

ORFORD & GEDGRAVE PARISH COUNCIL
The Town Hall, Market Hill, Orford, Woodbridge, Suffolk. IP12 2NZ
Tel: 01394 459172, E-mail: orfordtownhall@outlook.com

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on day Friday 26th May 2023 at 7:00pm in
The New Room of Orford Town Hall**

There were 5 Parish Councillors present. Marie Backhouse – Parish Clerk was in attendance. There were 10 members of the public present.

1. Welcome by the Chairman

Cllr A Macro welcomed all who attended and provided details regarding emergency exits.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr J Howard, Cllr R Mallett, Cllr I Thornton, Cllr N Addy, Miss Cannon, Corinne Lusher, and Rev Tulk.

3. To Approve the draft minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 18th May 2022

These were Approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record of this meeting.

4. Matters arising from the Annual Parish Meeting held on 18th May 2022.

None

5. Report from MP Therese Coffey

No report received.

6. Report from Suffolk County Council

A written report had been submitted. (Full copy of the report available at the back of this document)

7. Report from Suffolk Coastal District Council

Tim Wilson commented that the newly elected East Suffolk Council will be formed on Wednesday evening. Thanks to Ray Herring for his support to the East Suffolk Council over the past 36 years. It will be a new Greens and Liberal Democrat Council moving forward.

8. Reports from Chairman – Cllr Anne Macro (Parish Council)

Cllr Ian Thornton (NOTT)

Cllr A Macro gave a verbal report. (Full copy of the report available at the back of this document).

Cllr M Iliff gave a verbal report on behalf of the Chair of the NOTT. (Full copy of the report available at the back of this document)

9. Responsible Financial Officer – Marie Backhouse

Marie Backhouse gave a verbal report. (Full copy of the report available at the back of this document).

10. Orford Primary School & Pre-School Report

A written report was submitted by Miss Cannon. (Full copy of the report available at the back of this document)

11. Church Report

A written report was given by Giles Tulk and read out by Jacki Maslin. (Full copy of the report available at the back of this document). The Chair thanked Jacki Maslin.

12. Friends of Saint Bartholomew's

Mr Murley gave a verbal report. (Full copy of the report available at the back of this document). The Chair thanked Mr Murley.

13. Orford Methodist Church

A verbal report was given by Stephen Caley. (Full copy of the report available at the back of this document). The Chair thanked Mr Caley.

14. Orford Recreation Ground Trust Report

A written report had been submitted by Diana Grayburn for the Tennis Club. (Full copy of the report available at the back of this document).

15. Orford & District Surgery Charitable Trust

A verbal report was given by Katherine Silver-Murphy. (Full copy of the report available at the back of this document). The Chair thanked Katherine Silver-Murphy.

16. Orford Museum Report

A verbal report was given by Elizabeth Spinney. (Full copy of the report available at the back of this document). The Chair thanked Elizabeth Spinney.

17. Orford Sports & Social Club

No report submitted.

18. Orford Sailing Club

A written report was submitted by James Tomlinson. (Full copy of the report available at the back of this document).

19. Alde & Ore Community Partnership

No report submitted

20. Orford, Gedgrave & Sudbourne Park Good Neighbour Scheme.

A written report was submitted by Corinne Lusher. (Full copy available at the back of this document).

21. Village Recorder

A verbal report was given by Nigel Maslin. The Chair thanked Nigel Maslin for his report.

22. Orfordness Lighthouse Trust

A verbal report was given by Mike Finney. The Chair thanked Mike Finney for his report.

23. Questions from the floor

1st Member of the public asked how the progress was going with the 20mph speed limit in the village, and also the electric charging points on the car park.

Cllr Macro said that there is a Zoom meeting taking place about the 20mph limit in the villages, hopefully there will be more information available after then The NOTT are discussing charging points for the car park.

2nd Member of the public commented about the road signs, especially the broken one at the end of Broad Street.

Cllr Macro said that many emails have been sent relating to road signs that are broken in the village, the same answer is received, these will be monitored as the SCC has a set budget and priority needs to be given to other issues.

