

**NORTH WALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Chairman: Mr Geoff Chapman

Clerk: Mrs Sharon Shea

14 Home Mead, North Waltham, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG25 2SY

Tel: 01256 391983, Email: clerk@northwaltham.info

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

held at the Rathbone Pavilion, Cuckoo Meadow
on Tuesday 21st June 2022 at 8.00pm

Chairman: Cllr Geoff Chapman

Present: Cllr Judith McGinley, Cllr Bill Preston, Cllr David James, Cllr David Young, Cllr Yann Caironi, Sharon Shea (Parish Clerk), six presenters and one member of the public.

1 Welcome & apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Juliet Henderson of HCC.

2 Minutes of the 2021 meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6th May 2021 have already been accepted by the Parish Council and signed as correct. Copies are available to view on the North Waltham Village website. There were no matters arising.

3 Rural Police Report – PCSO Andy Jones (*Agenda item 11*)

- North Waltham is within the Rural South part of Basingstoke, an area of approx. 190 square kilometres.
- Forty-seven incidents in and around the village were reported last year, ranging from criminal damage to vehicle theft.
- There has been a recent surge in vehicle thefts across the UK, possibly due to a shortage of car parts.

A full copy of the report is attached at Appendix A.

4 Address by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Councillor – Cllr Paul Gaskell

- North Waltham is now part of a new ward – Oakley and the Candovers.
- Most services have been maintained as normal during the Covid crisis, although there have been issues with refuse collection and grass cutting which are currently resolved.
- BDBC is reviewing the Local Plan which will be open to consultation later this year. It is important that local residents view and comment on the plan and feed back their comments and concerns to the Borough Council.

A full copy of the report is attached at Appendix B.

5 North Waltham Parish Council Chairman's Annual Report – Cllr Geoff Chapman, Chair

- The Parish Council (PC) was pleased to welcome two new councillors in 2021/22: Cllr Yann Caironi and Cllr David Young.
- The PC reviewed many planning applications from private households as well as more significant developments such as the proposed new cemetery in Stockbridge Road and the proposed distribution centre at Oakdown Farm.
- The PC also commissioned various maintenance activities in and around the village, worked with HCC on road safety around the school and with the local speed reduction group on pursuing a 20mph limit, and started planning for a major renovation of the pond area.

A full copy of the report is attached at Appendix C.

6 North Waltham Parish Council Financial Report 2021-22 – Sharon Shea, Responsible Financial Officer & Parish Clerk

- The accounts for the financial year to FY21/22 were presented and are attached at Appendix D.

7 North Waltham Village Trust Report – Mike Robinson, Chairman

- A considerable amount of maintenance has been undertaken, from works to trees to re-rendering and painting the pavilion. New trees and hedging were planted as part of the Queen's Green Canopy project to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee.
- An outdoor table tennis table has been installed and there are plans for a petanque court.
- Unfortunately there have been some instances of vandalism with damage caused to property on Cuckoo Meadow.

A full copy of the report is attached at Appendix E.

8 North Waltham Primary School Governors' Report – Trish Wyatt, Chair of Governors

- Dealing with Covid has been extremely challenging but things have gradually returned to normal with all the usual activities taking place.
- An OFSTED report concluded that the school continues to be good, the report was extremely positive and encouraging.
- The school was awarded a prestigious Schools Mental Health Award for its outstanding mental health and wellbeing provision, the first in Basingstoke to achieve this.

A full copy of the report is attached at Appendix F.

9 St Michael's Church Report – Jan Woodfin, Churchwarden

- Following another period of Covid-related challenges normal church services have now resumed.
- A House of Duty Minister has very recently been appointed. Rev. Tim Bell and his wife Mary will arrive in September.
- Many activities have continued/resumed – food bank and shoe box appeal donations, collections for charity (stamps, ink cartridges, etc.), fundraising events and children's groups such as Little Angels and Messy Church.

A full copy of the report is attached at Appendix G.

10 North Waltham Charity Report – Keith Evans, Trustee

- No requests were made to the Charity in past year, and no funds were received.
- Very sadly one of the Trustees, Sue Miller, passed away. She is very much missed. A new Trustee, Rhiannon Perryment has been appointed as Sue's successor.
- Margaret Carter has served as the Parish Council's representative for 30 years.

