



## NORTH WALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Mr Geoff Chapman

Clerk: Ms Rosemary Coulter

6 Longfield Close, North Waltham, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG25 2EL  
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### MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

held on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at 8.00pm in the Rathbone Pavilion, North Waltham

**Chairman:** Cllr Geoff Chapman

**Present:** Cllr Adele Stevenson, Cllr Mark Dinning, Cllr Sally Evans, Cllr Judith McGinley, County Cllr Anna McNair Scott, Borough Cllr Stuart Frost, Borough Cllr Diane Taylor, Borough Cllr Rob Golding, PCSO Andy Jones, Malcolm Knight (North Waltham Village Trust), Keith Evans (North Waltham Village Charities), Trish Wyatt (North Waltham Primary School Governor & St Michael's Church, North Waltham), Rosemary Coulter (Parish Clerk) & 7 other residents

**1 Welcome & Apologies for absence:**

Rev Julia Foster, Mr & Mrs Purkiss, Cllr Peter Waggett (apologies sent after the meeting)

**2 Minutes of 2016 meeting**

The Minutes of the previous year's meeting have already been accepted by the Parish Council and signed as correct. Copies were available at the meeting for the public to view.

All arising matters have been dealt with during the year or are covered in the following reports.

**3 Key Speaker: Recycling and Waste Management – Borough Cllr Hayley Eachus, Cabinet Member for Regulatory Services and the Environment, Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council**

**4 Police Report - Andy Jones, PCSO**

A copy of the report is attached as Appendix A.

**5 Address by County Councillor - Cllr Anna McNair Scott**

A summary of the report is attached as Appendix B.

**6 Address by Borough Councillor - Cllr Diane Taylor**

A copy of the report is attached as Appendix C.

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

A copy of the report is attached as Appendix D.

**8 North Waltham Parish Council Financial Report 2016-17 – Rosemary Coulter, Responsible Financial Officer & Parish Clerk**

A copy of the accounts for the financial year April 2016 – March 2017 is attached as Appendix E.

A copy of the audited accounts for 2015-16 were available at the meeting for inspection.

**9 North Waltham Village Trust – Malcolm Knight**

A copy of the report is attached as Appendix F.

**10 North Waltham Charities Report – Keith Evans**

A copy of the report is attached as Appendix G.

**11 North Waltham Primary School Governors' Report – Trish Wyatt, Vice Chair of Governor's**

A copy of the report is attached as Appendix H.

**12 St Michael's Church Report – Trish Wyatt**

A copy of the report is attached as Appendix I.

**12 Meeting open to the public**

Richard Tanner thanked all those on the Parish Council and those from other village organisations for everything they do to make North Waltham village such a good place to live. He also thanked all the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators for their hard work.

Jackie Ward thanked the Parish Council for help in getting repairs to the Church path completed.

Appendices are available to view online at <https://www.northwaltham.net/parish-council/meetings/>

Signed .....

Dated .....

## APPENDIX A POLICE REPORT – PCSO ANDY JONES

### Beat Priorities are:

- Burglary
- Theft
- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)
- Criminal Damage
- Road Traffic Accidents

In Oakley, North Waltham and Dummer, there was a 72% increase in dwelling burglaries and a 40% decrease in business and community burglaries.

### Burglaries reported to the Police for North Waltham are:

- Between 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> February 2018, a metal lock-up was broken into at Folly Farm. Nothing is believed to have been stolen.
- Between 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> January 2018, land to the rear of Flower Pot Cottages had a caravan and log cabin broken into. It is unclear as to what was stolen as items within belonged to numerous people.

### Thefts reported to the Police for North Waltham are:

- Between 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> October 2017, access was gained to two vehicles which were in the grounds of Folly Farm and items have been stolen from them, namely wheels and an exhaust snorkel.
- On the same evening, an HGV horse transporter was accessed and two batteries stolen from within.
- Between 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> October 2017, a van was parked in the car park of the Wheatsheaf Hotel and was broken into by persons unknown. A significant amount of tools were stolen from within, the value in excess of £1000.
- Between 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> August 2017, a resident of Coldharbour reported theft of number plates from their vehicle.
- Between 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> August 2017, three caravans were stolen from a self-storage area. One of the caravans had a motion detector and a wheel clamp on it at the time.

