

Wickhamford Parish Council

Annual Statutory Meeting Minutes 7th May 2025

Clerk to the Council, Andrea Evans, Ty Gwyn, Offenham, WR11 8RW
Telephone 01386 760332 email wickhamfordpc@gmail.com

Present S Wride, Chairperson, Councillors: N Austin, R Gutteridge, J Neal and T Hemming.

- 1. **Apologies:** T Cumberland and DC E Sims.

- 2. **Outgoing Chairman's Welcome**

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting

- 3. **Previous Minutes**

The minutes of the 2024 Annual Statutory Meeting were approved, Proposed by NA, seconded by RG with a unanimous vote in favour.

- 4 **Chairman's Report**

2025 Chairperson's report, Wickhamford Parish Council

Firstly, it is appropriate to take a moment to think of the invaluable and tireless work of John Poulter during his many years of being on the parish council. John has recently decided to retire from his position, and we will miss his valuable contributions as we move forward. John has always remained focused on improving facilities in the village for the benefit of parishioners, in addition to taking on board their feedback and using this to make changes for the better. John has made a significant difference in his role, working extremely hard and using his knowledge of the village for the benefit of us all. Thank you, John, for all you have done, you will be so very missed.

It is also timely to thank our Clerk Andrea for her continued hard work. Andrea is skilled at progressing all ideas and tasks that are identified, is professional, proactive and committed to getting the job done. Her work is invaluable for both the parish council and villagers alike.

Our parish committee members are giving of their time, working on behalf of the parish to bring ideas to life. Thank you to you all for your service.

We welcome and listen carefully to the views received about ideas we seek feedback on. However, it is timely to remind parishioners of their own conduct towards members of the parish council and clerk. Please do consider the appropriateness of your words and tone. Some emails received this year have been quite threatening in their nature, and this is not acceptable.

Things to note from the past year include:

Making Golden Lane golden again with the planting of trees.

Finding solutions to repairing play area surfaces, repairing play area equipment, and replacing broken benches.

Installing a new noticeboard at Wayside Farm Shop. Considered additional locations for de-fibs.

Responded to many planning applications, and worked in partnership with others including the police, county councillors, district councillors.

We have updated policies and procedures, including social media guidance, and adopted a sexual harassment policy.

We very much look forward to the coming year and are keen to hear from as many of our village residents as possible.

- **5. Financial Statement:**

Bank balances as at 31st March 2025 were noted as follows together with a refund of VAT for the year of £2725.97:

- i. Current Account £7917.01
- ii. Deposit Account (2068) £2983.56
- iii. Deposit Account (5168) £17781.

In line with the budgetary discussions in November 2024 and the formal request to Wychavon in January 2025, the first half of this years parish precept has been received of £9000.

- **6. Election of Chairman**

S Wride was proposed by RG and seconded by TH with a unanimous vote in favour. S Wride duly accepted. Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.

- **7. Election of V. Chairman**

It was unanimously agreed that a vice-Chairman is not required at this time.

- **8. Signing and witnessing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office.**

Not required this year.

- **9. The Delegation of Authority for the Clerk and to note and adopt the NALC Model Standing Orders and to update financial regulations.**

All were re-confirmed with important required changes to the standing orders proposed by JN, seconded by RG with a unanimous vote in favour.

- **10. Questions from the Public.**

None

- **11. Close**

Meeting Closed at 7.04pm.

Signed.....Chairperson

Date.....