

DEPDEN PARISH COUNCIL

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR ACCOUNT YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2022

LAST YEAR	y/e 31.3.21	RECEIPTS	y/e 31.3.22	CURRENT
2700.00	2700.00	Precept	2732.00	2732.00
2.35	2.35	Bank Interest	0.51	0.51
31.76	31.76	VAT Refund	10.00	10.00
<u>£2,734.11</u>	<u>£2,734.11</u>	<b>PAYMENTS</b>	<u>£2,742.51</u>	<u>£2,742.51</u>
346.34	346.34	Insurance	346.34	346.34
24.02	24.02	Clerk's Expenses	23.44	23.44
1253.04	1253.04	Clerk's Salary - net	1253.04	1253.04
313.20	313.20	Clerk's Income Tax	313.20	313.20
150.00	150.00	Clerk's Home Facilities	150.00	150.00
175.00	175.00	Grass Cutting	175.00	175.00
135.00	135.00	Grant to Church for Insurance	135.00	135.00
139.87	139.87	Subscriptions	143.70	143.70
15.00	15.00	Hall Hire	77.50	77.50
60.00	60.00	Parish Council Website	60.00	60.00
35.00	35.00	ICO - Data Protection	35.00	35.00
130.55	130.55	Gift Bins	0.00	0.00
0.00	0.00	Courses	25.00	25.00
<u>£2,777.02</u>	<u>£2,777.02</u>		<u>£2,737.22</u>	<u>£2,737.22</u>
£3,939.51	£2,734.11	PLUS Total Income	£2,742.51	£3,896.60
£2,777.02	£6,673.62	LESS Total Payments	£2,737.22	£3,901.89
<u>£3,896.60</u>	<u>£3,896.60</u>		<u>£3,901.89</u>	<u>£3,901.89</u>

THESE CUMULATIVE FUNDS ARE REPRESENTED BY

COMMUNITY A/C Barclays Bank PLC B.S.E.

BUSINESS PREMIUM SAVER A/C Barclays Bank PLC B.S.E.

The above statement represents fairly the financial position of the Parish Council at

31 March 2022 and reflects it's receipts and payments during the year

Signed:

Parish Clerk

Chairman

Date

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## *April 2022 District Councillor report for the Annual Meeting of Depden Parish Council*

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**West Suffolk Council is helping** with the overall County and national effort to help **Ukrainian refugees**.

As you would expect, Suffolk County Council and the district councils are working together as a partnership to respond to this challenge and provide help to people. You should already be receiving weekly updates sent from Suffolk County Council – if you are not receiving these please contact [communications@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:communications@westsuffolk.gov.uk) who can ensure that you receive future updates. I urge you to read that update each week as it will provide the latest news about a changing situation.

As you would expect the situation is still fluid, but organisations are pulling together to either fill any gaps or clarify Government guidance. A case management system has been set up for organisations across the county to have access to and therefore better co-ordinate responses.

A number of teams across West Suffolk Council are playing a role supporting Ukrainian refugees who are coming to our district and this will evolve over the coming months from response, to longer term community support.

Our immediate priority is to carry out property checks and to support Suffolk County Council by checking documents for DBS and safeguarding purposes. This involves staff from the Private Sector Housing and Environmental Health Team visiting the homes of potential hosts to ensure that they are suitable to welcome refugees. There are currently just over 50 potential hosts in West Suffolk.

The Families and Communities Team is working with partners to develop a package of support for hosts, refugees and community groups who want to provide assistance. This builds on the strong links we developed with partners during the Covid pandemic. Teams are also supporting people to access housing and benefits services advice for those arriving via both the Family Scheme and Homes for Ukraine Scheme.

There is a frequently asked questions page on the Suffolk County Council website which is being updated as more questions come in. It can be found at [Frequently Asked Questions | Suffolk County Council](#)

I hope that helps explain some of the role that West Suffolk is carrying out in welcoming Ukrainian refugees and providing the support that they need.

*Cllr Robert Everitt*

*Cabinet Member for Families and Communities*

*West Suffolk Council*

**Many of you will be aware** of the publication of the Government's British Energy Security Strategy. The strategy sets out how Great Britain will accelerate the deployment of wind, new nuclear, solar and hydrogen, with the aim of seeing 95% of electricity by 2030 being low carbon.

