

**Minutes of the Beck Row, Holywell Row & Kenny Hill Annual Parish Meeting held on
Tuesday 13th April 2025 at 6.30pm**

Members of the Electorate

6 members of the electorate were present.

Representation from:

The Thursday Club
St John's with Kenny Hill Church

A reminder to everyone that the meeting was being recorded for accurate writing of the minutes.

0015	<p>Introduction and confirmation of the minutes of the 2024 Annual Parish Meeting</p> <p>The Chair welcomed those present. The minutes of the 2024 Annual Parish Meeting were confirmed as written.</p>	
0016	<p>Annual Report of the Parish Council by the Chair of the Parish Council</p> <p>As the current Chairman of Beck Row, Holywell Row and Kenny Hill Parish Council, it is my privilege to Chair our Annual Parish Meeting.</p> <p>This meeting is an opportunity for any of our parishioners to come along and ask questions, and our local clubs and organisations to give reports on the last 12 months.</p> <p>I will start this year by thanking Jane, our Parish Clerk, for all the work she does for the Parish - administratively, financially and the events she puts together. I will also again thank Angela McCarter who I know is a great help to Jane, voluntarily assisting with keeping Policies updated, taking on some opening and closing for the Hub and every Tuesday setting up the Hub with refreshments for the Library and Tot Rock sessions. Also Tim, our Parish Keeper, who does an incredible job in keeping the Parish tidy with the grass cut. This year he renovated the bus stop on Holmsey Green which has made a real difference. We thank him for all his hard work. I'd like to thank The Beacon team for putting the Beacon together. It's a voluntary role and I know that it takes a lot of time and effort.</p> <p>The Parish Council held a Love Your Village Day in May 2024, it wasn't as well attended as hoped but we thank those that did take part.</p> <p>The Youth shelter was installed on the Toc-H land. It's well used and a welcome addition to our park area.</p> <p>D-Day celebrations took place on Thursday 6th June and were well supported by local residents joining us at St John's Church followed by</p>	

	<p>the lighting of the Beacon. Representation from RAF Mildenhall was appreciated and we always welcome coming together for events. We held the Family Fun Day on Saturday 8th June, a fantastic success. A day full of free activities for families to enjoy and a classic car and tractor rally around the Parish was enjoyed by all – with the exception of the angry driver on the A1101 that is!</p> <p>At the beginning of December 2024 the Parish Council placed the Christmas trees around the Parish, this year including a tree out in Kenny Hill by the War Memorial. Santa’s Sleigh did its annual tour of the Parish with some extra support vehicles on 19th December 2024.</p> <p>The Parish Easter Egg Hunt took place this year on Saturday 19th April and 220 eggs were collected. This is a very popular event with free craft activities and families enjoying a trail around Aspal Close Nature Reserve. The weather was kind for the time of the event.</p> <p>The traditional play park equipment, the rocket, roundabout, swings and basket swing have all been repainted and are looking as good as new! There are plans to look at replacing the slide and climbing frame within the gated park.</p> <p>The Parish Council have also had the war memorials professionally cleaned and renovated which were done before November 2024 in time for Remembrance. The Village Sign is also currently away being restored and repainted. Once returned it will sit nicely with some new planters that were made by our Parish Keeper and very kindly filled by Aspal Lane Nursery at no charge - we thank Paul and Louise for doing this for the Parish.</p> <p>The Parish Council own 142 streetlights in the Parish. These have now all been upgraded to LED which was completed during the early part of the financial year and has meant a significant saving in the electricity running cost to the Parish. To further our efforts in cost and energy saving, there are plans to install solar panels on the Parish Hub and 2 EV charging points.</p> <p>Finally, we celebrated VE Day 80 on Thursday 8th May. A service and celebratory cake cutting took place at St John’s Church followed by the Beacon lighting. The Parish Council purchased a memorial bench to mark the occasion and this is situated outside the Parish Hub for all to use. The Hub Café team who have been running regular monthly meals through the Winter months and Afternoon Teas through the Summer, raising money for SARS, held a VE Day themed Afternoon Tea on Saturday 11th May at the Parish Hub raising funds for RBL.</p> <p>It has certainly been a productive year for the Parish Council.</p> <p><i>Councillor Gary Peachey</i></p>	
0017	<p>To note the annual accounts for 2024/25</p> <p>The unaudited accounts have been completed and the Parish Council end the 2024/25 financial year with £84,462 to carry forward for 2025/26.</p>	

