

Chair's Report to the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 15/04/25

WPC currently have 5 Councillors, three were elected and two subsequently co-opted. All Councillors' terms will end in May 2027. The Council also employs Mrs Tracey Block as our clerk. She joined us last June following the resignation of the previous clerk.

The Council meets in public 10 times a year at 19.30 hrs. in the village hall, usually (but not exclusively) on the first Tuesday of the month. There are no meetings scheduled in January & August. All documents for the meetings are published on the Council's website prior to the meetings. Minutes are placed on the: Parish Council's website; the notice board; and in PAW news.

Meetings routinely cover: Council Finances and grants, reports from City and County Councillors, planning matters, highway & road safety issues, the PC's property and responsibilities, and communications with parishioners.

All business is conducted in accordance with the Government's transparency code and the Council always endeavours to reach appropriate standards of governance.

Due to the need to appoint a new clerk and the availability of councillor's time our work over the past year has been limited to essentials only.

The precept for the year 24/25 was set at £8,180, and grants of £2,251 and £140 were received from Canterbury City Council in accordance with the concurrent funding arrangements. It remains to be seen if/how these arrangements will fare after the forthcoming local government reorganisation is completed. For now, however, the Council's finances remain in good order with a balance of £4,727 to be carried over to the current financial year (25/26). And the usual grants were of course made to local organisations totalling £6,000. All financial details and the budget can be found on the Council's website. This year the precept will rise to £8,300.

Finally. - Thanks are due for so much work quietly undertaken by so many parishioners for the benefit of the community - and for which the Council extends its sincere thanks.

John Barry