

**Minutes of Winston Parish Council Meeting**  
**Held on 25 May and resumed 8 June 2022 at 7.30 pm**

**Note: The initial meeting held on 25 May was not quorate so the meeting resumed on 8 June to ratify matters discussed on 25 May. Attendees noted below are those present at the resumed quorate meeting.**

Present: Will Haag– Chair, Lizzie Taurozevicius, Julie Nightingale and Tina Denny, Parish Councillors.  
Roger Guthrie (Clerk) and one member of the Parish.

1. Apologies had been received from Lucy McKenzie (Parish Councillor).
2. Declarations of interest - None
3. The minutes of the meetings of 12 January 2022 were approved.
4. Matters arising – As noted below.
5. Matthew Hicks, Suffolk County Councillor had attended the initial meeting on 25 May. His report has been placed on the Parish website.
6. Kathie Guthrie, Mid Suffolk District Councillor had attended the initial meeting on 25 May. Her report has been placed on the Parish website.
7. Finance report – The accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 and budget for 2022/23 were presented to the meeting and are filed on the Parish website. There was a deficit for the year ended 31 March 2022 of £33.91 resulting from higher expenditure on maintenance of the Village Green partly offset by a VAT refund. Reserves carried forward at 31 March 2022 were £1,811.07 and in line with our Reserves Policy. The budget for 2022/23 shows a projected surplus of £12. The accounts and budget were approved.
8. Annual Governance and Accounting Statements – The Clerk reported that the Internal Audit had been completed and that there were no matters of concern arising. The Annual Governance Statement, External Audit Exemption Statement and Accounting Statement were approved and signed by the Chairman and Clerk and will be displayed on the Village Notice Board and website.
9. Village Green – It was noted that expenditure on the Green had increased in the last few years and the budget for 2022/23 was £650. This should be sufficient for a single cut along with maintenance and cutting of pathways and hedges. However, a meeting had been scheduled for 10.30 on 6 July with a representative of Suffolk Wildlife Trust and our contractor to see how best to utilise our available funds for the benefit of the habitat on the Green.
10. It was reported that there had been a successful litter pick held on 3 April and that generally it was felt that there had been less litter than might have been expected given that no formal litter pick had taken place during the previous two years of the pandemic.
11. Other business:

The Clerk reported that the District Council were undertaking a review of Parish Boundaries. This was a statutory requirement every 15 years and could in principle result in Parish boundaries being changed or Parishes being merged or disbanded. There were no specific proposals in advance of the review but we had been invited to make representations. The Clerk had therefore written to the District Council indicating that we were minded to keep the existing Parish unchanged and requesting notice of any change that might be proposed so that we could consult Winston Parishioners accordingly.

The village website was discussed and the Clerk noted that it was probably little visited and primarily was set up to meet our statutory obligations to post formal Parish Business and this will continue to be the case. However, it was not a particularly user friendly medium to keep Parishioners informed and involved. Julie Nightingale offered to investigate the possibility of setting up a Village Facebook group which would hopefully get better input and feedback from members of the village.

The Clerk indicated that he wished to step down as Clerk at the end of the 2022/23 financial year but would be happy to remain as Responsible Financial Officer. It was agreed that a new Clerk should be sought over the next few months.
12. The next meeting was arranged for Wednesday 5 October at 7.30 in The School Room.

