

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Tasburgh held on  
Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025 7.30pm in Tasburgh Village Hall.**

|                 |   |                                     |
|-----------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Present:</b> | Jill Casson                             | Parish Councillor (Chair)           |
|                 | Adrienne Watts                          | Parish Councillor                   |
|                 | Preston Thomas                          | Parish Councillor                   |
|                 | Brian McGuire                           | Parish Councillor                   |
|                 | Keith Read                              | Parish Councillor                   |
|                 | Tina Eagle                              | Parish Clerk                        |
|                 | Lynn Cutress                            | Redwings Horse Sanctuary            |
|                 | Ben Goodfellow                          | Tasburgh United Charities           |
|                 | Simon Orford                            | Tasburgh Allotment Society          |
|                 | Brian Hill                              | Burrfeld Park                       |
|                 | Peter Sluman                            | Long Stratton & District Men's Shed |
|                 | Graham Pates                            | Tasburgh Village Hall               |
|                 | Caroline Pates                          | 1 <sup>st</sup> Tasburgh Sea Scouts |
|                 | Helen Burnett                           | Tasburgh Eurolink and Carers Group  |
|                 | Lyn McKinney                            | Tasburgh Society                    |
|                 | Alison Thomas                           | County Councillor                   |
|                 | Martyn Hooton                           | District Councillor                 |
|                 | Rhodri Coleman                          | Team Leader, Community First        |
|                 | Responder, East Anglian Ambulance Trust |                                     |
|                 | Plus 6 members of the public            |                                     |

## **1. Apologies**

Apologies were received from:

|                 |                                    |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| Willie Crawshay | Parish Councillor                  |
| Matthew Walker  | Headteacher Preston Primary School |
| Ann Gibbins     | Tasburgh Keep Fit Club             |

Jill Casson Chair welcomed attendees to the Annual meeting of the Parish.

## **2. Guest Presentation**

Rhodri was welcomed to the meeting, introduced himself as the team leader of the local Poringland Community First Responder (CFR) group, and provided some insight into the role of a First Responder and what the local team do. A summary follows:

The Poringland CFR group covers not just Poringland but also several local parishes including Tasburgh. Community First Responders are volunteers trained by the ambulance service to respond to 999 calls and provide immediate assistance in medical emergencies. As volunteers, they live and work within the community, meaning they can reach a patient quickly, providing immediate life-saving care and help bridge the gap until an ambulance arrives. The group is self-funded, and they currently have a spare kit which Rhodri had on display and went through its contents. They do not attend traffic incidents or calls related to drug and alcohol. If anyone is interested in learning more or think they might like to join them, visit:

[www.eastamb.nhs.uk/join-the-team/volunteering-and-volunteers/community-first-responders](http://www.eastamb.nhs.uk/join-the-team/volunteering-and-volunteers/community-first-responders) Training can also be provided for community and youth groups.

**Ques: How much does the kit cost?**

**Ans:** The de-fibrillator costs about £2500.00, the bag £600.00, the uniform £100.00 and mobile phone contract £180.00.

**Ques: Do you have to own your transport?**

Yes, you also need to have a clean driving licence as unlike the emergency services you must stick to the rules of the Highway so no speeding.

**Ques: Do you find the callouts are similar?**

Yes, but the people are different. We find we can provide a calming presence, stabilise patients and provide appropriate care until a more highly skilled ambulance crew takes over their treatment.

Rhodri was thanked for his time in attending the meeting.

### **3. Minutes of meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2025**

Subject to the amendment on first page of changing 'Longs' to 'Long' the minutes were **agreed** as a true record of proceedings proposed by, Preston Thomas seconded by, Peter Sluman all in agreement.

### **4. Parish Council Reports**

#### **a) Chair's Report**

Welcome everybody to the 2025 annual meeting of the parish.

Since our meeting last year, the Neighbourhood Plan went to a Referendum in May and was accepted by a large percentage of the parish (85.43%). Therefore, the plan was formerly adopted by South Norfolk DC and now is a legal document, which must be taken into consideration by them when considering applications. Indeed, we have already had cause to use it. Thanks again to everyone who worked so hard to complete the plan, and to all of you who voted to accept it.

