

## **Reydon Parish Council**

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## **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

### **Minutes of the Reydon Annual Parish Meeting held in the Village Hall on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April 25 at 6.30 pm**

Present: Chair, Cllr Pam Cyprien, Vice-Chair, Cllr David Panther, Cllr Linda Coe, Cllr Kalvyn Friend, Cllr Dominic Knight, Cllr Sarah Jerman, Cllr Kim Harvey, Cllr Mell Birch, Cllr Mike Medland, Cllr Adele Coleman, Cllr Chris Dixon.  
Approx 35 members of the public.

#### **1 Opening and Welcome**

Cllr Pam Cyprien welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### **2 Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Dexter Kirk.

#### **3 Talk on 'Communities' by local guest Erika Clegg, Deputy Lieutenant.**

Erika gave a very uplifting and entertaining talk on communities. She pointed out that communities don't just happen but volunteers played a vital role by giving their time, energy and care to help their community to flourish, and that if anyone was considering becoming a volunteer they should go ahead as it may be good for their own wellbeing as well as that of the community. Erika said she was glad to have the opportunity to say a thank you to all the volunteers present and that they all deserved recognition and gratitude from the local community.

#### **4 Presentation of the Parish Council's annual 'Reydon Stars', for outstanding contributions to the local community, by Erika Clegg, and Reydon Parish Council Chair Cllr Pam Cyprien.**

##### **Reydon and Southwold Lifeboat Crew**

Pam: 'Our first 'Reydon Star' this year is awarded to a local group, who's selfless and heroic service means a great deal to me. This year marks the Two Hundredth Anniversary of The Royal National Lifeboat Institution. Gone are the days when fishermen from the local Beach Companies would row their open skiffs out to sea in terrible storms to rescue unfortunate souls. These days the dangers are no less, but the life-saving training, the speed of response and the equipment has improved beyond measure. To receive the award is former Lifeboat Operations Manager Gary Doy, Active Helm Sam Doy, and crewman Jeremy Taylor.'

##### **Carol and Nick Horton**

Erika: 'Next a couple, who together with local helpers, have collected nearly £150,000 to date for The Royal British Legion's local Poppy Appeals. But Carol and Nick Horton's voluntary work does not stop there. Amongst their many other rôles, Nick has been a Community First Responder for 14 years, and has also driven for The Voluntary Help Centre for 15 years. Not that they are in competition . . ! Carol has been a Steward at Southwold Museum for 14 years and has also cooked lunches for The VHC's monthly Lunch Club for 10 years. Carol also delivers books to housebound people for Suffolk Libraries.'

##### **Brenda Doy**

Pam: 'Now we come to a 'Reydon Star' award where the recipient is sadly unable to join us this evening. Brenda Doy has, for many years, devoted much of her time to assisting with the local Brownies, Girlguiding and Sunday School at St Margaret's Church. Brenda has also inspired and helped many young readers at Reydon Primary School.'

##### **Jim Elmes**

Erika: 'Jim Elmes has been a very effective, long serving volunteer in Reydon. He was a vital member of the team who devised The Reydon Village Plan and Neighbourhood Plan, the community's own Development Guidelines; he was an enthusiastic distributor of The Reydon Robin, and Jim still keeps all the village noticeboards right up to date.'

##### **Dorcas and Ray Rogers**

Pam: 'Dorcas and Ray Rogers moved to the village comparatively recently, but together they have made a huge impression. Dorcas makes marmalade, jams and spirits, as well as selling a variety of craft items. In the last six years they have raised over £7,000 for St Margaret's Church at numerous events such as The Henham Steam Rally and Brass on the Grass.'

Erika: 'But it is at Reydon Village Hall that Dorcas and Ray have made the most difference for the local community, taking on the roles of Bookings Secretary, Fundraising Co-ordinator, Treasurer and Building Manager respectively. Without them both Reydon Village Hall simply could not run!'

