

(Draft until approved at the next meeting)

WEREHAM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING MINUTES

Monday 12 May 2025 6.30 PM

Community Room, Wereham Village Hall, Church Road

In Attendance:

Cllr Sandra Calvert (CHair of the Parish Council) (SC)

Cllr Jo Wellington-Bruce (JWB)

Cllr Stephen Bradsell (Vice-Chair of the Parish Council) (SB)

Cllr Jennie Day (JD)

Public - One

Also in Attendance:

Cllr Sue Lintern BCKLWN Borough Councillor

Cllr Martin Storey, NCC Councillor

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies from Cllr Gail Koopowitz and Cllr Jonathan Marsh were accepted.

2. Last Annual Parish Meeting Minutes 2024 & Matters Arising

There was no matters arising.

**RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting May 2025 be approved.
(Proposer JWB; Seconder SB, all were in favour)**

3. Chairs Report

Cllr Sandra Calvert – Chair of the Parish Council

Having been voted as chair of the parish council last year this was and has been a privilege although at the time seemed quite daunting. I was taking over from someone who had achieved so much in her time and at times felt I didn't quite know enough, but I soon came to realise that especially with the help and guidance of our fantastic clerk and my fellow councillors this job was made so much easier so thank you Helen and thank you fellow councillors.

I would also like to thank Cllr Sue Lintern and Cllr Martin Storey for their support and wealth of knowledge along with helping us tap into funding where needed. A special mention is to Jackie Hitchin who we sadly lost in December who due to her living in the village nearly all her life, knew so much when it came to us needing to remember things from the past like the cemetery, but one thing I will say, she always had the interests of the village at heart, she will and is missed. Cllr Annie Bruce left the village to start a new adventure and again will be missed for her youthful contribution

which on a parish council I feel is vital. She often approached matters from a different perspective which was refreshing.

My main objective and focus were our precept as this affects every household, The aim of myself and other councillors was to keep it as low as possible due to the rising costs of everything. We were pleased therefore that the increase was just 2% which was equivalent to £2.50 per household.

I am pleased that the fully funded project on the biodiversity garden has been fully completed and want to thank Gail, her husband, Nicola Hooper, Paula Sheffellarr and to anyone else who helped for doing such a splendid job, The interment area at the cemetery was completed and looks befitting in its setting and makes the overall experience for visitors a pleasant one.

The restoration of the spring Monument on the Wereham Pond is nearly complete which came from largely from funding and the parish council

For us councillors who serve the village are often unappreciated for the work that we try and the work that we do, often with criticism, however not one resident has joined us this year at these meetings which is disappointing. Residents can join us at the start of our meetings where they can voice their requests or concerns without staying for the whole formal agenda. I would therefore like our councillors to encourage people to do just that or to contact our clerk directly with ideas or concerns.

I will finish by saying thank you again to everyone for helping me in this role and would like to welcome newly elected Cllr Jenny Day to the team and hopefully once the formalities are over with Bridget Slade.

4. Resident Concerns of Anything in Relation to the Parish of Wereham

There was none.

5. Date of Next Meeting – To be confirmed May 2026 at 6.30 pm

To be confirmed May 2026.

Meeting Closed: 18.43