New gateway signs have been installed at the entrance to the village on the Low Road and hopefully are having an impact on village speed, emphasising that they are entering a built-up area. We have also received the go-ahead to install a similar gateway on Flordon Hill just after the bridge, which hopefully will have a similar effect on vehicles entering the village from Flordon. We continue to pursue the possibility of a cycle / foot path to Long Stratton, as part of hoped-for sustainable connections due to the new bypass and development there. Talking of the bypass, rapid progress continues, and it should be open by the end of the year.

In the playground, we have replaced the cradle swings in the fenced junior area and the double bay swing in the older children's area. This leaves only one set of swings which have not been almost totally rebuilt, with galvanized feet inserted into the ground to stop the rot. Much of the surface around the play equipment has also been replaced. We are currently planning to replace the posts alongside the Horseshoe footpath and continue to closely monitor the boardwalk in Burrfield Park

Hopefully you will all have enjoyed the wonderful daffodil displays around the village this spring. Thanks to the team of volunteers who helped us to plant them.

During this financial year, we plan to replace the defibrillator at the village hall as the current one is nearing the end of its useful life.

We have been saddened to hear recently of incidents of theft and vandalism on the Heritage (or sheep) field. This site is a great asset to the village and most people love seeing the lambs each year as a sign of Spring. Without the income from the grazing, the Norfolk Archaeological Trust could not afford to maintain the site or cut the grass. We are working with the Trust to hopefully solve problems, and would ask all walkers, with or without dogs, to act as “eyes” and if you see anything at all suspicious, please report it to us or the Trust immediately.

## **b) Financial Report**

The accounts for 2024/25 had just recently been inspected and returned by the internal auditor using the tests that are provided in the 2023 Governance and Accountability with no matters arising. In fact she congratulated Councillors for the way in which the Parish Council is administered and thanked all those concerned for the excellent set of accounts. Her report and completion of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return will be signed off by Council at our next meeting in May following which it will then be passed to the external auditors PKF Littlejohn for further examination. The figures therefore are still unaudited and unapproved by the Parish Council until returned by the external auditor. This will hopefully be undertaken in the June meeting.

As you will see from the draft summary of the accounts the Council remains in a good financial position, and when necessary, continues to maintain value for money on all projects. Funding continues to be set aside and added to earmarked reserves. This is held for specific purposes such as replacing the defibrillator when the time comes or a potential forthcoming project that has been identified but yet still not started. This allows us to make it easier to manage the Council's finances and ensure forward planning and transparency. As in previous year's any remaining budgeted funds at year end will continue to be transferred into the contingency funds for Burrfield Park and the play area. This year the focus has been on replacing several pieces of play area equipment.

A reminder that the Parish Council is always keen to support activities and causes which benefit the parish and have a small amount of funds available. Groups must be a charity, voluntary or community organisation and be able to show that funding would benefit residents of the parish. Please do consider applying and get in touch for more information and an application form if this is of interest for the forthcoming financial year.

In relation to the 2024/25 Draft Summary of Accounts a query was raised under the Project heading the budget allocation of 2250.00 needed to reflect the same amount and not 2500.00 as shown. Another query was raised in relation to CIL in re-occurring expenditure and again in projects. It was also noted that it would help if totals were included for the contingency and ear-marked reserves. It was agreed the draft summary would be amended accordingly.

#### **4. Reports from Other Bodies**

##### **a) County Council – Alison Thomas**

Alison reported that the Long Stratton by-pass is making good progress. There are three weekend closures scheduled for July, and it is expected that work will be completed for August opening.

A summary follows of the discussion held on Devolution /Local Government Reorganisation (slides attached)

##### Devolution

The Government proposes to create a Mayoral Combined County Authority across Suffolk and Norfolk.

##### Local Government Re-organisation

The Government is reorganising local government in the UK to create more efficient and streamlined structures. The Government's long-term vision is for simpler council structures, which make it clear who is responsible for services.