You can find the Government's press release here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/major-acceleration-of-homegrown-power-in-britains-plan-for-greater-energy-independence>

The strategy clearly includes positive news both for Sizewell B and Sizewell C. You can find our statement here: <https://www.edfenergy.com/energy/nuclear-new-build-projects/sizewell-c/news-views/sizewell-c-and-new-uk-energy-strategy>

It is important to note that a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build the Sizewell C Project is still being considered following the examination of the planning application last year. We anticipate that decision will be announced in late May and we will of course notify all interested parties as soon as we hear the outcome. Should the DCO be granted, we will work with local communities, councils, businesses and all stakeholders to help make Sizewell C do the power of good for East Suffolk.

If you have any questions, we are as always available on freephone 0800 197 6102 or by email at [info@sizewellc.co.uk](mailto:info@sizewellc.co.uk)

**The West Suffolk Local Plan Working Group**, which includes cross party representation from across West Suffolk Council, has been discussing the local plan. It is now ready for its second stage of public consultation – the Preferred Options stage.

Subject to the agreement of Cabinet later this month and then Council in May, the public consultation will last for eight and a half weeks from 26 May 2022.

This will offer the chance to find out more about why it is so important that we have a local plan, the draft pattern and scale of development, strategic and local policy parameters, the preferred options sites distribution, as well as to learn where this sits in the various stages of preparing a local plan

**COVID-19 Additional Relief Fund (CARF).** The first phase of applications for CARF, has seen West Suffolk Council so far award close to £900,000 of business rate relief to 187 businesses from across the district.

The CARF scheme which is for businesses across West Suffolk that:

- Are in the business rates system
- Can demonstrate that they have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic
- Have not qualified for other COVID-19 rate relief such as the relief given to retail, hospitality, leisure and childcare nurseries.

The Government has provided data to councils that indicates the scale of economic impact the COVID-19 pandemic had on different business sectors. It is based on this data alongside the rateable value of business properties, that levels of CARF business rate relief have been determined to different types of businesses for this first phase. We have emailed those who successfully applied for CARF and new bills will be going out to these businesses shortly.

We do still have a small number of applications that are being looked at in terms of eligibility and evidence presented and so the above figures may increase slightly over the next week or so.

### **What happens next?**

As you may recall, the Council was allocated £4.05m from Government for the CARF scheme. Alongside the £900,000 of phase one rate relief outlined above, the Council has also used its discretion to apply a small level of rate relief to those sectors the Government says have been hardest hit but who have not come forward for CARF. New bills showing this reduction will be going out to businesses next month. These businesses will also be invited to apply for further CARF business rate relief, in line with the Government's eligibility criteria when we open a second phase of CARF applications next month.

In the meantime, more information can be found at [www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus/business-support/covid-19-additional-relief-fund.cfm](http://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/coronavirus/business-support/covid-19-additional-relief-fund.cfm)

**Community Governance Review – draft recommendations consultation.** West Suffolk Council is carrying out an interim Community Governance Review and on 22 March 2022, Council approved some draft recommendations for consultation. The consultation on the draft recommendations has been published and those members with a recommended change to arrangements for a parish/town within their ward have been written to separately. For more information about the review, including the Terms of Reference, FAQs and details of all draft recommendations, please visit our website: [Community governance review West Suffolk District 2021-22](#).

The consultation closes on 30 June 2022 and the final recommendations will be considered by Council in September 2022. If you have any queries regarding the Community Governance Review then please email [cgr@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:cgr@westsuffolk.gov.uk).

**Plans for a new state-of-the-art West Suffolk Hospital** to provide 21st-century healthcare have been submitted to planners. Details lodged with West Suffolk Council say the creation of a new facility is of critical importance given the current issues with the existing concrete hospital building. The hospital was picked by the government as one of 40 to be built before 2030, with West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust choosing Hardwick Manor - next to the current hospital - as its preferred site.

The new hospital will be created in a mature parkland setting covering an area of up to 100,000 square metres, plus a multi-storey car park, while Hardwick Manor will be converted for hospital uses.

The planning statement, prepared by Newsteer, on behalf of West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust,

says the plans are in outline at this stage and the appearance, layout, landscape and scale of the new building will be the subject of future reserved matters applications.

