

Clerk's Report - Warham Parish Council - 23 July 2026

After last month's meeting I made sure to check the times for the next meetings and book them accordingly at 7:30.

Following on from May's meeting, I telephoned Kai Gibbon at Flagship to confirm the council's acceptance of the proposal for the new playground and offered £8000 from the council's funds towards the cost. Kai confirmed he would submit this to his senior management to secure the remaining funds to meet the cost and order the equipment and arrange installation once confirmed. I also contacted Wells Carnival Committee to secure the £500 donation pledged last year and this has now been paid into the council's account. I've since received a further email from Kai to say the order for the play equipment has been placed and he has contacted their builders to arrange installation. He is leaving Flagship on the 17th July, but his replacement will contact us as soon as they have an installation date. That leaves us with the £8000 balance to pay and they have sent their invoice. The funds have now been transferred from the council's investment account and the invoice has been paid.

The statutory AGAR returns and Right of Access notice, as placed on the village noticeboard, have now been added to the council website and the AGAR certificate of exemption has been submitted to the external auditors, PKF. They have sent an email confirming receipt. The council's accounts for 2025 have also been added to the council's website as well as the agenda and minutes from the previous meeting.

Yu Energy have still not changed the access to the council's accounts over to me, despite a number of attempts to contact them from both myself and Keith, and emails, statements and notifications are still going to Keith. He has been kind enough to forward them on, but we don't want to test his patience and I will try to contact them again to sort this out. In the meantime, the council's energy contract is up for renewal and this might be a good time to consider our options anyway. I received a number of calls and emails from potential sources for energy for the next period, so we may be able to secure a better deal, or at least avoid a bigger increase.

We have had invoices for grounds keeping for May and June and NALC have sent their invoices for both annual membership and web hosting, all of which have now been paid.. I have finally been able to set up the PAYE for my role with HMRC and as a result, salary and appropriate tax have been paid for this first quarter. Thank you.

The previous email from a parishioner in respect of the footpath along Chapel Street was responded to and a request submitted to Highways to look into it. I've since had a response from Highways to confirm that as the land is privately owned, it's not within their jurisdiction. I believe it may be owned by Flagship who grant permissive access to the path, so I will try to contact them. I'll update the parishioner. I also responded to the parishioner who enquired about the access to the old playground and offered to assist with the removal of the old unsafe play equipment and confirmed that as this was not the only risk associated with this area, we wouldn't be able to officially open the playground as we would not be able to declare it safe.