For Norfolk this means fewer and larger unitary councils compared to the current two-tier model which has a total of eight local councils covering the county. The exact number and shape and size of any new unitary councils for Norfolk is still to be determined.

##### **b) District Council – Martyn Hooton**

Martyn reported that the [Community Action Fund](#) is now open. If any group wishes to apply contact Martyn [martyn.hooton@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk](mailto:martyn.hooton@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk) who can make an application for funding on your behalf. The maximum amount of funding that can be applied for is £15,000.00.

There is still no date scheduled for the Development Management Committee Meeting to consider Planning Application 2024/2188 Land East of Rushmoor.

Early indication to the sign up to the new Food Waste initiative appears to be working well.

##### **c) Norfolk Police**

No report available

#### **5. Reports from Village Organisations**

##### **a) Redwings Horse Sanctuary report delivered by Lynn Cutress, CEO**

Our work following our Planning application, to fence off and plant on our 26-acre field in Tasburgh adjacent to the east of the A140 and immediately north of Boudica Way, is now almost complete with the aim of using it for summer grazing to take pressure off some of the rest of our land. Following concerning incidents over recent months and in the light of that the paddocks will be used for summer grazing we have kept costs low by having pergola type sunscreens rather than full shelters.

With pressure on the public purse impacting on donations alongside rising costs, our Trustees had to make the difficult decision to close one of our centers – our newest centre (in Chepstow) as the cost-per-horse kept there, together with the need to invest

in facilities, meant that the funds are better spent on horse care closer to our horse hospital and resources in Norfolk. We were able to move the horses to some of our other sites and continue their care.

As per any employer, we have been impacted by the National Insurance increase in employer contributions, we are having to make a number of changes to reduce our expenditure. One of these changes is to keep to 4 day a week opening at our Norfolk Visitor Centres; increasing to 7-day opening across the summer did traditionally bring in more income, but with rising staff costs and less applicants for in-person jobs on a rota (when increasingly people want to work from home and on hours to suit them), we felt this is the year to stick to 4 day opening.

Being closed for the other 3 days a week at the Caldecott Visitor Centre will mean more time for rehoming. During these tough economic times, it makes even more sense to loan a horse from a rescue centre rather than buy; our horses out on loan remain in our ownership so can be returned if circumstances change. Do spread the word as rehoming not only saves us costs but benefits the guardians of our ponies giving them peace of mind.

Our joint work with the University of East Anglia (UEA) on the story of Black Beauty book continues and we have been able to work with educational colleagues at schools to support the curriculum. Our book festival is returning this year at our Caldecott Visitor Centre on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June. Local and national authors will include husband and wife thriller writers A J Wills and AJ McDine and children's authors Jane Badger and Cressida Burton. There will also be a special panel on 'How to get ahead in Publishing' featuring Polly Crosby alongside international bestsellers of historical romance Jenni Keer and Clare Marchant.

For clarification our sites around Tasburgh are not open to visitors. The only ad hoc visitors should be our veterinary team and farriers. Should any suspicious activity concern you do phone our Head Office at Hapton on 01508 505246 or email [info@redwings.co.uk](mailto:info@redwings.co.uk)

#### **b) Tasburgh Allotment Society report delivered by Simon Orford**

Yet another great year down on the plots. The recent Village Hall Open Day gave an excuse to get the History books out. We first met back in 2009, sitting around in a circle, discussing our gardening habits and how we could feed it.

By September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2012, we were hosting our Opening Ceremony. Amongst those present at the Parish Council hand over (we are their tenants) were Dave Moore, Florence Ellis, Bob McClenning and Alison Thomas.

Our plots remain full (some 20 spaces filled) and the waiting list still has patient gardeners in the wings. We said farewell to a couple of plot holders but welcomed two new members.

