

MINUTES of the Tolleshunt D'Arcy Parish Annual Assembly held in the village hall on Friday 16th May 2025 commencing at 7.00 p.m.

Present: Parish Councillors - Cllr. J Smith (Chair), Tolleshunt D'Arcy Parish Council), Evans, Ewing, Denney, Middleton

John Barber – Tolleshunt D'Arcy Village Larder
Catherine Sanders – First Responders
Steve Howard - Parish Working Group (PWG)
Michelle Curtis - Clerk to Parish Council
13 members of the public

1. Introduction

The Chairman explained that, while this was a meeting of the parishioners, by convention, the Parish Council Chair chairs the meeting and facilitates discussion, while the Parish Clerk takes the minutes.

2. Minutes of the Annual Assembly 17th May 2024

The Minutes of the Annual Assembly held on 17th May 2024 were approved as a true record of the meeting.

The Chairman signed the minutes.

3. Chairman's Report

The Chairman presented the assembly with a PowerPoint Presentation (Appendix A), providing an overview of the Parish Council's work over the past year.

4. Questions

Questions from residents:

- The layby passed the Church, why can't this area be used for speeding patrols?
The Chair advised that patrols can only be carried out in areas authorised by Essex Police. The area suggested does not meet their criteria, and therefore, patrols cannot be carried out.
- Blackwater Gymnastics - Is the arrangement working to everyone's satisfaction?
It is only a 3-year lease. Is Blackwater Gymnastics likely to renew it?
The Chair advised that the Parish Council believes that Blackwater Gymnastics will renew the lease. Blackwater Gymnastics has been seeking funding to improve the facilities at the Pavilion, indicating a long-term commitment to the location.
- Is there any intention to increase the car parking facility for the Recreation Ground?
The Chair advised that as part of the funding Blackwater Gymnastics has applied for, there is an improvement to the pathway with low-level lighting, making the Recreation Ground car park more accessible. If the grant application is successful, it will leave the Parish Council with sufficient funds to possibly extend the car park into the Recreation Ground.
- Is there any update on the data poles?
The Chair advised that Connexin is contracted by Essex & Suffolk Water (ESW), who are in the process of installing smart water meters. Those who have smart water meters will be linked via the pole.
The devices are usually connected to streetlights, but since not all rural locations have streetlights, poles will be installed instead. The poles will be

wooden up to 12 meters high. The poles can be erected under permitted development, as it is for a utility company.

Cllr Durham is on the case, and E&S Water, Connexin, Essex County Council (ECC), and Maldon District Council are currently in discussion. The ability to stop this is very limited, and they are working to find a more equitable solution. Cllr Durham will keep the Parish Council updated on progress. Once any information is available, the Parish Council will notify residents via Facebook and the website.

- Are there any speed patrols carried out in Kelvedon Road?
The Chair confirmed that TruCam patrols are carried out in Kelvedon Road, in the 40mph speed zone.
- There is a large pothole on Station Road, which is dangerous.
Steve advised that it has been reported to ECC.
- Is there any update on the levelling of the grass verge on Tollesbury Road?
The Chair advised that there was part of a Local Highways Panel application. It is highly unlikely that this work will proceed due to changes in the LHP.
- Is there any update on the appeal for the proposed development on Campions Wood?
The Chair reported that the Parish Council has not yet been notified of the outcome of the appeal.

5. Tolleshunt D’Arcy First Responders

Catherine Saunders presented a PowerPoint Slide Show (Appendix B) to the assembly.

The First Responders will be attending the Village Fete on 7th June 2025 and will have a donation bucket.

The Assembly expressed thanks to the Tolleshunt D’Arcy First Responders.

6. Tolleshunt D’Arcy Village Larder

John Barber gave a PowerPoint Presentation (Appendix C) to the assembly.

The Assembly expressed thanks to Tolleshunt D’Arcy Village Larder.

7. Parish Working Group

Steve presented the slides (Appendix D) and raised the following:

- The PWG has been in operation for approximately 3 years.
- The role has evolved into a Facebook group. The PWG works as a liaison between the residents and the Parish Council.
- The PWG run the Community Speed Watch (CSW). The group has been in operation for 18 months, and since the group started, there have been 307 captures, with the majority occurring on Tollesbury Road. Over the last 12 months, there have been only six repeat offenders.
- The CWS will also be attending the Village Fete and will be looking for more volunteers. There are currently 15 volunteers, most of whom work full-time, making it challenging to deploy patrols during the day, especially in the winter months.
- The CSW has requested additional sites (Beckingham Road, Maldon Road and South Street) for patrols with Essex Police. These locations have all been refused by Essex Police as they do not meet their criteria.

