

WRABNESS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes

of the Annual Meeting of Wrabness Parish Council held at Wrabness Village Hall on Wednesday 15th May 2024.

The meeting opened at 7pm. No members of the public were present.

1. **Present:** Mr Gary Bowers, Ms Alice Cole, Mr Richard Colley (Chairman), Mr Francis McGowan (Vice Chairman), Mr Rob Southall-Edwards, Mr Graham Watkins, District Councillor Tanya Ferguson and Parish Clerk Juliet Attrill.
2. **Apologies:** Mr Harry Adams
3. **Chairman's Report 2023-24:** During the last Council year we held nine formal meetings in the Village Hall. Local elections were held, resulting in a full council of seven parish councillors. A highlight of the year was the Village Coronation Celebration on 7th May 2023 which was held in the Station Masters Garden. The Parish Council purchased Coronation Mugs for all the village children and provided a grant towards the costs of staging the event. Our thanks to the Community Shop and countless volunteers for helping to ensure the day was a success.

Our open spaces – the Playing Field and the Station Masters Garden – continue to be well used. Bennett Homes finished laying out the new Village Green which is available for use and will be transferred to the parish council shortly. Our defibrillator outside the Village Hall was kept in full working order. It is on the national register used by the Essex Ambulance Service and accessed twice in emergencies during the year. The Parish Council awarded four grants to support village organisations to help sustain community life.

The 2024 Wrabness Environment Award was won by Freddie Eaves, as our volunteer of the year, for the outstanding support he, as a young person, has given to the community shop. Our many formal requests to Essex County Highways have resulted in some pothole repairs, attention to highway flooding and a commitment that the local speed limit will be reviewed. A site meeting was held with National Highways to promote the need for improvements to the A120/ Primrose Lane junction following two fatal accidents. We were consulted by other organisations and commented on a range of issues including planning applications. We were delighted that the new editor of the Village Newsletter has obtained local commercial sponsorship to fund full colour editions. Our thanks to John Acton and Harry Adams for their sponsorship during the year. The Wrabness Parish Council website continued to promote the work of the Council and village facilities to the wider world, at no cost to the community. A big thank you to last year's team of parish councillors and our parish clerk for making all this possible. It has been a privilege to be part of a good hearted team that contributes to Wrabness, a great community.

4. **Election of Chair of Wrabness Parish Council for 2023-24 Council year:** Mr R Colley was re-elected as chairman, proposed by Mr G Watkins.
5. **Election of Vice-Chair of Wrabness Parish Council for 2023-24 Council year:** Mr F McGowan was re-elected as vice-chairman.
6. **Confirmation of TSB Bank, Dovercourt, Harwich as the account holders:** All agreed. It was noted the Dovercourt branch is closing in September, the next nearest branch is in Ipswich.
7. **Appointment of Representatives to other organisations:**
 - i. Wrabness Village Hall Committee (one place): Graham Watkins
 - ii. Tendring District Association of Local Councils (up to two places): Richard Colley and Rob South-Hall Edwards
 - iii. Transport Representative (one place): Richard Colley.

8. **Allocation of Reports:**
Highways: Graham Watkins
Village Hall: Graham Watkins
Foreshore: Gary Bowers
Public Health: Rob Southall-Edwards
Kiosk: Alice Cole
Footpaths: Francis McGowan
Playing Field: Alice Cole
- Station Garden:** Richard Colley
Neighbourhood Watch: (Externally) Harry Jones
Transport: Richard Colley
Newsletter: Danielle Williams, will reach out when support is required.
Web Site: Richard Colley
(New report) Trees: Harry Adams.
9. **Adoption of Code of Conduct:** It was agreed to adopt the Code of Conduct. The document is unchanged from the previous years and is published on the website.
10. **Wrabness Time Capsule:** The Wrabness Time Capsule is due for recovery in 2050, having been buried in 2000. The location of the capsule is 2 feet to the south of the village sign, situated at the entrance to the Village Hall car park. The capsule is buried under the stones that surround the sign and it is concreted in.

The meeting closed at 19.18

Juliet Attrill
Wrabness Parish Clerk