The report said: "The proposed new hospital is necessary due to the poor condition of the existing hospital building and its delivery is a national priority following the inclusion of the hospital on the New Hospitals

Programme (NHP) which was announced by the Prime Minister in October 2020.

The proposals include the change of use of the existing Hardwick Manor house to health-related uses in relation to the development of the new hospital building and incorporation with the wider campus on the Hardwick Lane site.

#### **Garden Waste Collection Service** [Garden waste collection \(westsuffolk.gov.uk\)](#)

Current year subscriptions end on 31 May. After three years at £43, the cost per bin rises £2 to £45 a year, ensuring the service covers its costs and that it is funded by those who use it.

This year we continue to encourage sign up to Direct Debit and encouraging those we have to contact by post to give us an email address.

From Monday 4 April, we will be contacting customers to let them know they need to re-subscribe by the 27 May to ensure continuous service.

There will be social media and information will be copied to parish and town councils.

#### **Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme**

West Suffolk Council are pleased to be hosting another full schedule of Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) programme offers across West Suffolk during the Easter holidays this year.

On the back of the on-going support and previous success of the project The Department for Education has committed three more years of funding to this initiative, which predominately aims at supporting our most vulnerable families and children in the Country. Those on free school meals, pupil premium or where there is an identified need outside of these criteria can apply for free holiday activities and healthy food at a range of venues

and offers across the district. In West Suffolk, we have been working with a range of providers to put together offers for all school ages of children, from ages four through to 16. You can help by promoting these offers in your communities and through your contacts to help get the provision to the eligible children and families.

The scheme is kicking off in 2022 with another full schedule in the West for the Easter holidays, and will go on to include a full Summer and Christmas programme also.

We have even more providers working with us this year and offers include:

- A four-day media and film making workshop with The Offshoot Foundation in Haverhill
- Happy Days Daycare spaces in Stradishall
- Family and Teen swimming sessions at Abbeycroft Leisure pools in Mildenhall, Bury St Edmunds, Newmarket and Haverhill
- Premier Education running sports and activity days in over 10 schools across the district, including Lakenheath, Barrow, Newmarket, Exning, Haverhill and Bury St Edmunds based schools
- Suffolk Wildlife Trust facilitated Woodland Adventure Days and Holiday Clubs, at Lackford Lakes and Bradfield Woods
- Teens Activity, Adventure Days and Family Park Cooking sessions across the district, facilitated by Go Explore at Abbeycroft Leisure
- Multi-sports camps at Bury Rugby Club
- Football Fun Factory sessions running at Bury Leisure Centre
- Easter Holiday activities at 'The Yard' at St Edmundsbury Cathedral, Bury St Edmunds
- Soft Play and Skating at Curvemotion, Bury St Edmunds

All of these offers include healthy lunches and snacks throughout the day. The Family Park Cooking days include a food parcel for families to take away at the end of session, with fresh food and recipe cards feed a family of four for a week. For any more information including support to book spaces please contact Hana at [families.communities@westsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:families.communities@westsuffolk.gov.uk)

*Mike Chester*



District Councillor for the Chedburgh and Chevington Ward

Vice-Chair of West Suffolk District Council

## Depden Parish Council Footpath Report April 10th 2022



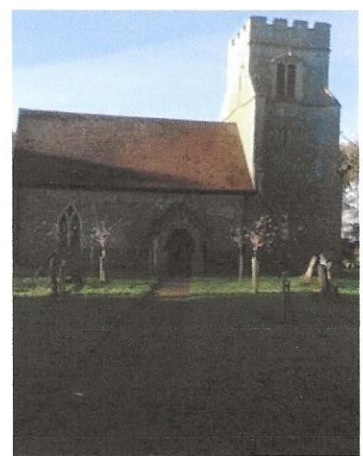
### **Footpath 1: (A143 through to Depden Green)**

Footpath all clear and well maintained and clearly marked



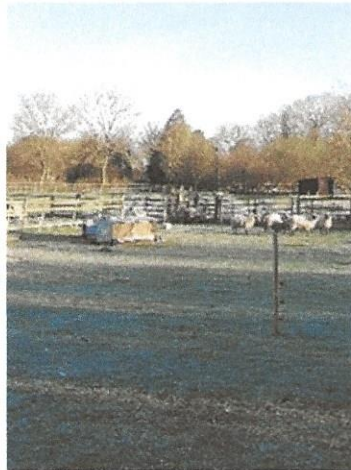
### **Footpath 2: (Footpath from old road up to Church)**

