

PEASENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Report on the Annual Parish Meeting
held at Peasenhall Assembly Hall on Wednesday 21st May 2025 at 7.00 pm.

1. The meeting began with a presentation by Sergeant Chris Green of the Rural, Wildlife and Heritage Crime Team in which he described and showed images of the varied work of the Team. At the end of the presentation Sergeant Green took questions from the public.
2. PPC Chairman, Cllr Barry Rowing welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the format.
3. The report of the 2024 Annual Village Meeting was approved and signed.

4. County and District Councillor Reports

The report from County Cllr Stephen Burroughes had been circulated prior to the meeting and will be available on the PPC website. He spoke briefly about the local government changes to come. The clerk will be getting a survey pack to distribute so that residents can give their views on the future of Suffolk. He also mentioned adult social care and the rise in children with special educational needs. There has been a rise in proposals for solar farms in Suffolk which will have a huge impact.

District Cllr Julia Ewart said she has now been a District Councillor for two years with a further two years to go, she has 13 villages to look after which takes a lot of time and energy. She said main topics currently are emissions, specifically with Sizewell C; the pressures on farming and farm services; the risk of fire with the BESS type of solar farm; flooding investigations; funding availability from the Enabling Communities process.

5. Public Forum

a) Several residents spoke about the parking issues along Hackney Road. This item will be discussed later during the Annual Meeting.

b) Another resident said that some footpaths in the village were not being maintained, and signs were missing. CC Burroughes said there is a designated District Council Footpath Officer and that any footpath issues can be photographed and reported on the SCC portal. Cllr Rowing said he will do this on behalf of residents if he is informed of the details. There is also a problem at Russell Close where it is difficult to get through on the footpath.

c) Another resident spoke about the "No Mow May" policy for the cemetery. This year a cut has been done in April, which is disappointing. Cllr Rowing said that the new groundsman appointed this year to do the grass-cutting had been asked to do that first cut in April in order that the grass didn't get too long in May, as collecting the long cut grass as suggested by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust can become a problem. PPC will further discuss this matter at the next meeting in June.

d) Following a question regarding the proposed Play Area at Mabels Walk Cllr Rowing gave a brief outline of what will be discussed later at the Annual Meeting.

e) A question was put regarding the open space area owned by the Church Lands Trust which is in the local plan as an open space area so could it be used for a play area? Cllr Rowing said the area is ear-marked for housing in the ESC local plan, but the question could be asked.

DC Ewart had some news regarding the old Primary School site. It is owned by SCC and could be up for auction. At this stage there are only general ideas about the future of the building.

6. Other local reports

All reports as listed below can be found on the website www.peasenhall.onesuffolk.net

County and District Councillors reports

Local MP report

Parish Council Chairman's report – given by Cllr Rowing

Peasenhall Assembly Hall report –given by Cllr Horlock

Peasenhall United Charities – report read out by the clerk

The 'Gents Club' – report read out by the clerk

Peasenhall and Sibton Bowls Club – report read out by the clerk

Church Lands Trust report –given by Cllr Rowing

Tree Warden report – given by Cllr Benstead

Peasenhall Tennis Club – no report received

Allotments report – given by Cllr Rowing

Cllr Rowing thanked everyone for their reports and invited any member of the public who wished to remain for the Peasenhall Parish Council General Meeting to stay.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

Carol Hume
Parish Clerk