

Minutes of Westhall's Annual Parish Meeting
Monday 13th May 2019 7.30 Westhall Village Hall (prior to AGM)

Attendees: Parish Councillors - Mr P Langford (Chairman), Mr C Baker, Mrs L Brown, Mrs S Self, Mr C Punt, Mrs A Donnachie (Clerk)

- 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 like to thank all the Councillors and Secretary for their dedication and support during last year. The time and effort that you expend on behalf of the Parish is appreciate by me and without it the Parish Council would not operate as effectively as it does serving the interests of the community. A special thanks also to Edna Clark who left the Council earlier this year.

It was another busy year, with significant progress on some things and others that require more work. The biggest achievement has been the purchase of a defibrillator for the village, with generous donations from Cllr Tony Goldson's Locality Budget, the Villages Community Fund and Adnams Community Trust. The defibrillator, in its heated, steel cabinet is mounted on the village hall and available for first responders and members of the community when dealing with someone that has suffered a heart attack. The purchase also included defibrillator training for 10 members of the community.

The Parish Council was involved in the following planning decisions / consultation:

In support of the Westhall Community Pub Society, the Parish Council successfully applied to Waveney District Council for the Racehorse to be listed as a Community Asset. This was to allow the Society sufficient time plan for and raise funds to purchase the pub and run it as a community venture.

We provided representation on the Waveney Local Plan, particularly the proposed development at Locks Road and the general lack of infrastructure in the local area. The comments were considered by an external planning committee, with the result of a slight change to the numbers and mix of the proposed dwellings.

Last year Suffolk County Council, supported by the Parish Council, passed a judgement to resolve the anomaly of Footpath 14 and Bridleway 16 at Stradbroke Town Farm. The local landowner appealed the decision, but in Jan 19 The Planning Inspectorate reviewed the case and confirmed the Order. The footpath and bridleway should now be open from Stradbroke Town Farm west toward Holton.

The Parish Council provided detailed comments to the Sizewell C public consultation. Our main concern is the increase in traffic along the A12 and in the surrounding area as a result of the construction.

Various village planning applications to change or develop dwellings within the village, including Ivy Grange Farm, Hill Farm, Jenta, Cox Farm bungalow, Sallows Farm, Oak Tree Farm and the mast at Lower Common.

Looking ahead, the Parish Council is likely to be more involved in planning with the new East Suffolk Council and it is hoped that they will listen to local concerns or submissions when considering applications or making policy decisions.

The Parish has reviewed the Emergency Plan for dealing with an incident and Charles Baker and John Lickman are now the key co-ordinators.

Finally, thanks to Bob McTaggart for his sterling work around the village keeping it tidy.

- 2. Comments from members of the public:** None

- 3. Any other business:** None (Refer to draft AGM Minutes 13th May 2019)