### ASB reported to the Police for North Waltham are:

- Two instances were reported in January 2018, in relation to a disgruntled employee at a business premises.

### Criminal Damage reported to the Police for North Waltham:

- Between 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> January 2018, damage had been noticed to farm land which appears to have had a vehicle driven over it. This is believed to be linked to coursing of hares and game.
- On 19<sup>th</sup> October 2017, similar had occurred in the same area.

### Road Traffic Accidents reported to the Police for North Waltham are:

- 12 driving complaints received, 11 of which were on the A30 North Waltham and the other in relation to a cyclist having to dismount to allow a car to pass. The cyclist was concerned that they may be clipped by the wing mirror if they had not dismounted.
- 3 seizures on the A30 North Waltham – one had no valid tax, one had no insurance, one had no insurance, no MOT, no seatbelt being worn by the driver. (Ironically, the Police pulled the driver over because they thought it strange that he was driving with a scarf over his face appearing to hide his identity.)

I have been made aware by some residents of the parish that excess speed is an issue. Hampshire Police work with Thames Valley Police in the JOU (Joint Operations Unit). As you can imagine, these areas are massive and there are only a limited amount of speed monitoring vehicles. The number of hand held devices are also limited with only one in Tadley, which covers a huge area from Upton Grey and the Candovers to Highclere and Burghclere and everything in between.

There is a scheme called Community Speedwatch which is operated by volunteers and can only be used in 30mph speed limits. The scheme requires a minimum of 3 staff to operate it. Vehicle registrations of motorists that exceed the speed limit are noted. These are collated and the results forwarded to a contact at the Police Station. The majority receive a letter warning of the excess speed. Vehicles who are travelling over a certain threshold receive a visit from a constabulary member warning of the excess speed. No prosecutions take place and no fines are imposed. Oakley currently run a Speedwatch and are out and about 2-3 times a month.

**APPENDIX B AN UPDATE FROM HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - COUNTY COUNCILLOR ANNA MCNAIR SCOTT**

At the last full Council meeting it was decided to remove planned savings proposals of £5.3 million covering School Crossing Patrols, Community Transport Bus Subsidies and Household Waste Recycling Centres. There have been conversations with Government about the possibility of some charges, eg. for bus services and visits to HRC's which would enable services to be maintained.

The revenue budget for 2018/19 is £2.0 billion, of which £860m is for education, £628m for Social Care and other services for children and adults, £53 million for Public Health and £143m for Highways, Transport, Economic development and Waste disposal.

In addition, HCC has a capital programme of £540m over 3 years- 2018/19 - 2020/21) for Extra Care housing, additional school places and new schools.

Financial Challenges:

Since 2010/11 HCC have lost £219m of central Government grant funding and a further £140m will go by 2019/20. This, together with additional pressure for example for social care: - with an aging population that is set to result in a large increase in the 85+ population over the next 5 years, and an increase of 14% - or 4,100 people aged 85 – 89 with an even larger figure 26% or 4,600 people expected for over 90 year olds. Not all of these will need care but a proportion of them will inevitably turn to the Council for help with their care needs - and there is the impact of the National Living Wage too. These pressures for 2018/19 add up to £23m and the 3% precept that has been added to this year's Council Tax will raise £17m

This year's budget:

This was agreed at full council in February and you will probably know that the increase -including the 3% precept - is 5.99% - far more that we would have liked but as a result of freezing the Council tax for 5 years from 2010, the burden for residents in Band D is actually £100 less than it would have been had it risen in line with inflation. We believe that, once all equivalent authorities have set their budgets, our council tax precept will still be the second lowest in the country. Our band D rate is £1,200 and that of our neighbours in West Sussex is £1317, and in Dorset and Surrey it is over £1400.

