**OFFTON and WILLISHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of The Annual Parish Meeting held at the Offton & Willisham Village Hall 28th May 2024**

Present: Cllr T Wells (Chair) Cllr C Pinson-Roxburgh

Cllr L Seddon Cllr A Cox

Cllr C Eves Cllr B Willcox

Cty Cllrs K Oakes Dst Cllr D Pratt

T Davis (Parish Clerk)

Associations Reports & Speakers Invited:

Offton & Willisham Parish Council

District Councillor

County Councillor

Offton & Willisham Church

Offton & Willisham Recorder

Offton & Willisham Village Hall

Claydon High School

Public present: 3 members of the public.

| 1 | **Apologies for absence**  Cllr Wells opened the meeting and apologies were taken |
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| 2 | **Minutes of previous meeting 18th May 2023 to be agreed** - all agreed |
| 3 | **Matters arising from 2022 minutes** - none |
| 4 | **Parish Council Chairman’s Annual Report**  **The Chair read out their report as well as the financial report below:-**  **PARISH COUNCIL’S FINANCIAL REPORT – 2023/2024**  The balance in hand at the start of the financial year was £14,898. This year’s income totalled £12,395 and expenditure was £12,836 after pence rounding, which after accounting for uncleared payments leaves a balance in hand of £14,457 in the Bank as of 31st March 2024.  There were sizable donations this year for the Village Hall, the purchase of a new Website and Email accounts for the whole Council, along with a donation to the Church for the upkeep of the grass and trees. OAP Christmas lunch which was held in Feb 2023 for 74 residents did not go ahead this year due to a lack of volunteers and Council wish to find volunteers for a Christmas village celebration for 2024 and would ask residents to please come forward to help.  The precept for 2024/2025 has been set at £11,596 with a view to not use reserves and cover the expected budget of costs for this year following a overspend this year.  The bulk of budgeted expenditure for 2024/2025 will be of a similar nature, to include staff wages, replacement and maintenance of assets, along with donations for maintaining the presentation of the parish and supporting the Village Hall with it’s excellent work and facilities provided to enhance parish life. |
| 5 | **County Councillor’s Annual Report, Cllr K Oakes**  Cllr Oakes report can be obtained from the clerk |
| 6 | **District Councillor’s Annual Report, Cllr D Pratt**  Cllr Pratt’s report can be obtained from the clerk |
| 7  i.  ii.  iii.  iv. | **Reports Provided by Groups, Associations and Bodies of Offton & Willisham**  **St Marys Offton**  A representative of St Marys gave a verbal report on the church. That it has now been serving the parish for 1,000yrs, That regular baptisms, burials and annual events continue. That the church is grade 1 listed and has volunteers looking after the grass, and graveyard. A tree will need to be felled, which will be costly. There are regular walkers and visitors, more recently 20 from a local university. There has been the annual summer fete, Christmas Fete, quiz, plant sale and other special events such as the Ipswich Town Football Club event. Thanks were given for all the support received.  **Claydon High School Report**  The report can be obtained from the clerk  **Village Hall Report**  The report can be obtained from the clerk  **Offton & Willisham Village Recorder**  The Recorders report can be obtained from the clerk |
| 8 | **Presentation of the 2024 APA (annual parish award)**  Was postponed |
| 9 | **Parishioners Questions**  No questions were asked. |
|  | The meeting concluded at 8:34pm |