A full copy of the report is available at Appendix H.

11 Address by Hampshire County Councillor – Cllr Juliet Henderson (Agenda item 3)

A written report was submitted by HCC Cllr Henderson after the meeting.

A full copy of the report is available at Appendix I.

12 Meeting open to the public

No comments or issues were raised.

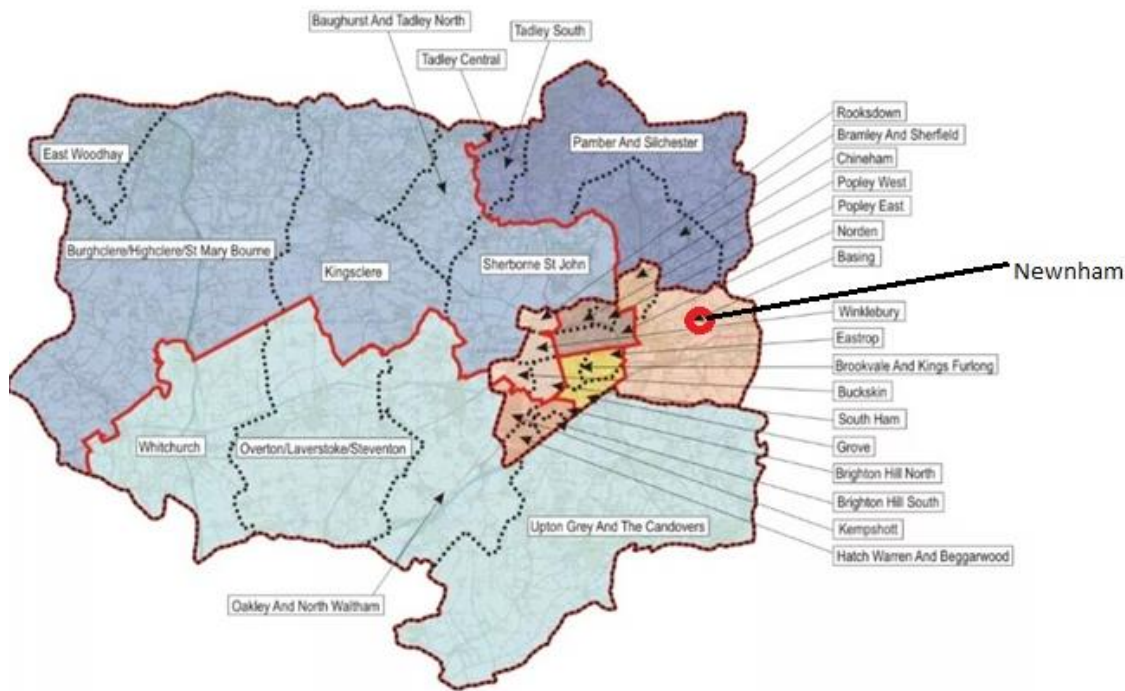
The Minutes will be formally approved at the Annual Parish Meeting in 2023.

Signed

Dated

APPENDIX A

Rural Police Report



North Waltham comes under the Rural South part of Basingstoke, which basically consists of St Mary Bourne (Andover) to Lasham (Alton) – approx. 190 sq kilometres. Myself (PCSO Andy Jones), PC Ross Holdsworth, PC Rachel Marshall, PC Bethan Viney are the persons of contact for this area.

Basingstoke Rural consists of approx. 250 sq miles - almost the same size as the Isle of Wight. All of Basingstoke Rural is covered by Tadley Police station and when we have our full quota of Officers we have: 1 Sergeant, 1 Inspector, 4 PCSOs and 8 PCs.

Figures have been collated for the last year of incidents which have been reported to the Police in the North Waltham remit. Below I have touched on some of the reports received:

- 1 x Action Fraud – Business in the village went to sell items to another and attempted to drive off saying the bank transfer had gone through, which wasn't the case. Matter resolved.
- 3 x Assaults – occurred in the pub off A33, Popham Lane and one reporting party in the village.
- 4 x Criminal Damage –
 - Caller reporting that the back right hand side car window has been smashed, not enough for entry it looks like a shot hole in the window then shattered around it.
 - Padlock to a gated entrance damaged
 - Damage caused to a car tyre whilst parked up on a private drive overnight.
 - Damage caused to a fence by a car having driven into it which has then driven off.
- 3 x Hare Coursing reports.
- 4 x Impairments – Drink or Drug driving, mostly in the areas outside of the village but within the remit.
- 6 x Public Order reports - again not so much in the village itself.
- 6 x Road Traffic Incidents – One of these reports was said to be a car having been crashed into whilst parked outside of the local shop.
- 8 x suspicious reports of persons and vehicles in the area.

