

Wimbotsham Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of the above-named Parish held on Tuesday 13th May 2025.

Parish Councillors: D Chilvers (Chairman), C Hitchens, S Mingay, A Smith and J Squires
Parish Clerk: N Forrest
Public: One

1. Welcome by the Chairman and apologies for absence

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Cllr Fendley and Breckland Councillor Cllr C Rose.

2. Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on the 14th May 2024

Having been circulated previously, the minutes of the meeting held on the 14th May 2024 were approved and signed by the Chairman as an accurate record.

3. Public Participation

No members of the public spoke.

4. Reports from Community Groups and Organisations

Reports received from Community Groups and Organisations (Appendix 1)

5. Chairman's Annual Report for 2024-25

The Chairman gave a verbal report and stated this has been a successful and productive year for the Council. Although we are currently operating with three vacant councillor positions, the Council has continued to work effectively and collaboratively.

Café Connect has been a resounding success, offering a valuable hub for the community. The TROD has been restored and is now walkable once again, and the newly constructed footpath has significantly improved safety for those travelling between Wimbotsham and Downham Market.

New oak trees have been planted on the village green, accompanied by new tree guards. The second tree was generously donated in memory of the Lancaster Bomber. A new noticeboard has also been installed at Turners Close, providing improved access to community information. The Village Hall has undergone a refresh and is now hosting a range of new events, bringing renewed energy to the space.

Looking ahead, the coming year promises further progress. A new village sign is planned, the war memorial will be cleaned, and church renovations are due to begin shortly. Given the high cost of replacing damaged play equipment at the Recreation Ground, the Council will explore ways to provide support wherever possible.

Meeting finished at 6.43pm

Chairman_____

Date_____

Wimbotsham Methodist Church

There's been no change since last year. We still book out the Chapel Hall to the public and still hold our monthly coffee mornings on the 3rd Saturday of each month. The Services in the Chapel are every Sunday 11am-12pm and anyone is welcome regardless of denomination. We have an anniversary in June Celebrating 151 years since this Chapel opened. On the 3rd Saturday in June, we will have on display some archives (photographs etc) We will be pleased to see anyone who would like to come to look and have coffee and cake.

Mary Rose (Contact for Wimbotsham Methodist Chapel)

100 Acre Trust Wimbotsham Branch Report May 2025

Wimbotsham Branch received 9 applications for assistance this year. All were accepted by the branch trustees and each applicant was provided with the sum of £200.00 by way of a cheque payment in December 2025.

The charity along with the application form was, as usual, featured in the village newsletter to ensure all villagers are aware of and can apply. Applications have reduced in recent years, we can only make the positive assumption that hardship within the village is less prevalent. The branch retains some funds should any hardship applications come forward or if we are made aware of them during the year.

Ian Cable