This year we have seen yet another successful Village Flower and Produce Show. We are ramping this up a bit this year as we're about to have our 13<sup>th</sup> edition. More classes and sub sections to encourage more public to take part. We organise it but it's open to everyone and it's more exciting the more individuals taking part

Improvements continue on the site with efforts to make fencing higher to keep out 2 and 4 legged pests (we are still a target for theft and vandalism unfortunately – it's got to the point that holders don't leave much in their sheds anymore), gates have been fixed and general upkeep kept on top of. Chris Austin, our Chair, pushed a lot of this along but there is a whole army behind him helping out. In particular Francis Fry who maintains much of the general areas of the site, along with Mick Ireson, Simon Scott, Colin Symonds, Ray Allgood and Brian Budd. Probably missed someone there...

Last year's Open Gardens went really well. This takes a big effort and its huge thanks to those willing to offer up their prized gardens. Stacks of support from volunteers saw this year having a Rover Car Rally as well. We were so lucky with one of the few dry weekends that spring and early summer. The sun even shone. Not something we'd seen much of by the end of June last year.

TAS now regularly supplies a team or two to the monthly village quiz which goes to show the allotments are not just about gardening, it's a community hub as well

#### **c) Burrfeld Park report delivered by Brian Hill**

Brian wished to thank all those who have supported Burrfeld during the year. In particular Paul Baker and Brian McGuire for the continued maintenance work they do to ensure that Burrfeld is accessible for the community to enjoy. During the year another successful Moth Morning was held, and it is hoped another would be held this year. Lots of planting had taken place throughout the year with the addition of a pear and cherry tree, bluebells, a Field Maple, Silver Birch and a butterfly box. All of which were made possible by a Clean Up & Bloom grant from South Norfolk & Broadland District Council. We also now have an owl box. Brian advised that this would be his last report as Chair of Burrfeld Park Advisory Group as after 13 years he had decided to stand down.

Brian was thanked for all his hard work and dedication over the years which has helped make Burrfeld Park the village asset it is today.

#### **d) Tasburgh United Charities report delivered by Ben Goodfellow**

Tasburgh United Charities is by some distance the oldest of the village organisations reporting this evening. Documented references to its main parts go back over 200 years and some of it will have been in operation much longer than that. I have been associated with the Charities for only 43 years, still much longer than many of the village organisations have been around, but continuity and renewal are both important for a thriving village community.

The Charities' origins lie in pieces of land that were left or provided at various times to generate rent from which bread and coal were provided for the poor of the parish, but over the years all the land has been sold and the proceeds invested to provide a much greater level of income and with much less administration.

At the end of last year those investments were worth £470,000 and we also had cash reserves of £19,000 mostly held on deposit. The resulting dividends and interest amounted to £13,400, an increase of nearly £700 on the previous year and with no expenses, all of that was available for distribution to residents of Tasburgh in need of assistance. In fact, our distributions last year were £400 more than that, resulting in a

corresponding reduction in our reserves, largely because of support given for one particular family, but that is precisely why the trustees have built up their reserves over the years so that they can be sure of being able to help whenever needed.

This year special mention must be made of Geoff Merchant's contribution to the running of the Charities. After 32 years he stood down as one of the trustees and for the last 14 of those he was the main point of contact for everyone applying for and receiving benefits. Previously the trustees paid someone to provide that service, so you could say that Geoff's contribution was not just a practical benefit but a financial one as well as boosting the amount of income which would otherwise have been available for distribution. His wise and considered comments and advice will be much missed.

As his replacement, the Parish Council had appointed Rachel Mahoney to be the new trustee.

**e) Tasburgh Village Hall report delivered by Graham Pates**

Firstly, I would like to thank everyone who supported the open day at the hall on Sunday. It was great to see how well used the hall is by different organisations and I felt it proved what an important community asset the hall is. If you look at the blue board in the Hall, you will see the publicity from the event.

Some of you may be aware that Lloyd has resigned as our grounds man. I would like to thank him for all his hard work over many years. This leaves a real gap for us in keeping the hall running. The trustees have decided to take the grounds person role and extend it to include the Fire Officer role that already existed and add some tasks around the internal maintenance of the hall. This was formally launched at the Open Day and will be advertised further. If anyone is interested in this paid role, please come and talk to me or any of the other trustees.