- 1 x Theft – A pair of picnic tables and seating stolen from a green space within the village. These items were anchored down and significant effort would have been required to remove these items.
- 2 x Theft from Vehicles – Both vehicles broken into whilst parked up in a hotel car park just off the A33.
- 2 x Theft of Vehicles – A van was reported stolen whilst parked up outside of the village store, and a car was stolen from the same location which had an expensive item within which was also stolen.

Police figures suggest an average of 244 vehicles are being stolen every day in the UK – one every six minutes. A surge in vehicle thefts in some parts of the UK had been linked by police to a shortage of car parts. Thieves across the country are stripping cars “in a matter of hours” so they can sell the parts for “high prices”, according to a senior officer.

Superintendent Jim Munro of West Midlands Police advised motorists not to assume that vehicles left in car parks for only a few minutes are safe.

Some 88,915 thefts of a vehicle during the 12 months to March 7 were recorded by the 34 police forces that provided full figures in response to Freedom of Information requests from the PA news agency.

Six force areas recorded an increase in thefts compared with the same period two years earlier: South Yorkshire (up 28%), City of London (up 25%), West Midlands (up 19%), Surrey (up 12%), Merseyside (up 4%) and Greater Manchester (up 1%).

PCSO Andy Jones is always willing to discuss crime prevention, etc. and welcomes any contact from local residents. Contact Andy at <andrew.jones.13301@hampshire.police.uk>

47 incidents were reported to the Police in 2021 – 2022, compared to 58 incidents reported to the Police in 2020 – 2021.

Reporting to the Police	
999	A crime is happening now, offenders are on scenes / just left in a vehicle heading in this direction / make & colour of car is Units will be deployed on blues & twos.
101	I've noticed overnight my garage has been broken into. Offenders are not on site.
Online	https://www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/ or use a search engine and type report a crime – ASB – suspicious incident to Hampshire Police. This way means that you do not have to wait on the phone awaiting a response, documents can also be uploaded.

APPENDIX B**Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council Report**

Creation of a new ward – Oakley and the Candovers – has made it an interesting time for all three Borough Councillors. It is a large area to get to know, stretching from the Candovers and Ellisfield all the way to Steventon.

The Borough Council has done its best to ensure that services have remained high quality, but there have been difficulties with some core services such as bin collection and grass cutting.

An extra £1M has been earmarked for investment into our main services – planning, street cleansing, customer services and community safety.

Local councillors are always here to help resolve any issues, but hopefully we are through the worst of the Covid-related problems now.

Council Tax increased by a small amount this year; the Borough element of it is only 10% so an increase of about £5 pa for a Band D property. It is still one of the lowest in the country, with one of the highest spend per head in the country as well, so offers good value for money.

Planning always keeps the Borough Council busy. The Development Control Committee has rejected the latest application for the warehouse development at M3 J7, but it is expected that the developer will appeal the decision.

The Borough Council is reviewing the Local Plan. There is a great deal of concern over the proposed numbers of new housing to be imposed on Basingstoke Borough over the next plan period – 990 pa.

Council unanimously passed a motion rejecting this, but it is in the hands of the government at the end of the day. The Council believes it is a special case as it has taken one of the highest percentages of housing growth in the country over the past few decades.

A number of planning policies are under consideration, relating to (for example);

- prioritising building green infrastructure and making this a much stronger expectation,
- doing more to protect biodiversity,
- looking at where new housing developments will be – a motion was passed at the last Council meeting regarding protection of villages close to the town.

The first draft of the Local Plan will be open for consultation later this year so please do take a look and provide feedback – it is important that we get this right for the future.

The reputation of Basingstoke has improved greatly over the years – a recent government exercise identified it as one of the top ten places to live in the country (according to their levelling-up parameters). But we must now make it even better.