### **Philip Burkill**

Pam: 'Philip Burkill has, for a long while, maintained the Commonwealth War Graves headstones in Reydon Church yard, ensuring that they're always looking their very best on Remembrance Day every year. But it's not just Philip who should be thanked, he's always had the help and support of his wife Rosemary and his sister Helen . . . neither of whom can be with us this evening.'

### **Nick Elvin**

Erika: 'Now we come to a young man, who has given much of his time, free of charge, to the Village. Nick Elvin from Redcap Farm Tree Services has worked on Reydon's public spaces, notably the Reydon Recreation ground. For example, Nick has enabled all The Parish Council's recently installed play equipment to be commissioned safely and securely, for the enjoyment and benefit of the residents.'

### **Laurence Vulliamy**

Pam: 'The next award goes to a former Parish Councillor who in his own way, has made a lasting contribution to the local community. The recent Chairman of Reydon Village Hall, Laurence Vulliamy is the founding editor of 'The Reydon Robin', the free, complimentary, quarterly news magazine, now in its third year, and Laurence is also the architect of 'The Reydon Stars', the Parish Council's annual award for outstanding voluntary service, begun in 2023.'

### **The 'Mr Bus' Drivers**

Erika: 'Mr Bus' is a one-off! We are very lucky to have this most valuable, most appreciated resource in the community, providing vital and much needed transport links around Reydon and Southwold. But, funnily enough, a bus can only run if it has a driver! Over the years many volunteers have devoted their free-time to this service, but 'Mr Bus' always needs more drivers! To mark the huge commitment that has been made, and that we hope will continue to be made, please show your appreciation for the 'Mr Bus' drivers including: Chris Chapman, Iain Small, Alastair Marshall, Paul Luke, James Halsall, Mark Williamson, Alison Evans, Winston Hendrickson, and Philip Tarris.'

### **Pam Cyprien**

Erika: 'Finally, I have the pleasure to present you, Pam, with the last 'Reydon Star' this evening. For over ten years on The Parish Council, and more than five years as Chair, you have presided over the most successful period of Reydon Parish Council's tenure for generations. Amongst many Council achievements you have brought Reydon's Neighbourhood Plan to fruition, providing the village with secure and appropriate development guidelines; you have seen the establishment of the Reydon and Southwold Pantry, offering opportunities for all residents to receive re-distributed food and other supplies, free of charge. You have had the vision to support the introduction of 'The Reydon Robin' - the free, quarterly news magazine, now in its' third year, to bring the community together by keeping all residents up to date with village news; and in 2023 you sanctioned the introduction of 'The Reydon Stars', the Parish Council's own award to recognise and promote 'outstanding volunteering' in the local community. You have led a very successful Parish Council, with not only many ambitions, but also the collective determination to see them through, all to the great benefit of the local community.'

After receiving her award Cllr Pam Cyprien thanked past and current Councillors for all their help and support and said that they all shared a vision for doing the best they could for Reydon. Cllr Cyprien then offered thanks to Mike Mayhew from Southwold Press for providing the Reydon Star Certificates, to Jon Hadgraft for taking the official photographs, and to Laurence Vulliamy who had organised the presentation and script for the Reydon Star Awards

