutters and downpipes. Also, to the west nave flashing chase, repair to the northwest corner of the roof, northeast chancel kneeler and copings and the north nave buttresses. A sapling is growing in the tower stringcourse and needs to be removed. The total for all this work will be in the region of £13,800 including fees, contingencies and VAT. This will be paid for from grants and donations, anticipated VAT reclaim and from church funds set aside for this purpose.

Various successful fund raising events were held as detailed in the Treasurer's Report. The Exhibition held during November 2018 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the ending of WW1 was very successful. Our thanks go to Jean Hart, Ann English, Mary Porter, Caroline Wilson and others for all their hard work in setting up this event. The PCC would like to thank the Parish Council for supporting this event with a grant of £131.

A grant was also received during the year of £162 from the Upper Wensum Diary fund which was spent on new heaters for the church.

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.

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.



