

**WE MEET AT  
THE VILLAGE HALL,  
COLCHESTER ROAD,  
WAKES COLNE**

**AT 7.15PM**

**ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH**

### **Agenda for Meetings**

**Are available on the Notice Boards  
Situated near the Post Office on the A1124**

and

on  
the Notice Board at the end of Inworth Road, Lower  
Green

and

**Website - [www.wakescolne.org](http://www.wakescolne.org)**

**Please click on our Website  
[www.wakescolne.org](http://www.wakescolne.org)  
for up-to-date information**

### **Contacts**

**The Councillors serving during the municipal year  
2015/2016 were:**

**Chairman: Cllr. Stella Hounslow**

**Vice Chairman: Cllr. Allan Hannington**

**Cllr. M.Bowden, Cllr. K.Brown, Cllr. H.Cresswell,  
Cllr S.Scrase, Cllr M.Taylor**

**Contact can be made with any  
Parish Councillor through the Parish Clerk**

**Clerk to Wakes Colne Parish Council  
Mrs Diane Jacob  
5 Crocklands  
Greenstead Green  
Halstead  
Essex  
Tel: 07508787869**

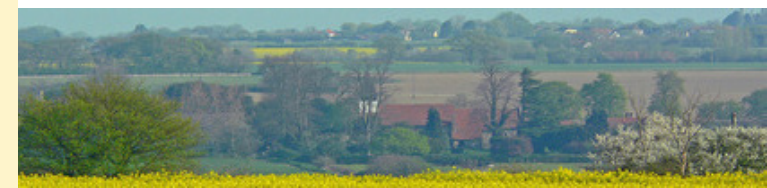
**E-mail: [parishclerk@wakescolne.org](mailto:parishclerk@wakescolne.org)**



**WAKES COLNE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Your Parish Council  
Working for Your Parish**

### **ANNUAL REPORT**



**Municipal Year  
2015 - 2016**



## Chairman's Report 2015/2016

2015/16 has been another busy year for the parish council. There is never a lack of varied content for monthly agendas. Matters that arise are reviewed and dealt with effectively. Items that appear frequently include reviewing numerous planning applications, complaints about potholes and excess water on roads, and requests for limiting the speed of traffic through the village. Annually, we set the Precept (which was raised by just over 1%); review and renew contracts (i.e.: grass cutting, liability insurance, advisory contracts and affiliations to various organisations); and review grant requests from local organisations.

Projects are much the same as last year, though they do, of course, require updating. Much personal time is spent by Councillors who are members of working parties, attending meetings, planning, liaising with outside contacts, and carrying out tasks. All of these are carried out with enthusiasm. The Parish Council owe special thanks to our volunteers for giving their time to help with projects.

**Public Footpaths within Wakes Colne.** Councillors Monica Taylor, Kathy Brown, Maggie Bowden and Stephen Scrase and a member of the public, David Green, continue to give their time willingly in order that the public footpaths within the parish are in good order. The working party work tirelessly to review footpaths and either repair problems themselves or liaise with the Public Rights of Way Officer at Essex County Council to undertake the work.

**Wakes Colne Book Exchange.** Councillor Stephen Scrase continues to keep the book exchange in order with a good/new supply of books to borrow/exchange. This has been a successful venture with ongoing use by residents of both parishes. Many thanks to Stephen for the time and effort spent during the last year.

**Local Highway Panel.** The LHP working party, Councillors Stella Hounslow, Monica Taylor and Allan Hannington, and a member of the public, Aaron Dixey, are continuing consultations with the LHP for a footway and traffic calming along Station Road. Progress can only be classed as very, very slow. We feel that our proposal has been put on the back burner by the LHP, possibly due to its cost and complexity. The Parish Council have decided that, as the proposal is now well into the 4th year, we are going to make an even more concerted effort to try to bring it to a successful conclusion to increase safety for all who use the road.

## Other responsibilities are:

**Planning and Liaison**  
Member – Allan Hannington.

**Superfast Broadband Working Group**  
Members – Kathy Brown, Allan Hannington and Stephen Scrase.

**Personnel Committee**  
Members – Maggie Bowden, Allan Hannington and Stella Hounslow.

**Village Hall Representative:** Stephen Scrase.

**Millennium Green Representative:** Monica Taylor.

I would like to thank Councillors for their support and commitment in the last year, and for the hours spent in undertaking these many projects, which have required expertise and much energy, and for giving generously of their time.

Diane Jacob, our Clerk, has also been busy. She has succeeded in attaining The Local Council Award Scheme Foundation. Wakes Colne was one of the first parish councils in Essex to successfully complete the Foundation Level in the National Pilot 2014. We are very proud to have achieved this award. Many thanks to Diane who worked hard for Wakes Colne and thanks to the input by Councillors. A certificate of attainment was awarded to Wakes Colne Parish Council by Joy Darby, CEO of the Essex Association of Local Councils (EALC), at our April meeting.

In the last couple of months our accounts for 2015/16 were audited (a yearly occurrence) and glowing remarks were made on Diane's work by the Auditor "This year working with your clerk has been a joy and there is nothing of significance that I would like to (let alone need to) bring to your attention. The Council's record keeping and compliance with Financial Regulations and good practice are exemplary." I would like to thank Diane, on behalf of the Parish Council, for the commitment to improve and maintain the required compliances and records for the Parish Council.

The Parish Council will continue to work for Wakes Colne parish to the best of its ability. The Parish Council's website contains much information, ranging from profiles of Councillors to council documents and policies, planning applications, minutes of meetings and agendas, and more. Information can be accessed via [www.wakescolne.org](http://www.wakescolne.org)

Cllr. Stella Hounslow, Chairman  
Wakes Colne Parish Council

## Bank Reconciliation - Pro forma

### Wakes Colne Parish Council

### Financial Year Ending March 2016

Prepared by Mrs Diane Jacob Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Balance per bank statements as at 31 March 2016	
Balance Current Account	£23,850.10
Balance Savings Account	£0
TOTAL	£23,850.10
Petty Cash float (if applicable) (Not applicable)	N/A
Less - any presented cheques at 31 March 2016	£473.12
Add: any un-banked cash at 31 March 2016	None
Net balances as at 31 March 2015 (Box 8)	<b>£23,376.98</b>
The net balances reconcile to the Cash Book (receipts and payments account) for the year, as follows:	
CASH BOOK:	
Opening Balance 1 April 2015 (Prior year Box 8)	£17,598.35
Add: Receipts in the year	£16,724.84
Less: Payments in the year	£10,946.21
Closing balance per cash book (Receipts and payment) book as at 31 March 2016 (must equal net balances - Box 8)	<b>£23,376.98</b>

Chairperson.....Date May 2016

Responsible Financial Officer.....Date May 2016

## Subject to audit