

**Minutes of Westhall's Annual Parish Meeting on
Monday 12th May 2025 at 7.30 pm in Westhall Village Hall**

Councillors Present: Cllr S Darch (Chair), Cllr P Langford, Cllr C Baker: Cllr M Rogers, Cllr T Betts, Cllr M Milbank and Mrs A Donnachie (Clerk)

In Attendance: One member of the Public, District Councillor

Welcome and Apologies with acknowledgment of absences: The Chair welcomed everyone to our meeting.

1 Resolution that the Parish Council Chair's Report of 12th May 2025 was recorded correctly.

2 The Chair's 2025/26 Report: The Chairman delivered a report on the year's events and successes, reproduced here:

Many thanks to the Clerk and Councillors who have supported me and their community during the year.

The year began in May with our Annual General Meeting and I was pleased to again be appointed as Chairman to the Parish Council.

In January, regretfully Cllr John Lickman submitted his resignation and we wish him well for the future.

However, he will continue to volunteer his help with the Community Emergency Plan and to give his support to the village. We are pleased to welcome Cllr Marjorie Milbank to the Parish Council.

There have been some major projects for the Parish Council to understand and respond to:

- The National Infrastructure Project (NISP's) – Responses were required to the very complex LionLink Environmental Impact Assessment Consultation and I would especially wish to thank Cllr Langford who took on the task of writing a report and ensuring the Parish Council were better able to understand the implications of these projects not only for our village but for the surrounding East Suffolk area. My thanks also to those councillors who have attended public meetings associated with this and other projects (Sizewell C) during the year and for their reports back to the Parish Council.

- A move to Devolution for Suffolk has been ongoing and we are still awaiting the final decisions and understand how this impacts on the village and our residents.

On a happier note, in May we were delighted to welcome SARS to the village hall to carry out CPR and Defibrillator training for residents. This session was well supported and they received very positive responses from attendees who also contributed generously to allow SARS to continue to serve our community.

In June a walk took place in memory and appreciation of the late Bob McTaggart. Bob worked tirelessly around the village and his passing has been a sad loss to his family and all who knew him.

The Parish Council have had a busy year with various planning applications, there being a total of 14 to consider and submit comments to the Planning Department.

Our thanks also to our District and Suffolk Councillors who have attended many of our meetings to inform and assist us and for their monthly reports.

Fox Covert, Poultry Farm: We would also like to thank Gemma Gooch-Boags from Crown Poultry Farms, who has attended many of our meetings to update us on the works being carried out on site to resolve various environmental issues.

The Parish Council submitted their Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) to the internal auditor and whose report showed that the Parish Council had carried out effective and efficient financial administration and financial management for the year 2023/24.

Donations: The Parish Council approved donations of £100 to Suffolk Accident Rescue Service.

There will be some major changes taking place in the coming year, especially relating to the Governments

Meeting closed at 7.45 pm followed by the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council.