There are reasons why this increase is necessary: first and foremost, it is because of demographic pressures - I have referred to the Adult Social Care situation but there are more young people with complex needs living into adulthood who will need expensive social but not necessarily medical care. And then there are the roads - over 5,300 miles of them are maintained by the County Council. HCC invests £10m annually on planned maintenance (Operation Resilience) as a long-term strategy to improve the resilience of our roads to the effects of extreme weather. This is over and above the ongoing pothole repairs which have been exceptional this year as a result of the combination of extreme cold and rain.

Financial management:

There have been press reports of the financial predicament that Northampton and Surrey find themselves in and I'm happy to say that I am confident that we will not find ourselves in a similar position. The Council has been implementing high-performing shared service arrangements over the past 5 years, and in January 3 London boroughs signed up and this will contribute to our overheads and bring in income too. We have already combined our IT service with Oxfordshire's and various other councils and organisations within the County and have been running children's services in the Isle of Wight for 5 years – this recently confirmed for an indefinite period - and have been asked to run Buckinghamshire Children's Services too.

**BOROUGH COUNCILLOR STUART FROST ASKED TO SAY A FEW WORDS AT THIS POINT OF THE MEETING**

Sadly, Borough Cllr Nigel Pearce, Councillor for Buckskin, died at the weekend, following a short illness. Cllr Frost paid tribute to Cllr Pearce and said he will be sorely missed in the Council Chamber. As he lived in Oakley and his wife is standing as the Labour Councillor in the forthcoming elections in Oakley & North Waltham, Cllr Frost has decided not to campaign for the next couple of days out of respect.

Cllr Frost also stated that he was honored and proud to be a Ward Councillor for Oakley and North Waltham.

**APPENDIX C AN UPDATE FROM BASINGSTOKE & DEANE BOROUGH COUNCIL – BOROUGH COUNCILLOR  
DIANE TAYLOR**

Finances

- We have had to face enormous reductions in central government support again this year.
- However, a programme of investment and savings has kept our finances healthy enough to forge ahead with planned projects and goals.
- There has been a rise this year in Council Tax, in common with most Councils.
- The Borough's element of this sees an average increase of £5 per annum.
- Ours will continue to represent one of the best values for money.
- Basingstoke & Deane is for this year the 7<sup>th</sup> lowest district council tax in the country, and yet one of the highest spends per head.

Housing

- The Borough, especially around Basingstoke town, is growing and will continue to do so. We have no choice in that.
- However, with the abandonment of the planned Critical Care Hospital on your doorstep, for the next few years at least, North Waltham will only see small pockets of growth – and the emerging Neighbourhood Plan will hopefully come forward and take control of that.
- The biggest building project by far in the Borough will be on the north Manydown site, where there will be approximately 3,500 homes. This is moving ahead following feedback on the outline planning application. As a result, there are now plans to introduce an extra roundabout on the B3400 just west of Scrapps Hill. This project was recently awarded over £10 million of Government funding. Our development partner has been named as Urban and Civic, partnered with the Wellcome Trust, who – we are told – is the UK's leading master developer and is a company that aims to deliver infrastructure early on.

Waste collection

- The Council has opted to continue weekly grey bin collections, in line with strong public opinion.
- This is against a national background of three quarters of councils collecting fortnightly, with over a million households having rubbish collected every three weeks.

Shopping

- Festival Place is thriving, despite nationwide concern over the future of shopping centres
- In the Going Shopping Guide 2018, Festival Place is among the top 20 most attractive shopping centres in the country, and its footfall continues to grow.

Leisure

- Another very recent event has been the signing of the deal to bring about a complete redevelopment of the Leisure Park.
- The park will increase in size and will incorporate new sports facilities, including a brand new Aquadrome, and a designer-outlet shopping facility.
- The good news for us is that the entire £300 million cost of the project will come from private funding.

