

The village website is crucial to WPC's compliance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations. This requires that certain matters must be published on the site including Notices, Minutes, Agendae, financial expenditure and reports. Mary Mitson-Woods expressed her gratitude to Kay Ungless for all her help with putting items on the PC web page.

The accounts for the year 2016/7 are not complete but will be by the end of next week. These will then go to SALC, WPC internal auditor, and be brought back to the Annual PC meeting on 15th May for the Council to sign the Annual Return ready to be submitted to BDO.

At the end of the 2016/17 year Council reserves will be very low with an expected balance of around £5000.00. The Council has set the Precept for 2017/18 at £12,000 with funding applications for repairs to play equipment and other projects planned. In the next few years the Council will need to rebuild reserves to a more acceptable level in order to maintain services.

She also thanked Philip Kett for collecting the Allotment rents and for preparing a very comprehensive list of village assets in order that the Council can study this and ensure that everything is included in it's Asset Register and insured as necessary.

2017/06 Report from the Walberswick Common Lands Charity

James Darkins presented a very comprehensive report in a presentation, this addressed the demands of the new Charity Commission regulations and the problems that have had to be addressed following changes in it's regulations. He carefully outlined how the Charity is governed and the policies that set out how grant recipients are decided upon according to the constitution. A full financial report was included. *(For the full report see Walberswick website or contact James for a copy)*

2017/07 Blyth Estuary Group

John Nichols reported on the flood dangers and the proposal to extend the board walk to the top of the dunes to enable those with disabilities to get a lovely view of the sea and beach.

2017/08 Report from District Councillor Raymond Catchpole. Councillor Catchpole reported on the plans for devolution which brought a promise of extra funding; however it is now not going to happen. Councillor Catchpole felt that extra costs of taking on the additional responsibilities outweighed any extra funding.

East Suffolk District Council, a merger of SCDC and Waveney District Council, is now a 'shadow' East Suffolk District Council, the largest in England, until appropriate legislation is put into place. Councillor Catchpole believes that the merger will be good for Walberswick as it will no longer be at the end of a district but in the middle of the new authority.

Planning applications are now to be processed within a Draft plan which has now been signed off by the Planning Inspector as The Local Plan. This Plan has to be reviewed periodically and that process is now ready to begin. He appealed for people to come forward

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