APPENDIX C**Parish Council Chairman's Report**

2021-2022 has been a move back to the ordinary after the somewhat eventful previous two years. The Parish Council has been able to return to meetings in person. While virtual technology has many advantages, the return of physical meetings allows the Council to meet the public in person and discuss issues. Since returning to formal meetings, we have welcomed two new councillors, with David Young and Yann Caironi filling our two vacancies.

As usual, the planning has been one of the main parts of the Council's responsibilities over the last 12 months, consulting on the normal range of private extensions and dwelling alterations. Along with slightly more significant developments like the new cemetery at the Crematorium and the proposed distribution centre at Oakdown Farm, the latter being one of the more contentious applications of recent times resulting in consecutive applications being turned down by the Development Control Committee at Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

The Parish Council has been working on the area around the pond at the heart of the village. The first was a replacement duck house as the previous one had reached its end of life, secondly was the works carried out on the large weeping willow. Following an arboriculturist's report on the tree's health, a severe but necessary pruning was carried out. More recently, a local resident has kindly renovated the Grade II listed phone box. In addition to these smaller projects, the Council has started work on a potentially more substantial renovation. The Council has been consulting with Oakley Parish Council following the recent, very successful renovation of their pond and looking into a similar scheme for North Waltham.

At the latter end of last year, the Parish Council paid for and arranged the replacement of three dilapidated kissing gates on the path to Steventon; these are a considerable improvement on what was there before.

Following a lengthy consultation with Hampshire County Council and the travel team from the village Primary School, the Parish Council also managed to arrange for the installation of new signage, including the new solar-powered flashing lights, as well as improved road marking. This work was done at no cost to the Parish, as developer contributions funded the scheme.

The Parish Council and a local community action group have been working with Cllr Henderson from Hampshire County Council on road safety within the village, most notably the subject of speeding. Following this campaign HCC ETE Select committee has formed a working group looking at implementing 20mph speed limits in rural communities county-wide.

Over the last 12 months, the Parish Council has also been in regular conversations with Southern Water over the frequent visits of tankers to the water treatment site and the inconvenience they have been causing to the community. We are still awaiting an update on when the site will be back to working order and the tankers will no longer be necessary.

Recently the Parish Council has been consulting with Basingstoke and Dean over the review of the North Waltham Conservation Management Plan. The proposed document is now open to public consultation, with all residents of the Parish encouraged to get involved before the deadline of Friday 15th July 2022. There is also a drop-in session being held in the pavilion on 28th June where questions can be asked directly of Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

To finish off, I would like to thank all the Councillors who give up their time voluntarily to serve the residents of North Waltham and finally, Sharon Shea, who, as the clerk of the Council, has done a sterling job over the last 12 months at keeping us all in line.

APPENDIX D

Parish Council Financial Report FY21/22

NORTH WALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL					
ANNUAL RETURN for the year ended 31st March 2022					
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS					
Box	Title	31.03.21	31.03.22	% inc/dec	Comment
1	Balances b/f	£29,662.84	£52,908.92	78%	
2	+ Annual Precept	£16,129.00	£17,270.00	7%	
3	+ Total Other Receipts	£22,100.00	£12,724.16	-42%	Includes: Neighbourhood Plan grant of £9,900 for FY21/22 Grass cutting grant of £2k from BDBC VAT refund of £0.7k from HMRC
4	- Staff Costs	£4,849.80	£4,684.20	-3%	
5	- Loan Interest/Capital Repayments	£0.00	£0.00	0%	
6	- Total Other Payments	£10,133.12	£18,867.09	86%	Includes: Neighbourhood Plan - £6,360 of FY20/21 grant unused and repaid in FY21/22 Community grant of £2.9k to St Michael's Church Grant of £2k to North Waltham Village Trust for grass cutting Spend of £4.4k on village maintenance, inc. purchase of 3 new kissing gates
7	= Balances c/f	£52,908.92	£59,351.79	12%	
8	Total Cash & Investments	£52,908.92	£59,351.79	12%	
9	Total Fixed Assets	£4,114.56	£3,799.64	-8%	
10	Total Borrowings	£0.00	£0.00	0%	
<i>Prepared by Sharon Shea, Responsible Financial Officer</i>					
<i>25th May 2022</i>					

APPENDIX E**North Waltham Village Trust Report**

Firstly I must say that it was pleasing to have another new Trustee for 2022 - Dilan Ozdemir from the new houses by the Wheatsheaf joined us in February and brings another much younger presence to the Committee. We do still lack a representative from the School.