Homelessness

- Over the past two or so years the Council has taken huge steps in helping to solve the homeless problem, taking over this responsibility from Hampshire County Council to good effect.
- The Social Inclusion Partnership has been key in reducing homelessness in the Borough over the past year, whilst nationally rough sleeping continues to increase.
- A vital part of the work done has been the second successful year of operation of the Night Light Winter Shelter project. Town churches have opened their doors to up to 15 rough sleepers over the winter months, serviced by over 250 volunteers.
- The project ran through December, January and February, and then extended to cover the period of snow at the beginning of March.
- It has been a ground-breaking exercise for the Council in supporting, training and facilitating the project, whilst allowing the church volunteers to get on with it in their own way.
- In so doing, the guests of the shelter have engaged socially in a way that they hadn't been able to with professionals.
- As a result, several have found a new determination to change their life-styles and have subsequently been housed.

If you would like to meet your MP, Kit Malthouse, Oakley Parish Council have arranged a meeting for questions and answers on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30pm at Oakley Junior School. All welcome.

**APPENDIX D AN UPDATE FROM NORTH WALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL – GEOFF CHAPMAN, CHAIRMAN**

The last 12 months have been a busy time for North Waltham.

The Neighbourhood Plan has been progressing forward, and a huge thank you to all those who completed the Questionnaire in the summer and we achieved a very impressive 76% response rate. The information gathered is hugely important to informing the process with regards to the opinions of those who actually live in the village and is going a long way to forming the basis to the policies that are being drafted.

Key elements that were highlighted were concerns about the potential loss of rural identity, increased traffic, damage to the conservation area and the potential reduction of green space. While features that most described the character of the village were the sense of community, a peaceful and quiet country environment along with separation from other settlements.

Following on from the questionnaire a 'Call for Sites' was issued to allow landowners and developers to submit locations around the parish for consideration with regards to fulfilling our new housing requirements as laid out in the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan. These sites are now under assessment and details will be presented at the Church Fete/Big Lunch in May.

The sense of community that was identified by the Questionnaire was also highly evident at the 2017 Hampshire and Isle of Wight Village of the year competition with North Waltham scooping a spectacular 9 prizes including Winner in the Best Small Village category, Inspiring Places award for Old Barn Stores and the Champion of Champions award. A big thank you must go out to Rob Cooper for putting the submission together and showing the judges around the village.

With the aim of maintaining as many of the communal parts of the village as possible the Parish Council has joined the Hampshire Lengthsman Scheme. This provides the Parish with a resource and funding for those general maintenance matters that usually fall through the net with regards to the larger authorities, the likes of hedge trimming, sign cleaning and weed killing, etc. The contractor started work at the back end of last year and has already made an impact through the winter months.

In addition to the communal parts of the village, the effort the residents put into work on their houses and gardens makes a considerable contribution to the attractiveness of the village, which the Parish Council recognises through the running of the Garden Competition. Many congratulations to the winners of the 2017 competition Hugh & Linda Temple, with Niall Brook in second place and Kevin & Carol Rowe in third. The younger generation also demonstrated their green fingers with some spectacular efforts in this year's sunflower competition. Well done to all the winners and here's looking forward to next year's competition.

Unfortunately, one area that we do appear to be suffering quite heavily in is that of the dreaded pothole, following on from the late winter weather that we experienced it is fair to say that some of the roads are in a horrific state of repair. While the Parish council is continually pursuing Hampshire County Council in order to get at least some of the worst instances fixed, I would strongly advise all residents to report potholes on the County Councils Website and hopefully the weight of complaints may get us somewhere.

On the subject of roads, one subject reinforced by the Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire was that of speeding, something that has been of concern among the community for some time. In response to this the Parish Council arranged for the installation of some illuminating speed signs in the village to try and highlight the issue. These signs will be returning later in the spring, hopefully making people more aware of their actions should they be breaking the speed limit.

