Haughley and Wetherden Parish News: Report to AGM of Parish Council (9th May 2022)

Due to safety restrictions imposed by pandemic lockdown in March 2020, the Parish News was not printed in April, May & June 2020 and again in February and March 2021 due to further restrictions which made handling and distributing unsafe.

Anne Ardley carried out her key role as Parish News Editor. David Bryant and Anne Ardley handled the Advertising Manager's role.

In 2021 we have had new housing developments in Haughley beginning to become occupied and we have gradually been increasing the number of copies printed each month. We have had an excellent response to a call for volunteer street deliverers for the new estates who are keen to become involved in the life of the village in this way. New volunteers are always welcome. There are currently 35 volunteer street deliverers in the two villages.

Because the on-line version doesn't reach all residents, advertisers were given credit for the non-printed issues by way of reduced advanced charges for 2021 and 2022 (effectively two free issues in the following year).

Due to widespread tree disease in Scandanavia and other factors, paper costs increased substantially in 2021 and this has significantly put up our printing costs but, due to the non-printing of the February and March 2021 issues, the 2021 accounts show a surplus of £553.

Both Haughley and Wetherden Parish Councils continued their support for the Parish News with grants during the year. These are gratefully received and contribute to about 10% of the annual printing costs.

David Ribbans continues to provide much of the cover graphics.

We look forward to another year of service to the Haughley & Wetherden communities in 2022.

David Bryant

Treasurer, H&W Parish News