Obviously the first half of 2021 had continued Covid restrictions but that gave us a chance catch up on some much needed maintenance. Luckily, the financial support we have received through government grants distributed by Basingstoke and Deane Council have covered the lack of income from closure of the Pavilion and curtailment of events. But by September we were just about back to normal with Pre-School and other users back. We ended the calendar year with a total bank balance of £63k and a surplus of £10k mostly due to delayed grant payments from 2020. That balance includes £1,184 of grants towards the Petanque Court. As a result of the grants taking our income to £34k we needed to have the accounts independently inspected for the Charity Commission and that has just been completed.

The key highlights for the year were:

- Improved communication through our new Facebook Page, for which we regularly get over 600 views, and which enables us to get information out much more quickly than the Parish Magazine and website. Nicky Carter has done a great job and has also spruced up our Notice Boards and signs so that they look much more professional. So, please just sign up to Facebook and follow us to keep up to date with what's happening. And we are now more recently on Instagram with a different set of followers.
- For the pavilion we were able to have all the walls re-rendered and painted as well as the normal day to day maintenance. It looks really smart
- On the Meadow we had to do a significant amount of work on the trees, including felling four which were deteriorating. We have also planted 25 new tiny trees and 30m of hedging as part of the Queens Green Canopy project to celebrate the Jubilee. Involving the children in planting at the beginning of January was great fun and all the saplings are marked with the names of those who planted them.
- We worked with the Petanque group to get planning permission for their Court and also our Outdoor table tennis table - a rather tedious process. Getting contractors was then a problem but the TT Table was installed in April and we have had a villager offer to do the Petanque work without charging for labour so it aligns closely with the budget. It should hopefully be done very soon.
- A delayed Big Lunch held in September brought everyone together for the first time after Covid and was a great success.
- We also developed a mission statement to modernize that set out in the original Trust Deed and to provide a simple view of what we do. It reads:

Providing recreational facilities and opportunities to enhance the wellbeing of those who live in and around North Waltham.

- For 2022 we have organized and held the Big Platinum Jubilee Lunch in conjunction with the Church and again it was a great success. This provides a useful platform for all village organisations to come together and raise funds as well as being a 'grand day out'. Feedback has been very positive and we hope this will continue next year which will be the Trust's Platinum Jubilee. We also have our new initiative of Movies on the Meadow – an outdoor cinema evening on 10 September which we hope will be a success and bring in quite a crowd. Tickets on sale now at an Early Bird 30% discount through the Eventbrite website. Both these events have been supported by sponsorship.

And just a couple of problems:

After recently requesting an additional rubbish bin, Basingstoke Council has decided that they should no longer be servicing the ones on the Meadow because they are on private land! We are in discussion with them on why, and how we can take this forward as it does not seem logical in many ways. But it looks like we will have to pay for this service.

And it has been sad to see some mindless vandalism creep into our lives here. The TT Table was thoughtlessly damaged by children standing on it within a few days of installation and has more recently had graffiti painted on it, as have the pavilion walls. Picnic tables have been moved and damaged, and the new gates to the hard play area have had slats kicked off on several occasions. It is difficult to know how to respond to this but we must rely on parents and other young people getting the message of social responsibility across to those involved.

On the bright side, we are organizing the installation of a defibrillator on the outside of the pavilion for emergencies though we hope it will never be really needed. We also recognize that the children's play area equipment is reaching its end of life and requires increasing maintenance to keep it safe. Designs and materials have moved on a lot over the last 25-30 years since it was built, as has the perception of what children need. So we are starting work to look at a replacement but a figure of anywhere between £50k and £400k seems rather daunting.

Finally can I thank the Parish Council and everyone else who has helped and supported us over the last year. I am sure it is appreciated across the community.