At a public meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> November North Hampshire CCG and West Hampshire CCG received a report entitled 'Transforming care in North and Mid Hampshire', which included the proposed building of a new Critical Treatment Hospital (CTH) at the site adjacent to Ganderdown Copse on the A30. With regards to the CTH, the report stated that while the proposal had clinical benefits when compared to the current position, the critical treatment centre was not affordable, given the financial challenges facing the local NHS. It therefore recommended that 'a standalone critical treatment hospital, will not be progressed at this time'. The CCG's voted to approve all the recommendations of the report.

Due to reduced grant support from the Borough and provision in the budget for traffic speed warning lights and increased village maintenance, the Parish Council has had to increase the 2018/19 precept in order to maintain services to the village. The precept requested is £14,167 and is a 15.99% increase on 2017-18. However, this amounts to an increase of 9p per week or £4.59 per year for a Band D property.

To finish off I would like to give a big thank you to our clerk Rosemary, without whom the Parish Council simply would not function and would also like to thank all the Councillors who give up their time, completely voluntarily, to serve the residents of North Waltham.

**NORTH WALTHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS  
for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018**

Box no	Title	31.03.17	31.03.18	% inc/dec	Comment
1	Balances b/f	£21,012.00	£22,060.00	5	
2	(+) Annual Precept	£10,794.00	£12,214.00	13	Increase in precept = £1420 Due to reduction in grants from BDBC (£679) (see box 3), precept was increased to enable NWPC to maintain previous level of activity. A budget of £500 for village maintenance was introduced. The budget for training and travel expenses was also increased to allow for full training of a new Clerk (£250).
3	(+) Total Other Receipts	£ 3,692.00	£ 3,435.00	-7	There was a 50% reduction in the Limited General Grant & a 33% reduction in the Council Tax Support Grant from BDBC in 2017-18 (loss of £679).
4	(-) Staff Costs	£ 3,763.00	£ 3,938.00	5	Clerks hours increased from 30hrs/month to 35/hrs/month in Nov 2017 minute ref 007/FC/11/17-18.
5	(-) Loan Interest / Capital Repayments	£ -	£ -	0	
6	(-) Total Other Payments	£ 9,675.00	£11,087.00	15	Increase in payments = £1412. Following advice, NWPC undertook work to trees on Parish Council land at a cost of £1470, where the Village Maintenance budget was £500. £1000 was transferred from reserves to cover this - minute ref 087/FC/03/17-18 (b). The Communication budget was also overspent by £558 following publication of the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire, which was not budgeted for - minute ref 16th May 2017 item 22.
7	(=) Balances carried f/w	£22,060.00	£22,684.00	3	
8	Total Cash & Investments	£22,060.00	£22,684.00	3	
9	Total Fixed Assets	£19,153.00	£ 3,796.00	-80	Following advice from the internal auditor at 2016-17 year end, NWPC reviewed the Asset Register and updated the way assets were recorded in accordance with Proper Practices. Prior to this, the Asset Register had been based on the insurance schedule.
10	Total Borrowings	£ -	£ -	0	

Details of the Parish Councils spending and other financial decisions are recorded in the minutes of meetings which are available to view online at <https://www.northwaltham.net/parish-council/meetings/>  
Alternatively, if further information or clarification is required, please contact the Clerk/RFO at [northwalthamclerk@live.co.uk](mailto:northwalthamclerk@live.co.uk)

## **APPENDIX F AN UPDATE FROM THE VILLAGE TRUST – MALCOLM KNIGHT, CHAIRMAN**

### **Role of the Trust**

North Waltham Village Trust was established in the early 1950s when Mr William Rathbone gifted the land now known as Cuckoo Meadow to the village of North Waltham and its environs.

The Trust became a registered charity in 1953 with the object, *“to provide or assist in the provision for the inhabitants of the Parish of North Waltham and the surrounding neighbourhood facilities for recreation and other leisure-time occupation in the interests of social welfare, with the object of improving the conditions of life”*, for the inhabitants of the area.