District Cllr Tim Wilson agreed to investigate this issue on behalf of the PC.

3rd member of the public asked about the old garage site and whether there was any progress, also what is happening with the old Smokehouse.

Cllr Wingrove commented that there is a new plan for the garage site, a planning application is hoped to be submitted in June. Seaforth site is separate, and it is hoped that there will be 3 houses and a shop on the garage site.

Cllr Macro commented that she was not sure what was happening with the old smokehouse, but would see if more information could be sourced.

There being no further reports or questions asked, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and formally closed the meeting at 7:48pm

Signed:....., Chairman

Date:.....

Suffolk County Council – Report for the APM 2023

In setting out its 2021 business plan for the next few years, the council’s priorities are to:

- promote and support the health and wellbeing of all people in Suffolk
- strengthen the local economy
- protect and enhance the environment
- provide value for money for the Suffolk taxpayer.

Below are just some of the initiatives taken by SCC in the last year. More details may be found on the county council’s website www.suffolk.gov.uk .

- April 2022 -**
- £350,000 funding dedicated to Suffolk’s Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy.
[A 3 year strategy to reduce and prevent this type of crime](#)
 - Suffolk Highways resurfacing 150 miles of roads at 173 different sites in 2022/23.
[Resurface and Surface Dressing Treatments expected to last between 5 and 20 years](#)
- May 2022**
- Suffolk County Council plants 198,547 trees across Suffolk in the last 2 years.
[£400k spent to absorb CO2 equivalent to 8.8m miles in a typical petrol car](#)
- June 2022**
- New scheme based in Felixstowe reuses over 800,000 tonnes of water.
[Drainage water pumped inland conserving saltmarshes + refilling 14 irrigation reservoirs](#)
 - Funding for second phase of £45 million five-year project for SEND places agreed by Cabinet.

[Target to create 898 places to support growing number of children with SEND](#)
- July 2022**
- Essex and Suffolk Councils unite condemning proposals for a 180km network of 50m tall electricity pylons.
[National Grid - East Anglia Green from Norwich via Bramford to Tilbury - outdated + damage to countryside. Support for undersea cable routes](#)
 - Suffolk County Council and East Suffolk Council secure £180m commitment from EDF for mitigation and compensation from a future Sizewell C project.

[SCC is disappointed that several key issues could be still be improved on e.g. removal of](#)

Sizewell link road, blight of additional pylons, unnecessary outage car park Goose Hill.

- A new map for hauliers plotting journeys across Suffolk has been drawn up. Utilising new bypasses Beccles, Eye and Haverhill. Downgrading routes near Leiston.
- The council submitted a bid of £1,362,000 to the Department for Transport, as part of the Local EV Infrastructure (LEVI) pilot scheme.

Commercial funding brings total to £2.75m to improve existing sites and add a further 30 sites in addition to the existing 100 charging points.

August 2022

September 2022

- Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) speed indicator devices rolled out. 10 rotating devices display drivers speeding and results in follow up letters and visits from the police for persistent offenders. 2 year programme extended in March 2023.

October 2022

- Work on a major expansion of the Foxhall Recycling Centre near Ipswich to begin. £7.8m to be spent on improving access. Foxhall accounts for 19% county recycling
- £3m of further new funding to provide places for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) was agreed.

This provides a further 42 additional spaces on top of the 898 after the funding in June

November 2022

- A project with the aim of replacing all 43,400 streetlights across Suffolk with sustainable, longer-lasting, and cost-saving LED bulbs nears completion. The switch to LED lighting was aiming to save 76% in costs, but the total saving has exceeded 77.6% so far.
- Ground-breaking new guidelines for developers to help them design sustainable and low-carbon neighbourhoods have been launched by Suffolk County Council. Suffolk Design Streets Guide prioritises walking and cycling over cars for developers.
- A new initiative named Multiply Suffolk, which will offer adults an opportunity to improve their numeracy skills, has launched in Suffolk. Free courses are available for adults who do not have GCSE grade C/4 or higher including Money Management for Parents and Carers

December 2022

- A landmark devolution deal, which puts money and power over building, regeneration and skills into the hands of leaders in Suffolk was signed.