The hall is beginning to show its age, and we have a number of jobs that need doing, including fixing the roof, some repointing of brick work, upgrading the toilets and many other tasks on what is known as our M&D list. We also have a few development projects for the hall that are at various stages of planning. The kitchen needs an overhaul, we would like to improve the flooring where the main hall meets the small hall and we are also exploring, with Tasburgh Sports & Social Club, the idea of an extension where the current patio joins the small hall.

Our Maintenance and Development team shape up all of this work and could really do with some help with this. You do not have to become a trustee to be involved in this subgroup. However, we could do with some more support from our community with extra trustees. We have vacancies for a Parish Council trustee, and from the Scouts and also from Tasburgh United Football Club (TUFC). We also have places for members of the public, but these must be filled by Tasburgh residents.

Finally, I would just like to thank the rest of the trustees and reiterate that if anyone is interested in getting involved in keeping this wonderful community asset going, please come and have a chat.

**f) Tasburgh 1<sup>st</sup> Scout Group report delivered by Caroline Pates**

The Scout group offers a wide range of activities for children and young people from 6 to 18 years. We currently have 19 Beaver Scouts, 14 Cubs and 14 Scouts. Our small Explorer unit is currently taking a break as they are all studying for exams.

This term, as well as crafts and team games, we will be having campfires and going on hikes – usually with chips at the end for the Cubs and Scouts. Beavers will be planting flowers on our allotment plot to encourage pollinators and doing some improvised Maypole dancing this week. The summer term will end with water games – it is usually freezing but they love it.

At half term a group of Scouts with 2 adult volunteers will be going to Decoy Broad for Water Activities Camp. They will have a weekend on the water with expert instructors. During the summer holidays a small group of Scouts will be attending the Norfolk Jamboree, NorJam a huge international camp, for a whole week with a full program of amazing activities.

We are still very short of adult volunteers to allow the young people in Tasburgh to take part in all these activities. We particularly need a Chairperson for our trustees, a role which mainly involves support for the volunteers' leading the sections and 3 or 4 meetings a year.

#### **g) Tasburgh Eurolink delivered by Helen Burnett**

This will be the last Eurolink report to the Parish Meeting as, sadly, we had to wind up the association last September after a wonderful 35 years. As our numbers decline here, and so few Belgians can now take part, continuing the twinning is no longer viable.

The first meeting to discuss setting up the Twinning was called by Tasburgh Parish Council and held in the Village Hall early in 1989. Four people from Tasburgh, two Parish councilors and two representing the Intervillage Sports group, met interested parties in Linden, Belgium, in their newly completed Parish Hall. The rest, as they say, is now history. We had the last twinning weekend here in Tasburgh last May, when just five of our Belgians friends were able to join us. We went ahead with the planned trip to Thetford where we learned about their links to Thomas Paine, then did a Dad's Army tour ending up at the museum for tea. On the Sunday evening, we invited past members and supporters to join us for a big party in the Village Hall with a buffet and sparkling wine to toast friends present, past and absent. Much time was spent looking at old photos of the many twinning events and reminiscing.

Our General Meeting in September agreed to wind Eurolink up and to spend the remaining funds on a commemorative plaque. The Village Hall committee agreed to display it, and it is now in the foyer. The remainder of the money has been donated to the Village Hall. The bank account has been closed, and all members of the committee have now stepped down. The visitors book, which was signed by everyone each time there was a twinning weekend, and any important documentation will be passed over to the Parish Council.

This is the end of Eurolink as a chapter in the history of Tasburgh but will definitely not be an end to the friendships established over the years, and I'm sure many families will keep in touch and visit when they can.



#### **h) Tasburgh Carers report delivered on behalf of Rachel Mahoney**

This is our eighth year supporting those affected by caring in the local community.

Our monthly group continues to thrive and support carers, ex-carers and their loved ones. We can have up to 10 members each month attend, and we are fortunate to have a core volunteer team who not only enjoy our meetings but help to facilitate the morning making sure everyone is included in the conversations.

The group continues to offer brilliant peer support. There is always a lot of chatting, sharing of information and laughter within our group and many friendships have been formed.

