

Minutes of the Watton Annual Town Meeting held at

Watton Sports Centre on April 15th 2025

Present: Don Saunders (Chairman of Watton Town Council), District Councillors Mr K Gilbert (also Town Councillor) and Ms C Bowes (also County Councillor), 4 other members of Watton Town Council and 27 members of the public (many representing organizations in the town).

Also present Watton Town Council Clerk.

1. The minutes of the 2024 Annual Town Meeting were presented, agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record of the meeting.

2. Chairman's Report

The Chairman of the Town Council had provided a report of Town Council activities over the past year which was available in the agenda pack for the meeting.

A copy of all reports received or given at the meeting will be made available on the Town Council website: www.wattontowncouncil.gov.uk

3. District Councillors' Report

Written reports were received from Claire Bowes, Tina Kiddell and Keith Gilbert.

4. County Councillor's Report

Written report received from County Councillor Claire Bowes with verbal update given:

- Flag poles have been re-instated to mark VE and VJ Days 2025.
- Norfolk County Council is supporting VE and VJ Days by waiving road closure charges for any street parties organized on those days.
- Amnesty days are being held at local recycling centers.
- There is to be a total re-dress of Harvey Street in 2026 with road markings in the High Street to be re-painted in 2025.
- Claire will investigate whether there are current plans to extend the footpath beyond Lidl on the Norwich Road.

5. Reports received from organisations which have received grants or donations from Watton Town Council in 2025

- Watton Family Group – written report received from the Watton Family Group with verbal update given. A request was made for additional volunteers to help at sessions held in the Charlotte Harvey Community Hub on a Thursday morning.
Noted that one of the Mayors Charities for 24/25 is the Watton Family Group.
- Watton Society – written report received with display stand at meeting.
- Loch Neaton – written report received with verbal update given.
- Watton Carnival Committee - written report received.
- Watton Rainbows, Watton Brownies and Watton District Guiding Rangers – written reports received with verbal updates given.
- Watton Sports Association - written report received with verbal update given
- Queens Hall Christmas Event – written report received.



- Watton Ladies Group – written report received with verbal update given.
- Norfolk Clubhouse - written report received with verbal update given.
- Watton & Saham Flood Action Group - written report received with verbal update given.
- Wayland Chamber of Commerce - written report received with verbal update given. Watton Family Group - written report received with verbal update given.
- The Charlotte Harvey Trust – written report received with verbal update given.
- The Wayland Partnership - written report received with verbal update given.
- The Benjamin Foundation – written report received.

Noted that many groups who gave a verbal update stressed that volunteers are needed!

6. Reports received from local organisations

- 864 (Watton) Squadron ATC—written report received.
- Loch Neaton Park Run - written report received with verbal update given.
- Museum4Watton – written report received.
- Queen’s Hall – written report received.
- Watton Food Hub - written report received.
- Watton Inner Wheel Club - written report received.
- Watton Twinning Association - written report received.
- Watton Evening WI - written report received with display stand at meeting.
- Watton Mens Shed – verbal update given.

7. Town Affairs/Matters raised by attendees

No matters raised by those present.

Reports available on the Town Council website