Footpath up to the church is all clear repairs have been made to the footpath since last report making it a lot safer



**Footpath 3: (From A143 behind Rookery Farm, across field Joining Footpath 1 at Depden Hall)**

This footpath is in good condition. Field is clear and passable



**Footpath 4: (From near the Church, across the field joining Footpath 1 at Depden Hall)**

All clear and passable, Field is clear and easy to follow footpath.



**Footpath 5: (From Beech Hall behind Highweek joining Footpath 3)**

All clear with no issues, well maintained and clearly signposted.



(Peter Ebbens (10/4/2022))

## **Depden NW Report for meeting on 12 April 2022**

### **May 2021**

Occupants of a transit van scouting farms were apprehended, while travelling between Long Melford and Whepstead by police.

Also that month there were a spate of catalytic converter thefts which started in North Essex and continued in and around Suffolk. One incident happened in Bury St Edmunds.

### **August 2021**

Multiple break-ins and thefts from vehicles occurred in Hundon, all occurring in the same evening between 1.15 and 3am.

### **November 2021**

A black Land rover Discovery was spotted making unsolicited calls to houses in local villages .

Sheep rustling - A sheep was stolen from Hundon and 2 from Clare

A man was caught on CCTV wandering around a farm in Wickhambrook at 3am, he was wearing a mask and was there for about 15 mins, there was a report of a car parked nearby.

Two days later 3 farms were targeted in Cowlinge one was raided and farming implements stolen. Another had a failed attempt to steal a quad bike and at a third farm in the area the thieves were interrupted while trying to ram a shutter door.

### **December 2021**

Scrap touting remains in the fore around this time of year. This vehicle a White Vauxhall – reg NU14 HRG was seen in Wickhambrook. A week later the same vehicle was connected with the theft of scrap and an old boiler from a property in Gt Bradley.

Nottingham Knockers were seen in Hargrave, an unsolicited caller claiming to be on an ex-prisoner rehabilitation programme (no such scheme exists) was trying to sell goods, after dark in and around the area. Wandering around residential areas after dark in dark clothes with large rucksacks is a good way of scouting for burglary opportunities and should be discouraged.

### **January 2022**

On 18 January I was notified by a local resident in Depden that our post box was missing. I checked around and I discovered that Chedburgh's post box near the memorial had been stolen, also one in Hawkedon and one in Ashfield Green. I reported the theft to Wickhambrook Post Office and my Rural South Watch Area Co-ordinator Bob Steel. The Depden resident had already reported it to the police via 101.

I discovered there had been stolen post boxes from Wixoe, Ashfield Green and Cowlinge ,



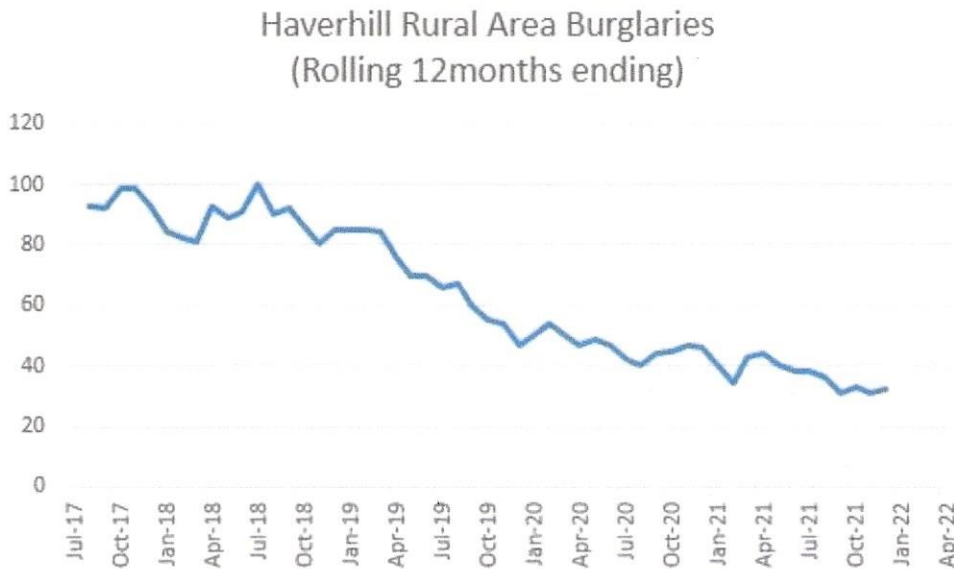
(in addition to Hawkedon, Depden Green and Chedburgh). The thefts appear to have taken place between Friday 14<sup>th</sup> and Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January.