An initial £500m investment fund over 30 years will be made available to drive growth and plan for the long term.

February 2023

- Adult care services and children's services receive £47m more funding as part of Suffolk County Council's £685m budget proposals in 2023/2024.

SCC has managed to preserve services across its activities, finding savings of £15m with a resulting increase in council tax of 3.99%.

- Suffolk County Council has reduced its carbon emissions by 15% in the last 2 years. Progress is being made towards the ambitious target to be a Net Zero county council by 2030, with a £13m spend to save project decarbonising its buildings
- Milestone Infrastructure, part of M Group Services, has been awarded Suffolk's new highways services contract, which will begin on 1 October 2023.

The new contract partnership may be in place for up to 20 years and will be worth up to £1bn.

- Suffolk Fire and Rescue Community Risk Management Plan was brought to Cabinet for approval for its adoption from April 2023.

The plan is designed to identify known and foreseeable risks and the optimum deployment of its resources.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 26TH MAY 2023

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRS REPORT

Welcome by the Chairman

I would like to welcome members of the public and representatives to the Annual Parish Meeting. We do have a long agenda therefore I would appreciate it if all questions could be covered under item 22. Please note the fire exits are.....

Chairs Report

Thank you for attending the Annual Parish Meeting this year. Firstly, I would like to thank the outgoing Councillor – Peter Smith, for his hard work and support to the Council. Since the election earlier in the month, we have two vacancies which we hope to co-opt members in June to fill those places.

We have also to report that our Treasurer, Judith Golder, who was with us for some time has decided to resign. We thank her for all her hard work in keeping the accounts all in order. This role has now been taken over by the Clerk.

The council has held 10 normal monthly meetings. These meetings include a report from the County Councillor and the District Councillor, when they are available, also a Public Forum in which residents from time-to-time raise concerns or queries. Our agenda almost always includes planning applications and letters from residents with various concerns.

There are other routine items like financial reports and general Parish Council business. Some items have been discussed more than once, including Village Green issues, parking, traffic management and enforcement, and the recreation ground.

Perhaps the Parish Council's biggest responsibility is to set a precept to meet its expenses which is then reflected in the Council Tax bill sent to residents in March. In 2022/23 it was agreed to increase the precept request by £1,000.

We have a group of two Councillors on a Traffic Management Committee who have spent a lot of time with Suffolk highways having discussions with regards to what and how we need to address the ever-increasing issues we have in the village with traffic flow, the huge number of cars coming into the village, especially at weekends and holiday times, and parking. East Suffolk Council is responsible for civil parking enforcement and a warden is present in the village on occasions and has issued parking fines to those parked illegally.

Community Speedwatch is well supported with a group of 9 volunteers, but if you would like to volunteer for this more members are always welcome.

Planning applications are presented at nearly every Parish Council meeting. There have been several instances of the parish being frustrated by East Suffolk Council planning procedures, whilst we comment on all plans that are presented to us, we have very little power over final decisions. This means that even though the PC may object to an application, it may still be permitted.

Recently the village saw a lovely Celebration for the Kings Coronation, this was well supported, and fun was had by all. The Village Feast is also happening this year at the end of August, when a good evening will be enjoyed by all. We have live music, this will be from a different band this year, BBQ and a bar. Look out for further details in the Village Voice over the coming months. That ends my report as Chairman, reports from the New Orford Town Trust Chairman, the RFO to the Parish Council and the Treasurer to the Trust and various community groups will follow.

**NEW ORFORD TOWN TRUST
REGISTERED CHARITY 1053729**

**The Town Hall, Market Hill, ORFORD, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 2NZ
Telephone: 01394 459172
orfordtrust@btconnect.com**

New Orford Town Trust report for Annual Parish Meeting, 26 May 2023

The financial year to 31 March 2023 has seen NOTT's activities return to normal after two years of being affected by Covid. During the year the Trustee gave grants from its Village Fund amounting to over £2,000, supporting Orford Primary School, Sudbourne Cricket Club, Orford Warm Rooms and community events. The NOTT Chairman would like to thank all of the trustees and staff for their work and support over the past year.