Our recent Carers coffee morning continues to be our main annual fund raiser, and we are very grateful for the support from the wider community which makes this a success. The baked goods and raffle prizes sold very well, and the hall was full all morning. We will be able to support the village hall funds by donating some of our profits from the day too.

We are always happy to welcome new members and if you wish to join us or know anyone who may be interested in the group, please pass my details on.

#### **i) Tasburgh Society report delivered by Lyn McKinney**

Those who've lived here for a longish period may recall an event called "Imagined Land" which was held on the Heritage Field in September 2017. It was a huge success, involving many Tasburgh residents and their families. Out of that was born the Tasburgh Society, a coming together of the already existing History Group and people who had been involved with the cultural activities of "Imagined Land". It's not exclusive, it's open to anyone who wants to be part of it.

In the past we have staged all kinds of events and have expanded and contracted in numbers according to event needs. You might recall our Armistice Day memorial for which we researched each and every soldier from Tasburgh who went to war and never returned, our Midsummer Madness evening raising funds for the church, and our Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration in 2022, remembering events of the last 70 years – nationally and here in Tasburgh. We have also staged a couple of Murder Mystery evenings in aid of the Village Hall.

Our third Murder Mystery evening will be on Sat 17<sup>th</sup> May and revolves around the wonderful world of Bake Off. As well as the usual sleuthing from the audience, it's also going to be an opportunity for bakers in the village to compete for a bottle of champagne, giving everyone the excuse to eat delicious food. What's not to like? Tickets available now from Adrienne and Paula Foster.

You may have noticed Ben Goodfellow's wonderful history contributions in the Tasburgh Quarterly. His research into the village's past is meticulous, and we hope to make much of that available on our Tasburgh website very soon.

Finally, there are plans afoot to repeat a lot of the content from "Imagined Land" in 2017, for the benefit of those who missed it, or have moved into the village since then. You may remember there were archaeological digs in people's gardens, we composed

songs and poems, created giant sheep (and a wild boar) and banners and performed a pageant. I don't think I've ever seen so many local adults and children in one place. We cannot stage the whole thing again (we don't have the £70,000 Lottery funding for a start), but we would like to gauge interest in what we're calling "Re-imagined Land". There will be a meeting on Fri 13<sup>th</sup> June here at the Hall at 7.30 pm to discuss it. Thank you.

**j) Long Stratton & District Men's Shed report delivered by Peter Sluman**

The Long Stratton & District Men's Shed is still going strong with 12 members, although we have sadly lost members, we have also gained new ones. We still meet at Hall Farm Lower Tasburgh using a workshop with the kind permission of Gerald and Sarah Barnes, we incur no charges for the use of the workshop. We meet every Monday morning, except Bank Holidays, between 10.00am and 1.00pm.

Some of you may not know what a Men's Shed is. It's a place where men only can meet. It's a way of encouraging people to come together to make, repair and repurpose mainly wooden items, supporting projects in our local communities. It is a place where meetings together can improve wellbeing, reduce loneliness and combat social isolation. A safe place where men with skills or none at all, can meet, chat, learn new skills, have a cuppa and share their experiences and support each other.

We have produced things for our local schools, Doctors Surgery as well as for individuals in our community.

Chair read out reports provided as follows:

**k) Henry Preston Primary School**

Shortly after I wrote to you last year, the achievements of the Federation were externally validated by visits to Preston Primary from OFSTED (April 2024) and SIAMS (July 2024). The OFSTED inspection confirmed that Preston remains a 'good' school, whilst the SIAMS inspection findings indicated that Preston is living up to its foundation as a Church school. Both reports identified a long list of strengths within the school, but inspectors also praised the positive impact and achievements of the wider Federation.

Since September 2024, staff across the Federation have been reviewing the curricula in both of our schools and implementing plans to launch a single Federation curriculum for September 2025. There are many advantages to this. Staff will be able to share expertise and resources, and to support one another more effectively with planning, assessment and monitoring standards. Pupils will benefit from a curriculum which is bespoke to our communities, and we are confident that this closer collaboration will lead to even richer learning experiences, both within school and in terms of educational visits.