The Trust is a charity registered with the Charity Commission. The Management Committee, or Trustees, are responsible for the running of the organisation and are local people who are either life, elected or representative members. The Management Committee maintains regular links with Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council and Action Hampshire and attends meetings and training courses with other local community organisations.

In the autumn of 2017, we formed a new Development Team of villagers not involved in the day-to-day running of the Trust but wholly focused on medium and long term development opportunities. Twelve villagers have put their names forward for this team, which is most encouraging.

### **Events**

We again ran the combined Big Lunch and Church Fête in June. This event continues to be a success, with the Trust providing the usual beer and Pimms tent, BBQ and games; thanks are particularly due to Gus Macdonald, Lucy Henry and Peter Osmond for setting these up. The two Village organisations are joining forces again on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2018 for another combined event.

The Trust again assumed responsibility for the visit by Father Christmas to the Pond on Christmas Eve; this was, as always, a popular event generating useful funds from donations for the Trust and Village charities. Many thanks are due in particular to Lucy Henry who led the organisation.

Another Rolling Supper was held early in 2018, attracting 41 people and raising valuable funds for new playground equipment. Many thanks are due to Barbara McLaughlin and Jane Laval for again organising this event.

### **Rathbone Pavilion**

The hiring pattern has remained steady throughout 2017 with regular use by Pre-School, Puddleducks, the WI and Youth Club, Dancing, Gardening Club and the Yoga club. We have also had usage for private and commercial events and the Pavilion continues its function as the village's polling station for local and general elections.

Following some vandalism attributed to children climbing on the Pavilion and small shed roofs, we had to commission some repair work to tiles and roof felt. To defend against this, we have now applied anti-climb paint to the roofs of both the Pavilion and shed. Around the same time, it was found that the lock on the rear entrance to the garage had been broken and about £100 worth of sweets stolen from the Youth Club's stock. These instances were reported to the police and Sainsbury's offered a donation to replace the sweets. We reviewed the scope for introducing CCTV around the Pavilion and obtained quotes but concluded the expense was not justified at present pending evaluation of the effect of the anti-climb paint.

During 2017, the fire extinguishers were replaced to conform to a 5 year cycle. We bought a new, wider, disabled access ramp to improve wheelchair access and also acquired an adapter to raise the height of the WC pan in the disabled toilet, making it more suitable for disabled visitors; at Pre-School's request, this is not installed permanently but will be fitted for events and when requested by hirers.

During the year, a new cleaning services contractor has been appointed and cleaning increased to twice-weekly during term-time

The basketball hoop in the hard standing area delaminated and was replaced.

### **Cuckoo Meadow**

#### Meadow

In the spring, we installed four picnic tables and a replacement for the Geoff Court memorial bench. These have been well received and used through the summer; Shirley Court was delighted with the bench and made a generous donation towards Trust funds. For the time being, we are leaving them located on grass (secured by ground anchors) to provide some flexibility over positioning but the option remains to transfer them onto concrete platforms in due course, although this would require planning permission.

During 2017 we continued to have difficulties obtaining a reliable service from our grounds maintenance contractor and hence took the decision to move to an alternative supplier, accepting that this has entailed a significant increase in annual costs. Several quotes were received, and we much appreciate the work undertaken by some local people in preparing and submitting these. We finally selected a contractor, Joe Noades, who submitted the lowest quotation and has been appointed by Hampshire County Council to undertake maintenance work in some local villages. We are already seeing a much improved service compared to the last 2-3 years.

When required, we have held working parties to clear the Meadow of tree debris dislodged by storms and as ever, are indebted to Alan Purkiss for his support in removal of the substantial debris collected.

A contractor has been commissioned to clean and relay the gravel path across the Meadow to restore the required drainage; this work will be undertaken shortly.

In the autumn, a car was dumped at the lower end of the car park and subsequently became a target for vandalism. We are grateful to the Borough Council for arranging its removal.

#### Play area

The Play area remains subject to weekly inspections by Basingstoke & Deane BC officers as well as the Trustees (Steve Single and Neal Turner).