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### **Reviews:**

#### **Council Review and Green Spaces Working Group – Pam Cyprien, Parish Council Chair**

'We were sad that Laurence Vulliamy stepped down from Council, the importance he placed on community engagement was expressed by conceiving the Reydon Robin and starting work on making our website more accessible. When he first joined the PC he suggested we have monthly 'surgeries' which we did for a while. Perhaps something to try again in the future. We also say goodbye to Dexter Kirk who is retiring from Council after many years (albeit off and on) of valuable service, he will be sorely missed. We had three new Councillors join us during the year. Speaking of community, during October I attended a meeting on Community Listening, hosted by Erika our Deputy Lord Lieutenant and attended by a number of people involved in different ways with the communities of Reydon & Southwold, we discussed what can be done to foster a community ethic. One of the pleasures of being Chair is the privilege of representing the Parish Council at various events. Last year I attended STC's Civic Service, gave the prizes at the Reydon Show, which is always a treat and good to see so many of the community supporting the show, attended and read the lesson at the Harvest Festival held by the URC, laid our wreath at the Remembrance Service. Next Sunday I'm delighted to have been invited to the Lion's 51 Charter Lunch which I am really looking forward to, and early in May I'm attending Southwold Mayor's Charity Concert and going to the official opening of the new outside bowling green at the Sole Bay Bowls Club. As the Parish Council representative, I attended a number of NALC & SALC forums on a variety of subjects. Unfortunately, both Brass on the Grass and the lighting of the Christmas tree were cancelled owing to bad weather conditions. However, as always, the Reydon Lights Committee worked tirelessly throughout the year to create the display that we so enjoy in Reydon. On that subject I am delighted to say that the Blythe Rotary Club are

again organising this year's event. Sadly a few months ago David Woods died. We will all miss him as it is due to him that we have such a lovely display of spring bulbs, and tubs with carefully themed planting on Reydon Corner. This area is admired by locals and visitors alike. It seemed very fitting to put a bench in memory of him on Reydon Corner and early in April a number of people gathered at Reydon Corner to dedicate the bench, followed by a lovely celebration of his life at the village hall, with cakes generously provided by The Pantry and Lighthouse Ladies. The display of bulbs seemed to me to be especially good this year. Our big achievement has been the installation of play equipment for 7+ year olds, together with a marked out football area, on The Rec, which is to be formally opened on May 2, by our MP Jenny Riddell-Carpenter. It was so good to see that it was used immediately the safety checks had been carried out and the fencing removed and has since been well used and appreciated. Also, on the Green Spaces front and thanks to the invaluable help of Steve Westwood, we continued our bulb planting at the junction of The Drive & Halesworth Rd with more to come and have started sowing seeds for pollinators in the same area. Another achievement is that finally, after several years of trying, the WW1 pillbox on Might's Bridge has been gifted to the PC. This structure is one of very few left in the county and of historic significance. A Working Group has been formed to consider to what use we put it and how we fund it. If anyone would like to join the Group, please let Ann know. LionLink continues to be an issue, lessened a little in February by its decision to site the hub and start the trenches at Walberswick. However, at the very well attended Public Meeting we held in February, it was emphasised how important it is that we continue to support those directly affected and also bear in mind that we could still host another similar project. As I am retiring from Council from May, I would like to thank past and current Councillors for all the work they've done to serve Reydon, which of course is our *raison d'être*. Over the past 7 or so years I feel that we have achieved a fair bit and gone some way to engage with and listen to the community which was an important part of our strategy and I hope the PC will continue to take every opportunity to continue to engage, via the Reydon Robin, our website, Facebook page and having a presence at local events like Brass on the Grass. I'm sure there is more to be done. Finally, a special thanks to Ann for being such a huge help to the Council and to me, and to David and Linda for their invaluable support.'