A resident stated that they walk from Chapel Road to the primary school, and it is petrifying to walk due to the speed of the cars. As the CWS is unable to carry out patrols on these roads, could the speed be reduced to 20mph?

The Clerk advised that when this was previously discussed by the Parish Council, District Councillor Thompson had advised that, as it is a through route, the speed limit could not be reduced to 20mph.

Steve advised that ECC has no appetite to reduce speeds to 20mph. A request was also put to Essex Police to carry out CSW from the memorial garden to South Street, and this was declined.

The Assembly thanked the PWG for their hard work.

8. Henry Smith Trust

The Chair presented the slides (Appendix E) on behalf of the Henry Smith Trust.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the Tolleshunt D'Arcy Annual Assembly.

There being no other business for discussion, the Chairman closed the assembly at 8.00pm.

Signed.....

Date:.....

**TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY
PARISH ANNUAL
ASSEMBLY
16TH MAY 2025**



LOCAL COUNCIL
AWARD SCHEME
QUALITY

TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY PARISH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

Domestic Arrangements

- ❖ **There is no fire drill scheduled so if the alarm sounds please leave via the emergency exits and meet in the car park.**
- ❖ **We aim to finish by 8pm but are happy to continue beyond then if required.**
- ❖ **Remember this is your Assembly.**

Following the Annual Assembly:

Village Hall AGM

TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY PARISH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

Agenda

- ❖ **Apologies**
- ❖ **Minutes of the Last Assembly**
- ❖ **Chairman's Report**
- ❖ **Questions**
- ❖ **Tollesbury First Responders**
- ❖ **Tolleshunt D'Arcy Village Larder**
- ❖ **Henry Smith Fund**

TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY PARISH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY PARISH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

Tolleshunt D'Arcy Parish Council

John Smith – Chair

Wayne Middleton – Vice-Chair

James Denney

Richard Evans

Maggie Henderson

Ian Ewing

Gerry Munson

County Councillor – Mark Durham

District Councillor – Maddie Thompson

District Councillor – Clive Morley

Finance

The 2023/24 returns were submitted and returned no adverse comments.

The 2024/25 Internal Audit is currently being carried out

Income and expenditure for 2024/25:

- Income - £42,692 (includes £24,766 precept)
- Expenditure - £34,868
- Earmarked Reserves - £13,573.85
- Closing balance as of 31st March 2025 - £37,831.41

TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY PARISH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

Pavilion

In September 2023, Blackwater Gymnastics entered into a three-year lease agreement to hire the Pavilion.

Blackwater Gymnastics was successful with their funding application, and a new path was installed from the village hall to the Pavilion. This is a benefit to all users of the Recreation Ground.

The Parish Council has replaced the entrance doors on the Pavilion, upgraded the heating system and had electrical works carried out to ensure the building meets regulations.

For further information on Blackwater Gymnastics, visit:

www.blackwatergymnastics.co.uk



Traffic/Speeding Issues

The Parish Council has submitted an application to Essex County Council Highways for a Speed Indicator Device to be installed on Tollesbury Road. The Parish Council has considered other locations in the village, i.e. Church Street, but due to Church Street being in the conservation area, this is not allowed.



TruCam Patrols

The Parish Council has continued the agreement with the MDC Community Engagement Team (CET) to carry out TruCam (Speeding) Patrols in the village.

TruCam Patrols:	April 2024-March 2025
208 – Captures:	167 on Tollesbury Road
	28 on Kelvedon Road
	13 on Church Street

Due to the CET no longer being able to use the Church car park, patrols on Church Street have had to cease.

QUESTIONS

TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY FIRST RESPONDERS



Community First Responder

#WeAreEEAST 

TOLLESBURY & DARCY COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS

2025 Parish Annual Assembly Update
16th May 2025



COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDER GROUPS

- [Tollesbury & D'Arcy Group Coordinator – Catherine Sanders](#)
- Tollesbury Group – established 20+ years ago
 - Kit bag funded by EEAST (East of England Ambulance Trust)
 - 5 active members
- Tolleshunt D'Arcy Group – established 2023
 - Self-funded a kit bag
 - 5 active members
- Both groups are recruiting and have additional people awaiting training

ROLES OF A COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDER

When you dial 999 emergency call, the call is prioritised by the Ambulance 999 controller to establish if it is suitable to send a community first responder.