We continue to plan a wide range of enrichment activities for our children to supplement their curricular learning. This year, both of our schools have been involved with an exciting project with the Royal Opera House. Having obtained a travel grant of £1000, we were able to send out Year 5 and Year 6 children to London to a performance of 'Hansel and Gretel.' Another exciting project has been undertaken with the Royal Shakespeare Company, through the Theatre Royal

Norwich, where children in both schools will be working with other local schools to produce scenes from 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. In July 2024, we organised a Federation Arts Week, where children had opportunities to work with visiting artists from the local community, collaborating across the Federation; both schools produced Art Exhibitions which were open to the local communities. Other visits have included: The Bug Parc (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2); Norwich Cathedral (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2); Odeon Cinema (Years 3, 4 and 5); Africa Alive (Key Stage 2). Our Year 3 and Year 4 children are about to take part in a residential trip to How Hill.

At Preston, we are keen to build on our strong links with the village community. Once again, it was lovely for the children's Christmas card designs to be displayed for the village, and for winning designs to be used by the church. We value opportunities for children to learn about the history of the village, both by meeting community members and participating in fieldwork. We enjoy strong links with Rev. Austin and the team at St. Mary's Church, who visit the school weekly to deliver 'Open the Book' Assemblies, which are loved by the children. We also enjoy attending the church to mark key festivals such as Harvest, Easter and Christmas, and we have worked together to find new and creative ways for children to participate in collective worship and enjoy prayer and reflection. Together with Saxlingham, we have created a Federation Go Go Giraffe, with sponsorship from the PTAs from both schools; this will be included in the upcoming trail across Norwich in Summer 2025. We continue to use our Federation minibus to be 'out and about' within the local area, collaborating with Preston, participating in sports events and undertaking educational visits.

At a time when schools across the country are facing falling pupil numbers and a reduction in budgets, we are keen to work with the community to continue to promote and strengthen the school so that it can remain an important community resource for generations to come.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any specific questions as I will always be more than happy to share with you our news and updates. Weekly bulletins and regular updates are published on our school website:

<https://www.tasvalley.org.uk/prestonprimary>

#### **I) Tasburgh Keep Fit Club**

We have had another successful year for the Club, and it seems impossible that we have been running for 17 years. Our membership stands at 13, so we have places for three more members. We are hoping that our participation in the Village Hall Open Day at the end of April may lead to new members.

Financially we are in a secure position at the moment and are looking to replace some of the worn-out equipment.

We have some very longstanding members, and we are most grateful for their continued support.

If anyone would like to join us, you are most welcome to come along for a free "taster" session on a Thursday afternoon between 2pm-3pm. My contact details are 470225 and I look forward to hearing from you.

## **7. General Parish Issues**

A member of the public queried if the Neighbourhood Plan would be considered in relation to planning applications. It was noted that it would.

