

TUDDENHAM ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor Claire Unwin

Clerk: Tina Newell

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Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 16 May 2024 In The Village Hall, Tuddenham St Mary.

In attendance Present: Claire Unwin (CU) (Chairman) Tina Newell (Clerk) and twenty four members of the public

16524PM/01 Claire Unwin as Chairman of the Parish Council welcomed everyone to the meeting.

16524PM/02 **Apologies:** Colin Noble, County Councillor offered apologies for absence prior to the meeting as did Amanda Spence on behalf of Babes to Teens and the Chairman of the Bowls Club both of whom submitted reports.

16524PM/03 There were no minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held in 2023 available to approve.

Reports from local groups:

16524PM/04 Nature Reserve: The senior reserve manager from Natural England informed all present of the amazing year this special site has been with 5 fledged Stone Curlews and one Eurasian Curlew; an anti-predator fence has been erected which whilst is not aesthetically pleasing it is serving its purpose in keeping predators out; five training mortars have been found on the site with small amounts of charge and therefore controlled explosions have taken place – due to this they haven't been able to rotavate as much land as they hoped as health and safety wouldn't allow; wooden kissing gates are being replaced by metal gates and this is possible due to the voluntary contributions from the car parks; further acreage has been purchased recently down Sandy Drove and the aim for this land is to attract Turtle Doves.

16524PM/05 Tuddenham Cricket Club: Currently have eight teams including a ladies team and four youth teams; a four team tournament will be hosted over the late May bank

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These minutes are in draft form only. They have not been ratified and therefore are not a matter of formal record. They will be presented for approval at the next Annual Parish meeting.

holiday and a pub (White Hart) vs club fixture over the August bank holiday; the club has two qualified coaches and a variety of coaching support from members – there remain no paid positions; during the year and with money from various fundraising events a ‘Flicx’ practice pitch was purchased and the club are now in the process of creating a more permanent artificial surface to supplement the existing mobile nets.

16524PM/06 Tuddenham Football: Various roles and positions have changed within the committee with new members also coming on board due to this there is little to report other than they are excited for the forthcoming season; it is hoped the two teams that currently use the facilities will all come under Tuddenham Rovers next season which will help with maintenance and finances.

16524PM/07 Tuddenham Playing Field Management Association: The pavilion now has internet access and a wi-fi network that will allow card payments it has also had its spring clean and electrical items tested; whilst the pavilion has a number of security cameras already installed the site security is due to be reviewed and opinions are being sought on the condition of its roof; it is hoped a borehole can be installed to allow water for the cricket square this season.

16524PM/08 Tuddenham Village Hall: The new hall has 9 trustees all of whom are volunteers and there is a vacancy for a Parish Councillor; the primary goal of the hall is to bring residents together and whilst good strides have been made there is still a little way to go. The old hall had on average 196 attending regular monthly events – the new hall has around 388 almost double! There is an open day planned for August 2024 where ideas and suggestions will be sought as to what events people would like to see held, if the committee are to achieve their original goals attendance at such events much increase. There are a number of core regular events including ‘Tuddenham Talks’, a cookery and a gardening club there are also an awful lot of private hires – the hall appears popular for many events from children’s parties to funeral wakes and these all generate good income.

16524PM/09 Friend of St Marys Church: The objective of the group is to look after the building and the churchyards (both old and new) and further to the 5 yearly report the building is generally satisfactory. There are 3 member vacancies with rotas for

opening the church and putting flowers in the church. The Annual General meeting is being held on 22 May 2024 and there is a dedicated social media page <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61550852895945>.

- 16524PM/10 St Marys Church Parochial Church Council (PCC): A service for Holy Communion is held every first Sunday in the month with festivals celebrating Easter, Harvest and Christmas – the last Christmas event including and interactive Carol Service with younger members practising bell ringing; there is evidence of Swifts nesting and a number of bats roosts; the ‘old tools’ campaign saw a number of tools refurbished and sent to students in Africa; the PCC have been asked to contribute towards the cost of ‘the team’ of churches to the sum of £7,258 – the electricity and water used at St Marys is in addition to this.
- 16524PM/11 Umbrella: The editor gave thanks to all business who support it’s printing costs and appealed to local clubs, organisations and individuals for more content.
- 16524PM/12 Babes to teens: A report was received prior to the meeting and is appended in full.
- 16524PM/13 Tuddenham Bowls Club: A report was received prior to the meeting and is appended in full.
- 16524PM/14 Date of the next meeting was agreed as 15 May 2025 starting at 7.00pm with the same format.