If so, the nearest available group is alerted via their group Ambulance phone.

An ambulance will always be mobilised at the same time.

CFR will remain at scene until handover to Ambulance

Such calls suitable for a CFR to attend include (but not limited to);

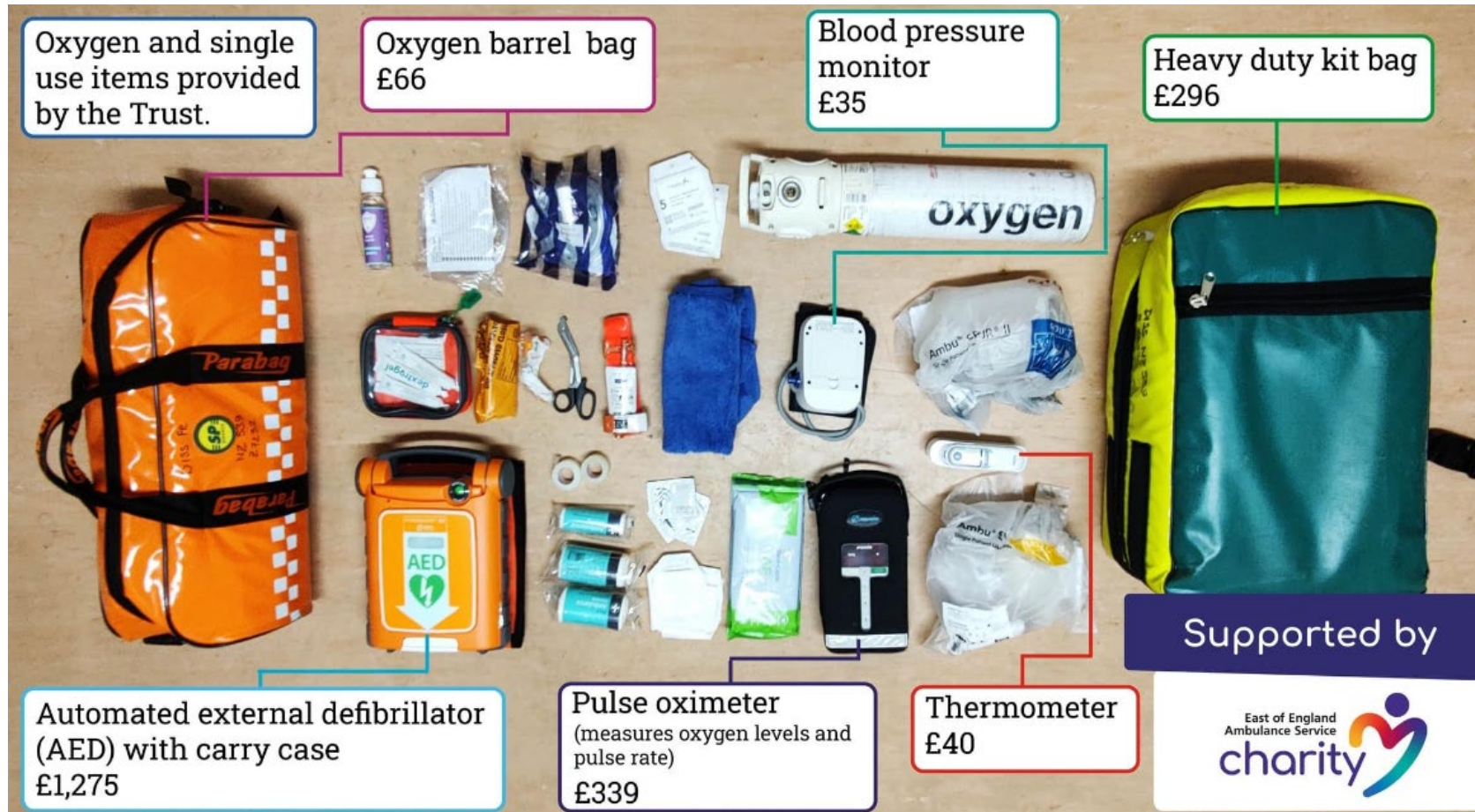
- Cardiac Arrest
- Heart Attacks
- Strokes
- Seizures
- Asthma Attacks
- Diabetics
- Breathing difficulties
- Choking