#### **Planning Committee – Cllr Dominic Knight - Chair**

'Between May 2024 and April 2025, the Committee considered 35 Applications, no change on the 35 considered the previous year. This, however, masks considerable variation in the rate of application, with periods in these last 12 months when there was very little activity, requiring the cancellation or rescheduling of several Planning Committee meetings, while on other occasions the Committee had to consider a great many Applications all at once, notably after the General Election. A reflection perhaps of uncertainties over the last year, particularly with the change in government as well as incoming changes in planning policies and law. Most of these Applications were for improvements to existing properties, predominantly extensions, plus stand-alone structures like garages or studios, and internal alterations. Several were for variations on conditions in prior Applications. Two were for work on trees. Ten involved new housing, either through converting the usage of existing structures or by building completely new structures. One was for an additional floor to an existing single-story building. Of the 35 Applications, the Planning Committee had no objection to 24 of them, with conditions given for four of them. It did object to 11 Applications – mostly on grounds of overdevelopment and potential impact on neighbours. Seven of these involved new housing. Two of the Committee's objections concerned the same property, involving an Application and Re-Application. Its original concerns to the first application had not been met, particularly the lack of clear measurements on the plans making it difficult to assess likely impact on neighbours, so we had to object to it again, giving the same conditions. The ability of our local road network to handle potentially heavy volumes of HGV traffic has become a major issue in several high-profile Planning Applications over the last year. Four Applications were linked to the proposed Copperwheat housing development, specifically the discharge of conditions of the outline planning permission. The Committee objected to all of these given that the revised Construction Traffic Management Plan underpinning them all had singled out Wangford Road as the main route for construction traffic, which it felt would not be able to cope adequately with the likely volume of traffic generated by the development. The Committee could not give its approval until this issue had been considered more fully. The revised CTMP has since been withdrawn. We are still awaiting its replacement. The Committee will continue to keep a close eye on how this progresses. It was also asked to consider the Application for the proposed new anaerobic digestion facility at Adnams. The Committee has no objections to the development itself, but has concerns about the capacity of the A1095 to cope with additional traffic likely to be created by the project. Estimates have since varied as to what this is likely to be. The Parish Council is of the opinion that the A1095 needs to be upgraded in the light of this, and the RPC's Highways Committee has become involved as well as a result. We will work together to ensure the best possible outcome for the village. In February, National Grid decided upon Walberswick as the Landfall site for LionLink. The threat that has been hanging over Southwold and Reydon for over a year appears to have been lifted. Although many in our area have welcomed this, we need to remember that it is not such good news for our neighbours, and we should show solidarity and support. It will still also affect us, however indirectly. The LionLink public meeting hosted by RPC on 21st February this year emphasised this, and it was heartening to see so much public support. We have to continue to present a

united front to try and encourage a better outcome, namely the Nautilus solution: coming ashore at a brownfield site nearer London rather than here. The Planning Committee supports all efforts towards this end.

Last July, we had a change of government, the first Labour administration in 14 years. This has upended many assumptions that have underpinned planning decision making. This government is going for growth, particularly in terms of house building. It wants 1.5 million new homes built by 2030. The algorithm for calculating housing needs has been changed, and East Suffolk's quota for new housing to be built has increased by 82%. The government also wants to go for Net Zero more quickly. The National Planning Policy framework has been revised with all this in mind. The planning process is being streamlined to make it more difficult to prevent development. Planning Applications are now subject to a presumption in favour of sustainable development, and will have automatic approval unless objections are raised and overcome. It has changed how we can respond to them. Any objections have to be based on material planning considerations and be constructive.

On top of this, the reorganisation of local government to create a new unitary authority for Suffolk is underway. It is not clear what impact this is going to have at our level of local government, but a lot of change is definitely on the way, both generally and for planning. To keep abreast of this, Committee members have taken advantage of SALC online webinars and have also regularly attended Planning Fora for Town and Parish Councils hosted by East Suffolk. One of our number also attends ESPA meetings. In this way, we hope we can best meet any future planning challenges constructively and mitigate any impact they might have on our community.'

#### **Highways Committee – Cllr David Panther – Chair**

'This has been another busy year for the Highways Committee Group. There are several over-riding themes relating to the matters considered by the group.

Flooding at Quay Lane appears to be resolved. So far, this year has been very dry, but we understand that the drainage system is working. Preventive measures along the roadside perimeter of the pig field shall hopefully reduce the quantity of silt washing into the gully.

Potters Bridge has remained usable. There has been no necessity to close the B1127 so far in 2025. There is money in the highways budget for a structural inspection. We await the findings.

Speeding continues to be a frequent community concern. A new SID pole has been sited near the church in Wangford Road. This site is now included in the deployment of our devices. Due to the departure of one of the dedicated residents who manages the rotation and re-charging of SIDs we desperately need additional volunteers to help with this essential task.