APPENDIX F**North Waltham Primary School Report**

Last year the school's main focus was implementing the ever-changing Covid restrictions, and this year as the school has, following government guidelines, gradually returned to normal, the main challenge has been dealing with Covid cases. In one three-week period alone 100 of the 146 children were off school with Covid; even more challenging, between October and April at least one member of staff was off with Covid. This has meant that juggling the staff to keep all the classes covered has been quite a difficult task. We are very grateful to all the staff who have been so flexible and our excellent Schools Direct students who have made it possible for all classes to be covered at all times. The school has now resumed all of the usual activities including the residential trip for years 5 and 6 and this Thursday the pupils will be performing at the Haymarket.

The year got off to a very positive start with an OFSTED inspection the second week of term. The inspection was very intense and the outcome was that North Waltham continues to be a good school. The report was incredibly positive and in the first section *What is it like to attend this school?* it stated that:

“This is a happy village school that is well loved by its community. Pupils delight in the different subjects they learn. They play together cooperatively and speak kindly of others. New pupils soon find friends. Pupils listen to their teachers and work hard in lessons. The positive attitude towards learning helps them to live up to their teachers' high expectations. Parents praise the school's efforts to help their children and to prepare them for their futures.

Pupils like talking about what they are learning. They are also keen readers. Their strong language skills help them to learn in a range of subjects. Teachers' enthusiasm is infectious and helps pupils to enjoy everything about school.”

In the feedback session to the senior management team and the governors, the lead inspector said that “If North Waltham Primary was a stick of rock, it would have 'kindness' running the whole way through it.”

One of the highlights of the year is that in April the school was awarded the School Mental Health Award, which is delivered by Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools. NWPS was awarded a Bronze standard for its outstanding mental health and wellbeing provision. We are delighted to be one of the first primary schools in the county to receive this award which recognises the hard work of both students and staff, on what is an incredibly important issue.

Sport continues to be an important aspect of NWPS and by the end of their time at the school all children will have represented their school in some sporting event. The school has some very successful athletes and currently has the best girl's rugby team ever. The school is hoping to be awarded their Platinum sports mark and will be the first primary school in Basingstoke to achieve this level.

This has been an extremely challenging couple of years and as ever the staff and in particular the Head Teacher, Mr Maidment, have done an amazing job. So, personally I am very sad that Jeff will be retiring at the end of the year and he will be greatly missed.

APPENDIX G**St. Michael's Church, North Waltham**

Another challenging year for St. Michael's Church. At the beginning of 2021 we were in lockdown once again and unable to have services. We were able to have outdoor services for Palm Sunday and Good Friday and then a more traditional Communion service on Easter Sunday. After this we held two or three services a month either informal or with Communion but just partaking of the wafer.

Towards the end of 2021 we were invited to prepare a Parish Profile for an advertisement for a House for Duty Minister. Just after Christmas we heard that a Minister from the Bristol Diocese was interested in the post. It has been recently confirmed that Rev. Tim Bell has been offered and has accepted the post and along with his wife Mary they will move into the Rectory during September 2022. Over the last two years we have been very grateful for the support of Rev. James Russell the Priest in Charge who is based in Overton along with his Curate, Rev. Amy Roche. Also, for Rev. Jonah Watts who resides in the village and has officiated at many services for us.

As in 2020, Rev. Amy led our 'Act of Remembrance' in Church and at the War Memorial on 7th November 2021. Wreaths were laid by the Parish Council, the School and the Church. On 11th November a small group observed a minute's silence at the War Memorial and we were joined by some in uniform and also someone passing who turned off the M3 knowing that we were holding a memorial service.

Once again we supported the Food Bank with donations of food from our Harvest Service. We supported the Samaritans Purse Shoe Box Appeal via the school at Christmas. We also collect milk bottle tops, stamps & ink cartridges for charity and the boxes are at the back of the Church.

We held many fundraising events in the 2nd half of 2021 and these included the Grand Draw postponed from 2020, Dinners for six and taking part in the Big Lunch in September 2021.

Using some of the fundraising money and a legacy we purchased three new benches for the churchyard last year. The repair to the north side of the roof was carried out and we are monitoring for any leaks. Quotes were obtained and approved by Winchester Diocese for the church path and we are extremely grateful for the Grant of half of this work from the Parish Council. The contractor has advised that we are next on his list so we hope that it will be completed in the next week or two. We made a mistake in 2021 in leaving far too much of the graveyard to grow naturally. With a combination of sunshine and rain the whole area quickly became overgrown. This has been better managed in 2022. For the next project we are looking for a solution to make the actual graveyard more accessible for disabled visitors and any suggestions are welcome.