Unsuitable calls

- Car Accidents
- Trauma
- Infants under 2 yrs old
- Known drink/drugs

FUNDING & KIT BAG

- In 2022/23 we raised around £4,700 to fund the Tolleshunt D'Arcy kit bag
- Fundraising £3,200
- Locality Grant £1,500



VOLUNTEERING & CALL OUTS

Month	Hours on Call	Call outs	Location
January	175	17	6 Tiptree 3 Heybridge 2 Darcy 2 Birch 1 Tollesbury 1 T. Knights 1 Gt Totham 1 Goldhanger
February	120	12	3 Tollesbury 2 Heybridge 2 Salcot 2 Tiptree 1 Toll. Knights 1 Goldhanger
March	102	4	1 Darcy 1 Tollesbury 1 Tiptree 1 Totham
April	104	12	5 Tollesbury 3 Heybridge 1 Darcy 1 Tiptree 1 Totham 1 Wigborough

EVENTS AND FUNDRAISING

2 Defib and CPR Awareness courses ran in Tollesbury in March

Excellent feedback received, more to run in D'Arcy during the year

Village Fete – First Responders attending with a stall and CPR and Defib Awareness with kit

One of the Tollesbury Brownies raised funds for our group as part of her fundraising badge

TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY PARISH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

Appendix C





TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY VILLAGE LARDER

THE TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY VILLAGE LARDER (TDVL) IS A NON-REGISTERED CONSTITUTED CHARITABLE TRUST AND RUN BY 6 TRUSTEES AND I VOLUNTEER

THIS IS OUR REPORT SINCE LAST YEAR'S VILLAGE AGM



WHAT DOES THE VILLAGE LARDER DO

We distribute donated food from Local & National Retailers along with donations from the local community to those who need additional assistance within the Village.

We do not discriminate against those who need assistance or question them.



WHAT DOES THE VILLAGE LARDER DO

We provide a Coffee Morning open to all Villagers providing free Tea, Coffee and Cake each Wednesday from 10.00 am to 12.00 pm.

We have arranged with Maldon CVS, Citizens Advice and Community Nurse regular help sessions to give legal advice, health and other support services.



HAVE WE HELPED

During the past year, we have distributed over
£2500.00 worth of food and other goods.
We have not had to provide any cash grants during
the past year.



FUNDING

We have received grants from the following during the past year:

Henry Smith (Tolleshunt D'Arcy) Trust.

Cash donations from the Local Community.



NEWS

During the past year, two new trustees have joined the team.

Funding will be an issue during the coming year as donations and grants have all been reduced as effects of the government financial and fiscal policies take effect along with increases in operating costs particularly rent and general inflation. We will try to apply for funding from potential donors and grant givers to maintain the larder and coffee mornings.



CURRENT ACCOUNTS



INCOME	2024	2025
CARRIED OVER FROM PREVIOUS YEAR		
BANK ACCOUNT	£ 1055.59	£ 1,249.48
PETTY CASH	£ 141.55	£ 236.07
GRANTS		
TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY PARISH COUNCIL	£ 250.00	
HENRY SMITH TRUST	£ 250.00	£ 200.00
CASH DONATIONS		
CASH COLLECTION BOX	£ 1,319.06	£ 1,799.22
TOTAL INCOME AND HOLDINGS	£ 3,016.94	£ 3,484.77

TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY
VILLAGE LARDER

EXPENDITURE	2024	2025
TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY VILLAGE HALL (HIRE CHARGES)	£ 350.00	£ 400.00
CASH GRANTS	£ 150.00	
FOOD AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS (PETTY CASH PURCHASES)	£ 170.28	£ 54.73
FOOD AND HOUSEHOLD ITEMS (BANK ACCOUNT PURCHASES)	£ 619.61	£ 1,370.06
GENERAL RUNNING COSTS (SUNDRIES & PRINTING)	£ 241.50	£ 120.11
TOTAL EXPENDITURE YEAR END	£ 1,531.39	£ 1,944.90

T O L L E S H U N T D ' A R C Y

VILLAGE LARDER

BALANCING	2024	2025
TOTAL INCOME AND HOLDINGS	£ 3,016.94	£ 3,484.77
TOTAL EXPEDITURE YEAR END	£ 1,531.39	£ 1,944.90
INCOME LESS EXPEDITURE	£ 1485.55	£ 1,539.87
CURRENT ACCOUNT HOLDINGS	£ 1,249.48	£ 1491.31
PETTY CASH HOLDINGS	£ 236.07	£ 48.56
TOTAL MONIES HELD IN BANK & PETTY CASH	£ 1485.55	£ 1,539.87