Repairs and replacement parts were fitted to the springy chicken and a major refurbishment made of the flat swings, following identification of splits and rot in the wooden beams. We commissioned a professional deep clean of the WetPour rubber surfaces around several items of play equipment.

The new Development Team has identified options for new equipment and these are currently under detailed investigation.

Snake Swing This is the most popular suggestion for new apparatus; a possible location is where the old log is currently located (the log is popular and should be retained elsewhere in the fenced area). The exact location needs checking against the manufacturer's specification on footprint/safe clearance and whether ground levelling is required. WetPour rubber flooring will be required and the overall cost is estimated at about £8400 plus planning permission costs. A member of the Development Team is investigating scope for grant funding.

Busy boards/music chimes These items would be suitable for toddlers and could be fitted to the Play Area fence. Specific costed options are to be identified but we expect to be able to meet these costs from our reserves.

Mud kitchen These items are said to be popular with smaller children. It would require a water-source, e.g. a butt that could be filled from the Pavilion's external tap. Pots/utensils would need to be secured to a frame by robust means e.g. plastic-covered chain. A member of the team is investigating making this item ourselves for location in a corner of the fenced area. (Photographs of possible equipment for the play area were shown at the meeting.)

## **APPENDIX G AN UPDATE FROM THE VILLAGE CHARITIES – KEITH EVANS, TRUSTEE**

The Trustee Committee for the village charity (more correctly, The Charity of William Batchelor) continues to be Rev Julia Foster, Margaret Carter and myself. Margaret, incidentally, was appointed to serve by the Parish Council in April 1992, some 26 years ago. (The Clerk wrote her a very nice letter last year.)

The charity is fully registered with the Charities Commission and I shall be submitting the annual report to them later this month. At the end of December 2017, we had some £1397 in our new Lloyd's account. Interest is now nil but we no longer have to pay the monthly charge of £5 recently instituted by the Charities Aid Foundation Bank. As of the end of March 2018, we had £1510 thanks to two generous donations, one from the Village Trust of £73 raised during Santa Claus's visit in December and one of £40 from a local household. Our last interest payment from CAF Bank was 13p.

During 2017 we gave £200 to support the Junior Youth Club and £250 to help the school with the expenses of the Jane Austen celebrations. We continue to listen out for 'good causes' around the village amongst the young and old in accordance with our joint ancient charters. We remain very grateful, as ever, to our supporters and donors.

**APPENDIX H AN UPDATE FROM NORTH WALTHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL GOVERNORS – TRISH WYATT, VICE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS**

The staff may not agree with me, but this year seems to have been slightly quieter at North Waltham Primary. There are currently 166 pupils on the roll in 6 classes. There have been no changes to the teaching staff and last year's two NQTs are continuing to develop their roles and are taking on more curriculum responsibilities.

The school continues to be involved with the Schools Direct (SD) programme, which is a more classroom-based alternative to a PGCE and the SD students are a valuable addition to the staff. There have been some changes to the teaching assistants (TA) with last year's SD students moving on to find jobs as fully qualified teachers and this year's students joining us as TA's.

The membership of the Governing body has remained stable over the last year with just the recent addition of a new clerk. The governors continue to update their skills matrix and undertake training to fill any gaps. The whole governor body training this year was organised by the headteacher who selected recent research trends in education for individual governors to prepare a presentation on and these presentations were delivered to the whole Governing Body during two evening sessions. In addition to this several of the governors attended the inset day at the beginning of the school year on emotion coaching. The governors undertake self-evaluation termly and each governor is linked to a key action from the school strategic plan, which forms the basis for their governor visits. In addition to these more formal visits governors attend school events and accompany school trips.

As a school we are currently involved in several National Research Projects including maximising the impact of Teaching Assistants (MITA), Emotional Health and Unlocks. Unlocks is an innovative computer based learning activity designed to help children in year 3 and 5 stop and think before tackling problems in science and maths.