For the children we offer 'Little Angels' that meet once a month on a Friday morning and this is very popular for the pre-school age group. Messy Church meets once per half term on a Saturday afternoon from 3 till 4pm providing lots of fun for school age children as well as the very young and of course the parents.

The Church is the heart of North Waltham and we welcome everyone from the village and beyond. All our activities are announced in the Parish Magazine and on the Benefice website. Special events are also broadcast on Facebook and to family groups via social media.

St Michael's Church is growing together in love for God and one another.

APPENDIX H**Village Charity Report**

The Charity had a quiet time financially in the year of Covid 2021. There were, surprisingly, no calls on the fund. We therefore still have some £1,825 in Lloyds Bank. There were no incomings or outgoings. I have completed the Annual Return to the Charity Commissioners.

One very sad loss was the resignation and subsequent death of one of our three Trustees, Sue Miller. She is, and continues to be, much missed. She was replaced by Rhiannon Perryment. Margaret Carter and Keith Evans remain as Trustees, Margaret having now served for 30 years as the Parish Council Rep. I thank her for her long and cheerful service, as well as her extensive knowledge of older residents of North Waltham.

So the Charity continues and will, I hope, renew making modest grants as we come out of Covid. Our stated aim is to help individual residents, young and old, and village organisations. Please speak to any of the Trustees if you have any thoughts on how funds might be spent.

APPENDIX I

Hampshire County Council Report**Facts and Figures**

Hampshire's population is **1,389,200** (2020) - the third most populous county in England. 85% is rural and 15% urban. Hampshire County Council (HCC) maintains:

- **5,400** miles of roads,
- **4,300** miles of pavements,
- **150,000** streetlights,
- **474** maintained schools for 138,000 pupils,
- **52** academy schools for 38,000 pupils,
- **10** residential homes for children and young people,
- **18** Older Persons' Care Homes,
- **24** Household Waste Centres, and
- **5** Country Parks.

4.8 million books, e-books and magazines are loaned each year. The proportion of household waste sent to landfill has decreased since 2011/12 (from 8% to 4%). **96%** of all Hampshire waste is either recycled, reused, composted or sent for energy recovery. The waste sent to energy recovery produces sufficient energy to power **50,000** homes.

Budget: HCC has approved £2.4 billion spending on local services in 2022/23 Plans for the next financial year focus on the county's ongoing work following the pandemic, support for vulnerable children and adults, investment in Hampshire's roads and infrastructure to support economic recovery, as well as climate change mitigation. The annual council tax charge for a Band D property will be £1,390.86 – an increase of £0.78 per week, equating to 2.99%, of which 1% is for adults' social care. The budget includes £556.2 million of capital expenditure over the next three years to boost jobs, the quality of the environment and to tackle climate change.

The proposed capital programme includes:

- £109 million in new and extended school buildings to ensure there is a school place for every child in Hampshire
- £136 million for structural maintenance and improvement of roads and bridges in Hampshire over the next three years
- £109 million for integrated transport schemes including over £50 million specifically focused on walking and cycling improvements
- £95 million for major improvement of school and other County Council buildings and land holdings over the next three years following the £33 million for decarbonisation schemes covering solar PV, single to double glazing window replacements, transition from oil to gas and the implementation of heating controls that took place in 2021-2022.

20 MPH Working Group

HCC's Executive Member, Cllr Rob Humby, has announced a County Wide review of 20mph zones, which is being carried out by Members of the Environment, Transport and Economy Select Committee. We are encouraging walking and cycling as a Countywide Active Travel Strategy and lower speed limits encourage this.

Climate Change

Hampshire County Council has been taking active steps to ensure Hampshire is resilient to the impacts of a 2% rise in average temperature and in mitigating further changes through carbon reduction measures. HCC's own emissions have reduced by more than 43%, with more than a 50% reduction by 2025 and carbon neutrality by 2050. <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/environment/climatechange>

Councillor Grants

This year I have supported a wide range of local causes across the Division with grants amounting to £8,000.