The accounts are still being finalised and will be available on the NOTT website once they have been approved by the Trustee. The surplus will be distributed by the Trustee into various designated accounts to ensure that NOTT's assets can be looked after in years to come.

Down at the riverside the new Quay Warden has now completed his first year in the post and continues to bring his enthusiasm and knowledge to this important role. Towards the end of the financial year the Committee agreed to make a new pathway in front of the riverside sheds to enable better access for pushchairs and wheelchairs and this is already being well used by visitors.

The Estates Committee has had some work carried out on the Town Hall dormer windows, and the Chairman would like to thank Cllr Addy in particular for his work on this. The Committee continues to look after the 8 properties owned by NOTT and let out to local people. The allotments are still popular with local people keen to supplement their shopping with some home-grown fruit and vegetables, and with those who want to try their hand in the various classes at the Flower Show, and we have a number of people on the waiting list for plots. We thank Ian Castle and Philip Tricker with their invaluable help with these.

Quay Meadow and Millennium Wood continue to act as a small oasis of green, popular with dog walkers and people who wish to sit or picnic in this quiet spot.

The Quay Street car park continues to be well used by visitors and is a great asset to NOTT and to the village.

RFO REPORT

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 26.5.23

OGPC

As you may know, I took over the Parish Council accounts October 2022.

The accounts for the year 2022/23 were approved by the Council at their April meeting. The balance at the start of the year was £41,061.74. There was an income from Community Infrastructure Levy of £17,369.27, which has been set aside in an account for future village projects.

The Parish Council had little major expenditure last year, just the day to day running costs, staff wages, grass cutting, play equipment maintenance and inspection, tree work. The Council continues to look at ways to manage traffic in the village and continues to set aside an annual amount for this purpose.

At 31st March 2023 the PC had just over £68,000 in cash reserves. It is considered prudent to hold the equivalent of one year's precept (currently £29k) also we have included in that sum £17,250 of CIL money. The Council stands on a firm financial footing moving forwards with well in excess of this amount in hand.

The accounts and supporting documentation have been passed on to SALC for an internal audit, followed by an external audit by PKF Littlejohn as required by Local Government legislation. All the reports will be available on the website when received.

If anyone has any questions please contact me.

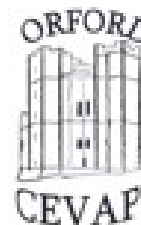
Orford Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

School Lane, Orford, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP12 2LU

Telephone: (01394) 450281

Email: admin@orford.suffolk.sch.uk

Acting Headteacher: Gemma Cannon



26th May 2023

Re: Report from Orford CEVAP School

It has been another very busy year for Orford CEVA Primary, with a number of significant changes taking place.

Our previous academic year ended in July 2022 with a celebration of 150 years of the school being a central part of our community. Invites had been extended to all previous Headteachers, teachers, staff and pupils, as well as the local community, and we were delighted that over 150 people attended the afternoon's celebrations.

We are so fortunate that, through support from the local community and not least of all, Orford Town Trust's donations, our new nursery, reception and Year 1 children were able to start the new school year in September in their brand new open plan classroom. We now have a thriving nursery so the children were already 'old hands' at being in school and they very quickly settled into routine. More recently, the Town Trust have cut the trees back to ensure our EYFS area is accessible all year round.

Two weeks before half term in October 2022, we were informed that the partnership with Bawdsey Primary School would come to an end at half term and Mrs Butler would return to her full time post at Bawdsey. Already the senior leader at the school, Miss Gemma Cannon successfully applied for the post as Acting Headteacher, taking up post on 1st November.

Alongside the governing body and staff team, she has worked hard to ensure that Orford CEVA School would not suffer as a result of this sudden departure. The Local Authority have visited each half term and have reported positively on the changes made in the past 6 months.