The Chair thanked those present for attending and the meeting closed at 9.45pm

# **Draft summary of Tasburgh Parish Council Accounts 2024/25**

|                                     | Actual           | Budget        | Actual           | (Over)/       |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
|                                     | 2023/24          | 2024/25       | 2024/25          | Under         |
|                                     | £                | £             | £                | Spent         |
|                                     |                  |               |                  | £             |
| <b>Payments</b>                     |                  |               |                  |               |
| <b>Reoccurring Expenditure</b>      |                  |               |                  |               |
| Administration                      | 5940.30          | 5337.80       | 6200.57          | (862.77)      |
| HR                                  | 8496.27          | 9289.00       | 8748.87          | 540.13        |
| Maintenance                         | 2436.99          | 4674.00       | 4263.94          | 410.06        |
| Grass Cutting                       | 4677.00          | 3676.60       | 3569.60          | 107.00        |
| Other                               | 215.52           | 384.48        | 329.01           | 55.47         |
| Burrfield Park (events)             | -                | 50.00         | -                | 50.00         |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                     | <b>21,766.08</b> |               | <b>23,111.99</b> | <b>299.89</b> |
| <b>Projects</b>                     |                  |               |                  |               |
| Unallocated Projects                | -                | 500.00        | -                | 500.00        |
| Grants Local Groups                 | 1,000.00         | 1,500.00      | -                | 1,500.00      |
| Neighbourhood Plan                  | 7,424.00         | 1,791.25      | 1,721.55         | 69.70         |
| The Triangle                        |                  | 4,450.00      | -                | 4,450.00      |
| CIL                                 |                  | 9,872.93      | 6846.00          | 3,026.93      |
| Footpaths                           |                  | 1200.00       | -                | 1200.00       |
| Defibrillator                       |                  | 2250.00       | -                | 2250.00       |
| <b>Contingency</b>                  | <b>91.50</b>     | <b>548.00</b> | <b>403.99</b>    | <b>144.01</b> |
| <b>VAT</b>                          | <b>1,030.17</b>  |               | <b>2,760.40</b>  |               |
| <b>Subtotal</b>                     | <b>9,546.57</b>  |               | <b>4,885.94</b>  |               |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                  | <b>31,312.65</b> |               | <b>34,843.93</b> |               |
| <b>Contingency Funds</b>            |                  |               |                  |               |
| Working budget                      |                  |               | 12,000.00        |               |
| Play area equipment                 |                  |               | 3,688.00         |               |
| Burrfield Park                      |                  |               | 4,735.00         |               |
| The potential cost of a by-election |                  |               | 2,000.00         |               |
| Unexpected project costs            |                  |               | 2,000.00         |               |
| Unexpected events                   |                  |               | 3,200.00         |               |
| <b>Ear-marked reserves</b>          |                  |               |                  |               |
| CIL allocated to cycle path project |                  |               | 3026.93          |               |
| Neighbourhood Plan                  |                  |               | 69.70            |               |
| Traffic calming initiatives         |                  |               | 2,000.00         |               |
| Land known as 'the triangle'        |                  |               | 4,450.00         |               |
| Litter Pick Prize funding           |                  |               | 220.00           |               |
| Defibrillator                       |                  |               | 2,350.00         |               |
| Footpath                            |                  |               | 1,200.00         |               |
| Horseshoe Footpath                  |                  |               | 200.00           |               |
|                                     |                  |               | <b>41,139.63</b> |               |

|  | 2023/24          | 2024/25          |
|--|------------------|------------------|
|  | £                | £                |
| <b>Receipts</b>                          |                  |                  |
| Precept                                  | 24,674.00        | 25,196.40        |
| Interest                                 | 171.56           | 297.01           |
| Quarterly Advertising                    | 1532.32          | 1490.72          |
| Hall hire refund                         | 79.05            | -                |
| VAT Refund                               | 2802.36          | 3790.57          |
| Grants & Refunds                         | 320.00           | 220.00           |
| Verge Cutting Contract                   | 1549.47          | 1549.47          |
| Grass Cutting Maintenance                | 1299.00          | 1403.00          |
| Allotment Tenancy                        | 250.00           | 250.00           |
| Church News & Yellow Pages Printing      | 520.00           | 390.00           |
| Other                                    | 50.00            | 50.00            |
| Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)      |                  |                  |
| Neighbourhood Plan funding               | 2350.00          |                  |
| <b>Total</b>                             | <b>35,597.76</b> | <b>34,637.17</b> |
| <b>Reconciliation</b>                    |                  |                  |
| <b>Opening Balance @ 31st March 2024</b> |                  | <b>69,386.89</b> |
| Total Income                             |                  | 34,637.17        |
| Total Expenditure                        |                  | 34,843.93        |
| <b>Closing Balance @ 31st March 2025</b> |                  | <b>69,180.13</b> |
| Represented by:                          |                  |                  |
| Current Account                          |                  | 42,461.63        |
| Barclays High Interest Account           |                  | 26,718.50        |
| Less unrepresented cheques               |                  |                  |
| <b>Total</b>                             |                  | <b>69,180.13</b> |
| VAT all recovered                        |                  |                  |