

Clerk's Report – Warham Parish Council – 19 May 2022

In theory, local authority staff (which includes Parish Clerks) have their salaries assessed every year on 1st April. Over the past few years this has resulted in no change on most occasions due to the government deciding that “public sector workers” would have their pay “restrained”. When pay rises have been agreed, they are usually decided sometime after April the 1st, resulting in back pay having to be added at some time during the year. Last year, they really excelled themselves and decided the pay rise effective from 1 April 2021 just before 1 April 2022. In my case this has resulted in the princely sum of £47.84 (less tax) being payable as back pay. I am only telling you this since my pay this time will be rather higher than usual, and rather higher than next time!

It would be appreciated if you could look at the Audit Papers before the meeting. In particular, The Annual Governance Statement which requires us to agree that we have done all we can to safeguard the funds of the Parishioners. If you have any problems/queries, I will gladly answer these at the meeting.

Because we always try to respond to planning consultations, it was a pity that this was not possible in the case of the river re-naturalising between Wighton and Warham. However, we only have a small number of Councillors, and in my opinion, it is inevitable that there will be times when we are unable to reach a consensus. We should content ourselves with the fact that this doesn't happen very often.

The potholes on the road out of the village towards Wells/Walsingham were reported just after the last meeting, and have now been fixed, according to Highways.

KL May 2022