Christmas was approached with the traditional lunch and the walk around the village, a charming Nativity play by Class 1 and the school having a table at the Christmas Bazaar in the church. We were sad to say goodbye to Mrs Bailie who has taught periodically at the school for several years. We welcomed Mrs McCart in January to take on the full time teaching role in Class 3.

Mrs Reeve has embarked on training as a Mental Health Lead, a role which is becoming increasingly necessary in today's busy world. She has combined this with helping the school to achieve the Sandwell Mental Health and Well-Being Award which will support children and adults.

Throughout the spring term, the children have been involved in a number of extra-curricular opportunities. In March, the choir (Years 2-6) performed at the Schools Celebration of Music concert at Snape Maltings. The whole school celebrated world book day with the usual dressing up and shared reading and British Science week with a child-led science fair and parent workshops. There was an open morning for current parents to come and learn with their children and experience lessons; Year 6 attended Farlingaye High School for a inter-schools

debating competition; and Class 2 achieved the Bronze RSPB Wild Challenge Award for making the gardens nature friendly. Thanks to the generous donations of EADT sports vouchers from the community, the school received a visit and sports workshop from Paralympian Sean Rose and attended sporting competitions for basketball and dodgeball. Towards the end of term, each class visited St Bartholomew's Church as part of 'Experience Easter' - an excellent 'walk through' the events of holy week, organised by a number of volunteers. This term, 14 children have joined the Arts Award group running in school - the culmination for this year will be once again working with Rust and Stardust to perform 'The Knucker of Knodishall' at the town hall in June. While the aforementioned events were highlights, the school has continued to offer a full range of clubs and activities both before, during and after school.

One final change to announce is that the Governing Body have worked through the 'due diligence' process to join the Tilian Partnership Academy. Converting to an academy will benefit the school by offering considerable support, lessening some of the administrative burden. The Tilian Partnership was meticulously researched to ensure that we retain our unique identity and ability to give our children the best primary school experience. We thank the community for all that they continue to do to help us with our mission.

The Friends of St Bartholomew's Church Orford

Report to the 2023 Orford Annual Parish Meeting

The Friends of St Bartholomew's Church Orford was established as a registered charity in 2022 to raise funds to improve the fabric of the church to enable it to function more effectively as an asset to support the village community. The Trustees include local residents, the Vicar and representatives of the Parochial Church Council (PCC). The charity encourages supporters to make donations and hence to become Friends and hosts fund-raising events in the village through the year. It then makes donations to the PCC to help to fund improvements to the church.

In the last twelve months the Friends have hosted three principal events: the Orford Open Gardens in June, a musical evening in the church in December and a Quiz in the Town Hall in February. All were well attended and we are very grateful for the support we receive from the community, whether as participants or helpers at events.

The Friends made one significant donation to part fund the new heating system in the church (alongside the PCC and an individual donor) and a number of smaller donations for items such as a hand-held microphone.

At the Friends' first annual meeting held in the church on 13 April 2023 we reported income of £24,097 in the period from incorporation on 21 June 2021 to 30 September 2022. Expenditure was £14,507, leading to a surplus of £9,589. At present the Friends hold a cash balance of some £13,000.

Further events are planned this year including the Open Gardens on 28 June and a concert in the autumn. We are in discussions with the PCC about further projects to improve the fabric of the church.

Richard Murley
Chair - The Friends of St Bartholomew's Church Orford

May 2023

ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH

Report to the Orford Annual Parish Meeting – 26th May 2023

It's been another busy year in the life of the Methodist Church here in Orford. After a delay, due to immigration requirements, our Minister, Rev Saul Tadzaushe and his wife arrived from Zimbabwe to the manse in Woodbridge during late October. To help them

acclimatize to their new surroundings, Saul visited all 6 churches under his care before he commenced his ministry. His first service was here at Orford at the end of November.

Sunday morning services have continued with congregations of friends from a wide area of East Suffolk and beyond, and have welcomed many visitors joining with us. Children stay in church for the whole service, sharing their activities and contributing toward the morning's theme. The great events of Harvest Thanksgiving, Remembrance, Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Mothering Sunday, Good Friday and Easter have been well attended - most concluding with lunch.