Royal Mail security officers are following up on these thefts. Older boxes 'GVIR' (as opposed to 'EIRR') boxes were the ones being targeted. They have been taken from metal as well as wooden posts. Bolt cutters, angle grinders and even chainsaws have been used to remove the post boxes from their posts. A silver Mercedes EO59 FFH has been linked to the thefts.

### February 2022

#### From the National Crime Map – A downward trend.

There were 32 burglaries recorded in our area\* during 2021. Nine of these were in March 2021, centred on Clare (5), Hundon (3) and Stradishall (1). The other 11 months of the year averaged 2 burglaries a month. This compares well with the 100 burglaries in the 12 months to July 2018, averaging 2 a week.



### March 2022

Around 8.30pm on Wednesday 23 March, a white Mercedes van (KP63 NRF) was seen cruising around Majors Close, Lancaster Close and Paddock Way. It then turned around and went down Queens Lane and Elizabeth Drive and then left the village. There were two men in the van wearing hi-vis jackets with their hoods up and as they were driving very slowly seemed very suspicious.

Bury Safer Neighbourhood team confirmed that the number plate doesn't exist. It was requested that if seen, please report this vehicle to the Safer Neighbourhood team.

# **Depden Poor's Estate Charities report to Annual Parish Meeting Depden**

**12 April 2022**

## **Report for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

Trustees are Janet Grant Anne Nicolson Simon Rumble and Paul Shoemsmith

The Village BBQ was held in Hall Close in September 2021 in good weather with about 30 people in attendance including children. The Charities fund this event held jointly with Depden church. The Village Christmas meal was held in December 2021 at Hargrave Village Hall with reduced attendance of about 15 people mainly because of COVID-19 concerns. Celtham provided very acceptable live music.

The field in Hargrave continues to provide an income to the charity.

Any Depden villager in need, experiencing hardship or distress is encouraged to contact any of the trustees in complete confidence for financial support

The ex-officio trustee Rev Simon Hill has retired, and we are grateful for his support.

Anne Nicolson

Trustee

# **Depden Parochial Church Council report to Annual Parish Meeting**

**12 April 2022**

## **St Mary the Virgin**

Annual report for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

The annual parochial church meetings were held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at St Mary the Virgin Church Depden. Churchwardens (2) and members (2) of the Parochial Church Council were elected in accordance with church representation rules. The parochial church council met 4 times during the year. The electoral roll has 12 people.

Church services were disrupted by Covid-19 however the Suffolk Heights Benefice zoom services worked well. Some services were held at the church within Covid rules. Dawn Easter service was held near highest point in Suffolk. The pet service was held in the summer as well as Agape Harvest supper. The Carol service was cancelled because of concerns re COVID-19. However, Christmas day service was well attended. Local foodbank was supported during harvest and Christmas.

The church buildings and churchyard are generally in good condition. The organ was serviced prior to summer wedding. Fire extinguishers were checked, and certificate is current. The parish council continues to support church building insurance with a donation.

The Benefice magazine is distributed to all households in the village. Community events were held within COVID-19 constraints and included Green Bites, wine tasting, cake stall and coffee morning. Village BBQ was held and supported by Depden Charities We supported the historic church bike ride with the church open and local cyclists.

We are grateful to all villagers who support the church in our community, including those caring for churchyard and on flower rota as well as our organist. Our vacancy commenced on 1 November 2021 and has been well supported by visiting clergy.

The parish share was paid in full. Financial records have been independently examined. We remain concerned about our spiritual growth and financial sustainability

Anne Nicolson Churchwarden