

Wickham Parish Council

Annual General Meeting of Wickham Water Meadows Millennium Green Trust

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the above Trust held at Wickham Centre on Monday 18th May 2009 at 6.30pm.

Present: Angela Clear, Trevor Astbury, Jenny Hollis, Justin Gamblin

One member of the public, Parish Clerk Nicki Oliver

1. To appoint a Chairman for the coming year **Refer to next meeting.**
2. To receive apologies for absence **Thérèse Evans, Sue Roger-Jones Jenny Hollis and Justin Gamblin were co-opted to the meeting to provide a quorum.**
3. To receive outgoing Chairman's report for 2008/9:

- 3.1 Millennium Green
 - 3.2 Old Forge
 - 3.3 Accounts and Finance
- Report attached.**

**It was agreed that the cutting regime should remain as it is.
It was agreed to discuss fishing licenses at a future meeting.**

4. To adjourn meeting to allow participation by members of the public **Mike Gosney, who acted as project manager whilst the Millennium Green was being developed, noted that it was great to see people using the Water Meadows and that the area is being well maintained.**

Meeting closed 6.55pm

Report for Annual General Meeting of the Water Meadows May 2009.

I am very pleased to report that the Water Meadows continue to offer a haven of peace and quiet to many people throughout the year. So much so that two pairs of ducks and a pair of moorhens are nesting on our stretch of the river this year. Hopefully they will hatch despite some of our younger members of the Parish using them as target practice.

During March we had the bird nest boxes knocked down which Paul Collins had put up for us, next year we will try again and put them higher than ten feet high!!

The annual cut has taken place but many more folk are requesting that the grass is kept shorter so that they can see along the path and who is coming. I know that Jenny Mallett is against this as it is a water meadow, but more and more people are using it for lunch time breaks etc. The committee will need to meet soon and discuss what Parishioners want also to be discussed whether we should have fishing licences. Just recently we have had reports of people fishing from the river and taking large brown trout home for their consumption. Is this a sin or are PC providing a relaxing and rewarding past-time –helping to occupy someone's day?

We have had all the trees surveyed which Jenny started last year, and some of them need to be felled. A contractor was booked to fell them and he had all his equipment stolen, we are now waiting for the nesting season to finish before starting the work.

We thank Barry Samways for doing repairs to the handrails on the embankment. From a maintenance / repairs point of view this has been a quieter year. (We did spend a lot of money last year on renewing the embankment steps which have proved invaluable to so many putting in the extra step.), so the bank balance is quite healthy.

The tenant in the Old Forge seems very content and providing a good service to all in Wickham and beyond.

Our Water Meadows would not be so beautiful if we did not have Paul looking after it, he is ever watchful and we thank him most sincerely. Another huge thank you must go to all the helpers who quietly litter pick for us each and every day. We really appreciate their help in keeping this wonderful oasis for the people of Wickham.

Sue Roger-Jones.
Chairman

Water Meadows Trust Accounts April 08 – March 09		
	Expenditure	Income
	£	£
Balance 1st April 2008		18,337
Old Forge rent		4056
Bank interest		456
Grounds maintenance	-2595	
Insurance	-798	
Windows insurance	-60	
Accountant	-40	
Replace steps to railway line	-3550	
Total	-7043	22,849
Less expenditure		-7,043
VAT to reclaim		-4
Balance carried forward		15,802