Due to residents' concerns there is to be an additional road traffic survey on Wangford Road to provide traffic volume and speed data. The survey shall be conducted in May. This will provide information as to whether further safety measures should be pursued. We plan to re-apply for a 40mph limit on the A1095 from Wolsey Bridge to the entrance of the village. We believe that recent road traffic incidents further justify our request for a new limit. Further weight would be added to our argument should the new Anaerobic Digester plant be granted permission.

The ANPR camera has been deployed on the Halesworth Road and there is periodic deployment of police enforcement officers. Substantial numbers of non-compliant drivers have been prosecuted. Whatever advisory and enforcement measures are taken; we rely on the compliance of drivers to adhere to speed limits to help to keep our roads safe.

The new parking restrictions in Nightingale Avenue are now in place. There is a reduction in the number of vehicles permitted to park in Nightingale Avenue. This has, however, substantially improved safety for traffic using the Wangford Road/Nightingale Avenue junction and the Nightingale Avenue/Shearwater Way junction. We continue to challenge Traffic Management Plans relating to large scale developments such as St Georges Place, Copperwheat Avenue and the proposed Reydon Anaerobic Digester. We are concerned that neither the developers, the Planning Authorities, nor the Highways Authority fully understand the geography of the village and the limitations of the road network that serves it. We continue to work closely with our Constituency County Councillor, Michael Ladd and the SCC Highways Community Liaison Engineer, Jo Kerridge. Their support helps us to achieve the improvements that are made. We thank them for the help and advice that they provide.'

#### **Community Pantry – Linda Coe**

'It has been an extremely busy and challenging year for the Reydon & Southwold Community Pantry. The numbers of customers visiting the Pantry has increased continually throughout the year, with our highest numbers being during the winter months, as may be expected. To deal with these increased numbers effectively, we have been able to add to the number of freezers we use through a wonderful donation secured for us by Patrick Huggins from an industrial supplier. We have been able to expand the local shops who supply us, either on a regular basis, such as The Cornish Bakery, who donate to us two days a week, or on an ad-hoc basis, such as Adnams Brewery, which gave us nearly 250 individual Christmas puddings. We are still receiving daily donations from the Co-Op, Tescos, Bookers and KFC, for which we are very grateful. We are also recipients of regular donations of sanitary and personal hygiene items from the Waveney Hygiene Bank, which are very much appreciated by our customers. During the summer and autumn months we receive surplus fruit and vegetables from local growers and allotment holders. Sadly, the RSPCA are no longer able to supply us with dog and cat food, but we have one family who donate some dog food on a monthly basis,

so we are still able to offer dry dog food to those requesting it. Our team of drivers, who collect each evening is led by Cllr Sarah Jerman and they have been the backbone of the Pantry service. And if they are the backbone, the ribs of the service are our volunteers who man the Pantry, not only on a Friday but also Tuesday afternoons. We have been really fortunate to be able to increase the numbers of volunteers quite substantially in the past few months and this has made the job of creating the monthly rotas much easier for Cllr Kim Harvey. I am indebted to everyone who helps run and man the Pantry, making it such a success. So much so that we decided at the beginning of this year to open, as I previously mentioned, on Tuesday afternoons as well. We were initially concerned that there would be little demand for another afternoon of opening, but it has quickly become equally popular to Fridays. We have received some donations during the year from individuals and from organisations such as Blyth Valley Rotary and we are able to pay for the Bookers drivers' expenses, and other expenses from these donations and from the continued support of the Reydon Parish Council. We have been able to support the Reydon Village Hall in their monthly coffee mornings and soup lunches, by providing foodstuffs from the Pantry, and we hope to be able to continue to do this. We were also able to help with the commemorative tea in memory of David Woods, one of our Reydon Stars, who sadly passed away quite recently. In conclusion, what was initially thought to be a time limited initiative has turned into a longer term community asset and I can only thank all those who help in any way to continue the work of the Community Pantry.'