The Late Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee Celebration Service and Big Lunch last June was a huge success, In September ahead of her Funeral we held a most moving Thanksgiving for her life and service. The Coronation of

Charles III we were again bedecked in Union Jacks to celebrate that occasion. Another 'Big Lunch' (free, and fit for a King) followed on from the Coronation service, after which the young people, and some older ones, entertained us with a humorous Royal Pageant – all much appreciated by a full church.

The 33rd Quay Service last year supported the Jubilee Sailing Trust – however, the Trust was unable to send a representative to update its work for the many who had gathered on the Quay. (This year's service, on Sunday August 6th will support the RNLi and its Aldeburgh Boat - if the boat is allowed to be retained)!

Last November, after much effort and rehearsal, our young people, with older friends, staged a Saturday afternoon ABBA Show supporting Children In Need. Sadly no one from this village attended the audience – however, the raffle of Pudsey Bears and a fantastic Pudsey Bear Cake raised £300. As talented as they are, the December Nativity Service was written and narrated by one of these youngsters and performed with the utmost dedication.

The much talked about 'cost of living crisis' has seen a huge increase in the church heating costs – however the weekly Monday and Wednesday Tea Room has been, and continues to be, a warm and inviting space to welcome local and visiting friends. and for this we are extremely fortunate to have dedicated staff all year round.

A 'Payment by Card' Sumup account, mainly for the Tea Room, and with the support of our congregation and friends through their committed offerings and donations have enabled us to pay our Assessment, outgoings and contribute to various charities.

Stephen Caley - ORFORD METHODIST CHURCH

REPORT ON THE TENNIS COURTS 2023

Both the tennis courts are used regularly by the Men on Saturday mornings and the Ladies on Tuesday mornings. There are 39 Season Ticket holders who pay £75 per year and are entitled to their own key for access. Unfortunately since the Craft Shop closed for Covid there is no facility to book courts and everyone has to take their chance when they go up to the Recreation Ground. Both Anne Macro and I have keys and if visitors want to play and we're available, they borrow a key and pay £10 a session, returning the keys when they have finished.

Nicky Ehlert has continued to run Football for the children on Tuesday evenings throughout the year. They were also used for tennis coaching by the School last Summer. During the summer months this is obviously on the playing field.

We started an appeal for the renovation of the Multi-Court in December 2022. We needed £27,000 to pay for this work as the court is in very poor condition.

Thanks to very generous donations from charitable trusts and individuals we gradually increased the takings in our bank account month by month. The most amazing fund raiser was organised by Jeanette Pearce and some excellent helpers which took place on 1 April and involved a ten hour non-stop tennis tournament, a wonderful raffle, Silent Auction and sale of cakes and other items in the Pavilion on the Recreation Ground. This raised £4,700. The tennis players were in constant rain all day but stalwartly kept the tennis going. This gave us sufficient funds to book the work and the court will be ready later in the summer.

I was completely overwhelmed by the generosity of so many people who do not themselves play tennis, but realised that we must keep this village asset from falling into complete disrepair, and recognised the importance of retaining the Tennis Courts that were built in the 1980's. We look forward to having two courts in excellent condition for many years to come and hope that the Orford School children will use them more and more.

Diana Grayburn
Secretary of the Orford Recreation Committee

Chairman's 2022 report to Annual Parish Meeting of the Orford and Gedgrave Parish Council 26th May 2023

The Orford and District Surgery Charitable Incorporated Organisation, formerly known as the Orford and District Surgery Charitable Trust is now 43 years old – it was set up by Trustees in 1980 to secure and build a surgery building in Orford for the benefit of the Orford & Gedgrave, Iken, Chillesford, Sudbourne and Butley parishes.