COMMENT

A COPY OF OUR ACCOUNTS IS AVAILABLE ON THE
VILLAGE LARDER NOTICEBOARD IN THE VILLAGE HALL

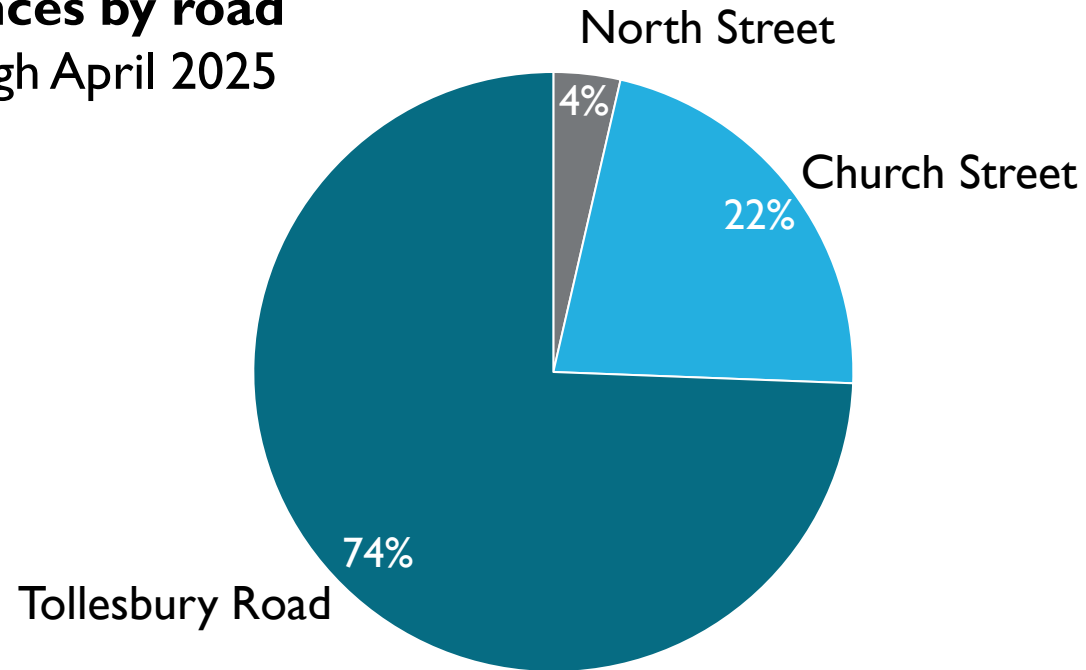


PLEASE CONTINUE TO HELP
SUPPORT THE LARDER
THROUGH THE COMING YEAR.

PARISH WORKING GROUP

TOLLESBURY ROAD CONTINUES TO ACCOUNT FOR THE MAJORITY OF OFFENCES.

Speeding offences by road
Nov 2023 through April 2025
n = 307



Appendix E

HENRY SMITH FUND

HENRY SMITH FUND ACCOUNTS

Statement of Account for Henry Smith Trust Fund

Balance on 31st May 2024	£5323.20
Payment of £200 to The Village Larder	- £200.00
Balance on 19 th September	£5123.20
Balance on 1 October 2024	£5123.20
Total Paid in	£3300.00
Total paid out	£2600.00
Balance on 29 th October 2024	£5823.20

Withdrawal of £2600 for Christmas payments to Parishioners

There were three payments made in October for Taxis to enable a Parishioner to attend appointments at Colchester Hospital. This amounted to £127, which was paid from petty cash.

There was a payment of £20 to the Secretary for expenses from petty cash.

The Christmas payments were given to the Parishioners in November 2024.

HENRY SMITH FUND ACCOUNTS

Statement of Account for Henry Smith Trust Fund continued

Balance on 29th November 2024 £5823.20

Balance at start of April 2025 £5823.20

Total paid out in April 2025 -£2888.94

This was £2800 for Easter Payments to Parishioners and £88.94 for office supplies.

Easter payments were made to 22 Parishioners.

Balance in bank and petty cash £2934.26

HENRY SMITH FUND ACCOUNTS

Any questions can be answered by phone on:

01621 860553

01621 860699

07889 613100

or email glmep@hotmail.com

If we can help any villagers who live in the parish, please contact the above.

**TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY
VILLAGE HALL
AGM**