#### **Footpaths Working Group – Chris Dixon**

'The Footpath Working Group recommenced at the end of Feb 2025 and has had two meetings so far. We will be

- Looking at footpaths defined as Public Rights of Way (PROW).
- Identifying accessibility, maintenance and health and safety issues.
- We will regularly monitor footpaths with assistance from groups, landowners and individuals who use them.
- In conjunction with the new SCC Rights of Way Officer we will also be discussing key paths for work by volunteers and new possible footpaths to create circular walks around Reydon.
- Looking at revising the current village map in addition to the new walking map proposed by the Reydon and Southwold society. We want a map of the village that identifies key amenities as well as walking routes that can be given to every household and form a welcome pack to people who move to our village.

We have already consulted with St Felix School about footpaths three and four on the definitive map that are very muddy and become impassable during periods of wet weather. We have discussed issues and map preferences with the Walking for Health group and have contacted the new PROW officer and invited him to our next meeting. David wrote a piece for the Reydon Robin to explain to the public how to report footpath problems. There is an issue of some cyclists using public Rights of Way, so we have looked at possible solutions to discourage them from doing this as it is a health and safety issue.'

## **6 Reports:**

### **Community Bus and Sole Bay Care Fund – Cathy Ryan**

'We have had the following passengers (not including community hire): 1156 concessions, 122 adults, 47 children. The income for the bus in 2024 was £5,822 with outgoings on £12,581. As you are aware, the licencing and general/legal management of the bus is managed by Halesworth Community Transport, as the bus is under their fleet for insurance for licence purposes. There is a large increase in insurance costs this year for the fleet insurance. Also, the new changes to drivers' licences will have an impact. New drivers do not automatically get a D1 on their licence. This means anyone new coming along without that would need training at a cost of £1,800 plus a medical and this is renewable every three years. Those over 70 have to apply for it to remain on their licence, and also have to have a medical at £85-£150 per person every three years. So this may impact on how many volunteer drivers we can attract in the future. Currently we have 9 regular drivers – we have had up to 14 – but some have retired or feel no longer able to drive. All have to be trained under MIDAS. We have also provided training on Understanding Dementia and Moving and Handling. With all the mechanical problems we had with the old community bus we had a lot of financial catch up, and of course we then purchased another bus, which also needed some alterations to meet the licencing laws but thankfully the new bus has been very reliable. We also pay a self employed administrator to manage day to day rotas and any bus administration. Sponsorship of the bus is for two years and so, depending on advert size and what other help the 'sponsor' organisation has given us, some have provided a driver or helped with providing venues etc for fundraising, so will depend on cost. Therefore, this ranges from £350 to £1,000. Our community hire is increasing, but is dependent on driver availability. We have supported local schools for outings, the lunch club at VHC, local weddings, Christmas and birthday parties and have supported the Street Festival and Harbour festivities and the Ink Festival. Over the years it has been clear that the bus is really only viable to be run in the mornings and it does not run on a Tuesday or Sunday. Tuesday is maintenance day, when the bus is cleaned and all the safety checks undertaken. The timetable is now set and appears to be running well. Individuals can get on/off anywhere on route, and slight diversions can be made at the driver's discretion to support individuals if need be. Sole Bay Care Fund is committed to continue to provide the community bus. Over the past year income to the Sole Bay Care Fund has dropped dramatically, while expenses continue to increase. All services provided by the Care Fund are under constant review by the Trustees. Thank you for your support.'