During this year we have worked to follow through the plan to ensure that the structure of this organisation is fit for purpose in the 21st century.

i) The first project was to change the Chapman House lease with the medical practice from a fully repairing lease to an internal repairing lease. This takes away the need for the doctors to look after the structure of the building, the maintenance of the car park and the grounds. This necessitated the completion of the Land Registry registration of the legal title of the surgery which has been achieved and also a change of lease with the practice. Work on this latter element is very near completion and we are hopeful of a signature from both sides soon.

ii) The second project to establish a robust structure for the Charity was completed and the charity has been registered as the Orford and District Surgery Charitable Incorporated Organisation for almost two years now. The changes mean that instead of a layer of Trustees and then a Management Committee the CIO is now managed and run by 10 Trustees.

The CIO Trustees are John Bevan, David Goldin, Edward Greenwell, Mary-Ann Gribbon, Steve Joels, Sue Johnston (Treasurer) Corinne Lusher (Secretary), Peter Smith, Mandi Syrett with me as Chair.

All of the work we do is to underpin the delivery of the original vision of supporting the health and care needs of the users of Chapman House surgery and to ensure a surgery remains in Orford for use by the community for the future.

The Trustees oversee two charitable elements:

1. The Surgery CIO which can fund the provision of medical equipment and facilities for the surgery
- and 2. The Esmond House Legacy Care Fund which can fund facilities, equipment and services for frail, older persons and disabled people resident in our five parishes to support them to live independently at home.

Last year, 2022, was a continuation of unprecedented circumstances emanating from not only the impact Covid 19 had on this community but other economic and pressures on the NHS generally. As a committee and on behalf of those in the community the surgery covers, we would like to thank the Doctors and the medical team at Chapman House for their work and support during these times.

In the 2022 calendar year the full management committee met four times in January, March, June, and in October, and this year all meetings were held in person.

Throughout 2022 through the Surgery CIO has supported:

- Extra nursing hours
- Water cooler in the surgery
- Professional fees for the change of the Trust to a CIO
- A retirement present for Wendy Marshall the long standing nurse at the surgery
- Work in the car park including actions to address drainage issues - replacing parts of the soakaway drain and installing a silt bucket for the soakaway drain
- We invited three local contractors to quote for the car park maintenance and once the lease has been signed we will be using SCL Landscapes to undertake this work.

We also agreed to support 33% of the cost of a treatment light in Aldeburgh and 33% of training for salaried GPs in undertaking joint injections and minor surgery in the recognition that patients from the charity's area are likely to be treated in surgeries within the overall practice and await confirmation that our funding offer will be taken up.

In 2022 we continued to support, from the Esmond House Care fund, pendant alarms and key safes for vulnerable people in the surgery's catchment area sourced and supplied by the very excellent Good Neighbour Scheme of Orford, Gedgrave and Sudbourne Hall. We also mentioned to the doctors that if they saw patients from the charity's parishes who could benefit from this sort of funding that we would consider requests on a case by case and confidential basis.

We do all this activity to continue in our



mission to support the doctors in their treatment of patients in Chapman House and I would like to thank the Trustees of the CIO for their hard work on behalf of the surgery's patients.

Report from Orford Museum to the Orford & Gedgrave Annual Parish Meeting

For Friday, 26 May 2023

Since my last report to this meeting, the fortunes of Orford Museum have improved considerably after a rather low period due to Covid, the closure of the Castle and a shortage of volunteers able and willing to help with the work and commitment needed to run a Museum such as ours. This revival is, in great part, due to the hard work of Clare Greenwell, Trustee and Events Manager and other volunteers who have come forward to offer the skills we badly need in various areas. In addition, our Curator, Stephen Mael, is doing sterling work on the archive in our office in Potkins Lane and in managing the display area in the Castle. Thanks to volunteers Mike Welsh, Ralph Cochrane and John Grayburn we at last have a new website up and running and I do urge members of this Council and other Orford residents to have a look at it. It will be kept up to date with future events and other Museum news. Because a modern website needs a simple logo, we asked Tim Fargher to design a new one and the result is at the head of this report. This will be used for all Museum matters including the Friends organisation.

