

Warham Parish Council – Clerk’s Report 18 May 2023

I have cancelled the annual playground inspection – there doesn’t seem much point when it has been closed for several months. I have told them that we will probably resume when the new playground is in place. In the meantime, we will be saving in the region of £100 a year.

Items 8 & 9 on the agenda concern signing off the accounts for the past year. If you could scan these before the meeting, it will save time when we get there!

Item 10 concerns the fact that even though we did not have a contested Parish election, we have in the past, received a bill for work undertaken by NNDC. Many other District Councils are known to waive this charge. The reason for the agenda item is that more and more work is being pushed onto Parishes by the District at the time of elections. At a recent Zoom meeting of Clerks, it was stated that NNDC has a policy of “moving towards net zero” as far as printing costs go (by moving more items online). However, part of this policy seems to be to delegate printing to Parishes. In the period since the start of the election build up, I have been asked to print and distribute numerous posters, plus forms, some of which have umpteen pages and require several copies. NNDC also ask Parishes to (print and) display posters advertising various stages in the election process for both the Parish and District Councillors, which I believe is legally their province. I feel that if we get a bill for the election, we should counter this with one for our own costs.

You have all completed Registration of Member’s Interests forms in the past. They have to be completed when you become a Councillor, and at each subsequent election. This has now been taken online by NNDC. If you would like to complete this before the meeting, (saving time later) you will find it here:

<https://forms.north-norfolk.gov.uk/outreach/registerinterest.ofml>

KL May 2023