

DRAFT

Minutes of Westhall's Annual Parish Meeting Monday 14th May 2018 7.30 Westhall Village Hall

Attendees: PC Cllrs - Mr P Langford (Chairman), Mr C Baker, Mr J Lickman, Mrs L McTaggart, Mr K Studd and Mrs L Studd, Mrs A Donnachie (Clerk), Member of the Public

1. Parish Council Chairman's report on the year: Mr Langford delivered a report on the year's events and successes, reproduced here:

I would initially like to thank all the Councillors for their dedication and support during another busy year. You are not paid for the time and effort that you expend on behalf of the Parish and without it the Community would not operate as effectively as it does. A special thanks to Louise for her devotion to the role as Secretary as well as Councillor. Louise is stepping down as Secretary and I am pleased to welcome Anne Donnachie into this role.

During this year, the Parish has completed an Emergency Plan for dealing with an incident, including notifying parishioners and utilising the village hall for evacuation and shelter. John Lickman and Louise Studd are the key co-ordinators, along with various volunteers that can cascade messages to neighbours should the need arise. The group has been equipped with fluorescent jackets and torches and large-scale maps of the village.

The Parish Council in conjunction with Councillor Goldson's Locality Budget has purchased a new grit bin for the area underneath the railway bridge on Low Common by Pilebridge Cottages and the Parish Council funded an additional dog waste bins, located by the sewerage works. I would encourage all dog owners to clean up after their dogs and keep the footpaths and verges clear for all users.

On the planning front:

The village decided that an area behind Locks Road was unsuitable for large scale development due to the lack of infrastructure. The Parish Council provided input into Waveney District Council's Local Plan suggesting that infill housing of a suitable density was acceptable, but large scale development (for the village) was unacceptable. The new Local Plan that has been distributed for consultation has earmarked the site for 18 houses.

On behalf of the village community group, the Parish Council has applied for The Racehorse to be listed as an Asset of Community Value. This will give the community group time to consider the options for purchasing the pub and whether it is viable to be run as a community venture.

The redevelopment of the poultry farm at Fox Covert was approved by Waveney District Council last year. The rebuild was due to start in 2017 but is now scheduled for Autumn 2018 and the Parish Council will continue to monitor traffic, noise and smell for any inconvenience to local residents.

Suffolk County Council passed a judgement to resolve the anomaly of Footpath 14 and Bridleway 16 at Stradbroke Town Farm. The local landowner has appealed this decision and the footpath remains closed pending the outcome.

The Parish Council has undertaken repairs to the car park next to the village hall. These are temporary works, pending a long term (and costly) solution. The Parish Council has

continued a regular dialogue with Suffolk Highways about potholes, street lighting, road furniture and clearance of footpaths and verges.

Finally, thanks to Bob McTaggart for his sterling work around the village keeping it tidy and hopefully, after tonight, the Parish Council will commit to purchasing a new strimmer.

- 2. Comments from members of the public:** None
- 3. Any other business:** None (Refer to draft AGM Minutes 14th May 2018)