**Reydon Village Hall – Charlotte Clark (read by Ann, the Clerk as Charlotte was unable to attend).**

‘Reflecting on the previous 12 months it is amazing what we have achieved at Reydon Village Hall. It started with many hands clearing the various storage areas at the hall which resulted in a full skip and a fundraising table sale. In 2023 we launched the Golden Anniversary Appeal, the idea being to fundraise between then and 2027 to carry out much needed improvements at the hall. This meant we had a number of fundraising community events in 2024/25 including Ceilidhs, Quiz Nights, Beetle Drives and Bingo. With the money raised and a generous contribution from the Reydon Trust we were able to replace the heating system in early 2024 as well as redecoration of the foyer, front area and toilets. This was followed by the creation and redecoration of the Loftus Room, as a separate rentable space, with new doors and blinds. We also had the car park cleared and the white lines repainted by the community payback team. And the lovely Stephen Westlake filled in the potholes in the driveway. With the money from fundraising and funds from Reydon Parish Council this allowed us in early 2025 to replace the lighting in the main hall, including the emergency lighting, redecorate the main hall, replace the curtains and blinds and begin the overhaul of the disabled toilet, including fitting a baby change unit. As well as the many and varied activities that take place at the hall via those who hire the space, and our fundraising events, following the community breakfast in March 2024 (in collaboration with Reydon and Southwold Pantry) in November we launched another joint project with a series of community coffee mornings and lunches that have been very well attended and appreciated, especially Dorcas’s homemade soups. The hard work of the previous chair, Laurence Vulliamy resulted in the annulment of the noise abatement order that has been dogging RVH for many years. And Treasurer Ray Rogers managed to renegotiate a better utility supplier, change our bank, register us for gift aid and steer us through the tricky changes in regard to the EV charging points. Secretary and booking clerk Dorcas Rogers’ achievements for the year and too numerous to detail. So, my heartfelt thanks to her and the rest of the RVH Management Committee, Reydon Parish Council and all the people who have supported Reydon Village Hall this year.’

**Reydon Trust – Mike Mayhew**

‘Hello - My name is Mike Mayhew and I am the current Chairman of Reydon Trust. In the past the Trust has been fortunate to receive an extra income stream from members of St. Margaret’s Churches congregation. These parishioners were happy to pay over to the Trust monies from their heating allowance that they felt they could afford to gift away. With this now ended, so has this income. It was ring fenced and used for those less well off in our community, given as individual household grants towards heating. Much has been paid out and the Trust has a minimal amount left. We also ‘put on one side’ an amount, also ring fenced, to be used as one off grants to families towards their energy bills. The Rev. Perry attended his last meeting as trustee in early December, and we await the appointment of his replacement. Again, as in previous Christmases, the Trust gave all primary school children in Southwold and Reydon a Christmas card and £10.00 book token at a cost of approximately £2700. We also sponsor the large Christmas tree on Jubilee Green. Susan Moore, a long serving trustee, passed away last year, she had given many years to the Trust. Amongst the many we helped during the last year included:- The Men’s Shed; The Old Hospital; Southwold Golf Club; Southwold Tennis Club; Mr Bus; Waveney Hygiene Bank; an individual with funding towards their education; Reydon Primary School for end of term leavers; Church lunches; Reydon Village Hall towards replacing the heating system. It is worrying to note that the Trust currently has seen an increase in applications from young adults within our community at the less well off end of society requesting financial help. This could be a knock-on from the recent increase in employer national insurance reducing their working hours and their pay. As a Trustee, the Rev Alan applied to the Trust on behalf of St Margaret’s for zoom facilities at the Church. This enabled services to be live streams throughout the Covid pandemic. My mum died early this year and I held her funeral at Reydon church. I was able to live stream the service, enabling her sister in Australia to be part of the day. The capital is invested with the CCLA, who once again, have managed to hold our capital value at over £1,000,000 while giving us a return in excess of £30,000 per annum enabling us to use this in the parish of Reydon for need, hardship or distress.’

**7 Matters Arising and Any Questions**

Cllr Pam Cyprien said that the Official Opening of the new playground at the recreation ground was taking place at 4.00 pm and she asked if any Councillors who were able to come could arrive around 3.30 pm. Jon Hadgraft had said, subject to weather conditions, he would use his drone to get some overhead shots and Jenny Riddell-Carpenter and the two children who had been successful in the poster competition would be doing the official opening of the playground. Cllr Sarah Jerman said she had asked for some of the local children to come along in football kit and all children attending would be able to have some free sweets.

A local resident asked whether anything more could be done about speeding in Reydon. He suggested that maybe some speed camera signs could be put up as deterrents and it was agreed that this would be discussed at the next Highways Committee Meeting when representatives from Suffolk County Council would be present.