

Walsham le Willows Parish Council - Website Accessibility Statement

The website has not been assessed as WCAG 2.1 compliant under Regulation 8 of the Public Sector Bodies (Websites and Mobile Applications) (No. 2) Accessibility Regulations 2018. The site is on a Wordpress platform which is WCAG 2.0 compliant. This statement is being made available in an accessible format.

Applicable to website at <https://www.walsham-le-willows.org/>

Most of the website content is not Parish Council related, however for completeness, the entire website has been assessed. It has been concluded that the Parish Council are not required to make the website fully accessible because doing so would impose a **disproportionate burden** for the reasons given below. However The Parish Council has a new .gov.uk domain and the website will move to this domain during 2026. This will provide a managed service for resilience and will ensure continuous compliance with latest Web Content Accessibility Guidelines.

The Parish Council's size and resources

The Parish Council is a small public body with a budget of only £23,000 -26,000 per year from the precept. It is largely a consultative body.

Cost and the impact on the Council of achieving WCAG 2.1 compliancy

To professionally assess a small, static website for compliance could cost up to £4,500. The Parish Council website although relatively small does have a lot of content over nearly 200 hundred pages so might cost considerably more just for the assessment. Implementation of compliancy would require a significant additional part of the annual budget.

Parish Council Services

The Parish Council provides no services specifically aimed at people who are likely to have a disability and the website has a limited audience for all content. Traffic is not very high. Statutory material (Council meeting documents, agendas and notices) is published on the Parish notice board and in the Observer as well as on the website. Minutes are published on the website and in The Observer which is distributed to every household in the village. The Observer itself is now also published as an on-line version.

The coronavirus lockdowns saw the Parish Council assuming a co-ordinating role for the support of vulnerable people. Many volunteers came forward to provide support for a significant number of people. This was publicised via the website and through all other channels including, the village store, an important hub. The Parish Council did not become aware of any accessibility issues during that challenging time.

An accessibility plugin I used which allows website users to change text size, background colour etc.

Additional benefit to disabled users by making changes

Probably minimal especially given that hard copies of all Council documents can be supplied by the Clerk and can be read aloud to parishioners if necessary. This fact will be made clear on the website and on the Parish notice board. The Clerk can be contacted as follows:

parishclerk@walsham-le-willows.org | 01359 259 794 | Willow Cottage, The Street, Walsham le Willows, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP31 3AA

Statement last updated: 18/02/2026

Next review February 2027