Improvements to the school building and grounds this year include the completion of the new roof which was a major project that was carried out, mainly over the summer holidays. New fences around the school grounds have been installed and a new running track round the field has been built.

The school has been awarded the Golds Sports Mark for the second year running and this reflects the high quality PE that is provided. The school benefits from outside tennis and hockey coaches and the children achieve highly in their inter school competitions in a large variety of sports including rugby, hockey, athletics, gymnastics, cross country and skipping.

The Travel Team, led by two JRSOs continues to work hard to try and raise awareness of road safety issues and try and do what they can to reduce the chaos at school drop off and pick up times. With a third of our pupils now coming from out of catchment and an increase in the number of children attending the school this continues to be an issue. The travel team continues to promote the drive share scheme and encourage all children where possible to walk cycle or scoot to school. This year they have organised two road safety awareness days and, in conjunction with HCC travel team, held a clean air fact hunt.

Both attainment and progress of all children remains good and all groups of children are well supported. The school continues to work closely with the village church with Rev Julia leading regular assemblies and the children attending church for workshops and end of term services. This year Jan Petersen visited our linked school in Lulagala, Uganda and strengthened the ties between the children of both schools. Links with the Village Trust (VT) are maintained with a governor representative attending VT meetings. We would like to thank the Gardening Club for their help with maintaining and improving the school grounds this year. Also, the Friends of North Waltham School continue to provide invaluable support to the school by organising fundraising activities, including the very popular events of the Christmas Fair, Quiz Night and Dad's Camp.

I would like to thank all the staff, friends, governors, parents and children who work so hard to make the school such a success.

**APPENDIX I     AN UPDATE FROM ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH – ALAN PURKISS, CHURCH WARDED**  
**(read by TRISH WYATT)**

St. Michael's Church has a small but thriving congregation, and worship takes place on each Sunday of the year, except when there is a fifth Sunday in the month, when this is shared by the other three Churches in the Benefice. We also have extra services throughout the year, to mark special occasions in the Christian Calendar.

Our range of services cover the more formal Holy Communion, either said or sung, a less formal Holy Communion, aimed at the younger members, and an informal type of worship, usually led by a lay person.

We have an active role with the Village school, having three experience sessions for groups of varying ages from the school. We have had a Harvest, Christmas and Easter theme at the appropriate times of the year, when we try to explain the significance of those times of the year.

Julia Foster, our village priest, is also welcomed into the school, to take the occasional assembly.

On 11th November, several villagers joined us for the Act of Remembrance, at the Village War Memorial, to remember our Village dead, and others from conflicts over the years. A minute's silence was observed, and wreaths were laid

Together with the school, last Christmas we encouraged members of the congregation to prepare "shoe boxes", containing Christmas gifts, to be taken to Romania. This action has helped the Charity to gain the trust of the local population and seems to be having a positive effect.

Last year, we joined with the Village Trust, to combine our annual Church Fete, with the Big Lunch, all held on the second Sunday in June, and this was a great community event, and will be repeated this year.

The Church is open every day, and is available for private prayer, or contemplation. There is a collection box inside the main door, for parishioners to leave donations for The Trussel Trust Food Bank. This has been very successful, and several of our members regularly help at the Food Bank, in Basingstoke.

We endeavor to help the environment, by collecting items for re-cycling, and collect milk bottle tops, printer cartridges, used stamps, and foreign coins, as well as participating in using the green waste bins for the Borough's re-cycling scheme.

About every six weeks, we have a Messy Church afternoon, when children come to take part in craft work, with a Christian message, snacks, and a small informal Christian based story.

We have a thriving Men's Group, who meet several times a year, for a meal, a talk and a few beers. We also join with Overton Men's Group, to challenge them at Skittles. There is also a small group who meet on a Monday night, to discuss various topics in a Christian based society.

The Church in North Waltham feels that it is a welcoming community, and if any person within the Village, either resident or visiting, feels the need of to talk over problems, then either Julia or the Church Wardens, are available to assist.