We held an evening event at Butley Priory in September to celebrate the revival of the Friends of Orford Museum and the publication of the first issue of *The Orford Historian*, successor to the *Orford & District Local History Bulletin*. We are very grateful to Jack Cooke for taking on the editorship of this. We also made a presentation to our retiring President, Michael Flint. It is mainly due to Michael that the Museum exists in its present form and we are all very grateful to him for his hard work and commitment over many years. This event was followed by a talk on Staverton Thicks by Gary Battell who then led two associated walks through the Thicks in January and March. In March we held our History Festival at Butley Priory. This consisted of a series of seven lectures by well-known experts on local historical topics including the restoration of Orford Castle and the effect of the Black Death on this area. The weekend was a great success with most lectures fully booked and we are very grateful to Edward and Clare Greenwell for their generosity in allowing Orford Museum to use the magical setting of Butley Priory for these events. As a result of this weekend, we have been offered the opportunity to exhibit a wonderful collection of Celtic artefacts in some of our cases in the Castle. We hope to have this exhibition ready for the August Bank Holiday weekend and there will be a talk about them in the autumn at Butley Priory. We are also considering the possibility of a Son et Lumiere illustrating the history of the Priory though this will probably now take place in 2024.

We hope eventually to restore the kiosk and interactive screen we used to have in the Church which allowed those unable to access the Museum in Orford Castle to see the exhibits displayed there. This is a joint project with the Friends of St. Bartholomew's but, at the moment, is on hold awaiting decisions concerning the re-arrangement of parts of the interior of the church. We hope this will be resolved soon.

Sadly, we have to report the death, on 24 December 2022, of Margaret Poulter. Margaret was a professional and dedicated archivist and the Museum's first Curator. The organisation of the archive was all her work and still carries on to this day. We miss her very much.

Elizabeth Spinney

Chairman

Orford Museum

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Orford Sailing Club Report May 2023

I am seven weeks in to my role having taken over as Commodore from David Robinson on the 8th April. David will be a hard act to follow.

As the club approaches its centenary, I can report that Orford Sailing Club continues to flourish and that says much for this beautiful village and river.

We are a modest, small unpretentious sailing club that continues to punch above its weight both in the river and at sea.

Activities for youngsters have increased and will now, for a second year, extend beyond the three weeks of training that we already do. The taster sessions for local children continue to successfully encourage youngsters to take up sailing. It is very much my intension over the next three years to push this very hard.

Both our Senior and Junior Regattas were well attended, and the Junior Regatta is now run by our Dinghy Instructors, most of whom learnt to sail at Orford.

Our Cruising boats continue to venture beyond the river bar and some have sailed a very long way indeed.

We are thrilled with Harbour Master Matt Smy. Communication with Matt is very important during our training and racing and indeed, throughout the year, and his huge experience on the water, not to mention his gentle kindness, is priceless.

Thank you very much.

James Tomlinson
Commodore

Orford, Gedgrave & Sudbourne Hall Good Neighbour Scheme

Summary of 2022 for AGM

Activities

The helpline took 99 calls. 25% were for transport to hospital or GP appointments and Covid Vaccinations. We still collect medication for a few regular clients and handle a number of queries throughout the year. We try to address the challenges faced by Orford residents. We introduced a weekly trip to Woodbridge in the summer this has not been popular.

We have installed 16 pendant alarms and manage the renewal of these contracts annually.

We keep the community larder stocked and check its contents daily. Unsurprisingly this is used frequently, often several times a day. It has now been in place for over 2 years.

We have two warm rooms: Coffee & Chat at the Club which has been going for 3 years (with some breaks for Covid lockdowns) and Barts Warm Room which started in October last year. Both are well attended.

Volunteers

Without our volunteers we would not be able to do what we do. We have thirty on our list and try to spread the work as much as possible.

Aims

We aim to involve other groups in the village as much as possible. The Barts warm room is a good example of this, with the GNS, Pump Street Bakery, the Church and Town Trust collaborating well. Orford Stores support the larder and the Club support Coffee and Chat and our meetings. We are willing to work with others, such as the emergency group should the opportunity arise.