0018	<p>Reports from grant recipients</p> <p>Mr Brendan Hughes would like to thank the Parish Council for the grant received for their protector project for the Thursday Club. The projector has now been purchased and set up but needs a little fine tuning.</p> <p>Mrs Jane Parry sent her apologies but wished to thank the Parish Council for the grant received towards the indoor climbing frame; it has made a real difference and is well used by the children.</p>	
0019	<p>Reports from community groups</p> <p><i>Report from St John's Beck Row with Kenny Hill Church:</i></p> <p>Thanks to the Parish Council for its help and support during the year. Thank you for the opportunity to include details of our events in the Beacon magazine. We are grateful for the Christmas Tree and a very special thanks for your help in keeping our churchyard grass in good order.</p> <p>We are pleased with the co-operation during the year and it is always good to see you represented at the special events such as the Mildenhall Register Reunion and the Remembrance Services.</p> <p>As a church we try to engage with the community in many ways with activities for different ages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mum's and Tots Group - Monthly lunch - Monthly coffee morning - Through Winter – Warm Rooms, soup and Bingo/chickenfoot - Through Winter - monthly Saturday afternoon Bingo <p>Church services take place every week at 9.30am. On the first and third Sunday we hold Lightwave meetings which are informal meetings. The first Sunday is aimed at the young children and the third is the Breakfast Church.</p> <p>More traditional church services are held on the second and fourth Sundays, the second being a service of the word and the fourth a communion service.</p> <p>The church is of course used for baptisms, marriages and also funerals and plays an important part for families on these occasions.</p> <p>I feel I should mention our difficulties that are interrelated, numbers and finance. We are generally a congregation of the older population and numbers are lower than we would like, consequently we struggle to meet our financial commitments to the diocese. Anyone can make a gift online by the Parish Giving Scheme. If anyone has any suggestions how we can address these problems, please let us know.</p>	

	<p>At the church we are conscious that the churchyard is getting full and at some point we will need an extension. The Lay Chair, Jane and I are about to carry out a survey to see how many grave spaces remain and roughly how long we have before we will need extra space. From my experience on Mildenhall Town Council, it took 20 years from the start of providing extra space to getting the new part laid out.</p> <p>I hope that by co-operation between the PCC and the Parish Council we will be able to do much better than that.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to give this report.</p> <p><i>Mr Brian Sulman</i></p> <p><i>Report from the Thursday Club</i></p> <p>The Club has had another successful year with a variety of speakers and games. There has been a trip to Great Yarmouth and a shopping trip to Rushton Lakes. Both were well supported and enjoyed by all.</p> <p>The current membership now stands at 50 but we could do with some more men. Unfortunately, we have also lost 4 of our members which is always very sad.</p> <p>At the AGM we voted in a new Chair, Kim Day, with myself carrying on as Vice-Chair.</p> <p>One major change for the Club is that our Programme and Financial year now starts in January and finishes in December.</p> <p><i>Mr Brendan Hughes</i></p>	
0020	<p>To invite the public to raise any matters for discussion</p> <p>A member of electorate wanted to raise the question as to whether the Parish and other former Forest Heath Councils were going to be compensated for the electric that they pay for running the streetlights when Bury St Edmunds don't pay for theirs.</p> <p>Another member of the electorate asked if there was any progress on the movement of the phone box. The Chair advised this is on the agenda for the Parish Council meeting and the problem is actually physically moving it without damaging it.</p>	
0021	<p>Consideration and decisions on subjects so discussed</p> <p>These were discussed above.</p>	
0022	<p>Meeting closed 6.50pm</p>	