

# WESTERFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

## ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

### Draft Minutes of the Meeting – Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2014 7.30pm in Westerfield Village Hall

Present: Councillors: Mr P Miller (Chairman), Mr R Hill, Mrs R Horsfield,

Also present were Mrs K Broyd (Clerk), Mrs J Page (Internal Auditor), Mr Simon Hoare (Mersea Homes), twenty three parishioners and eleven members of the public from adjacent parishes.

Apologies were received from: Parish Councillors Mrs E Fisher, Mrs Y Maynard, Mrs C Morrison and Mr B. Reeve.

1. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that all the reports that were being presented at the meeting were included in the Parish Meeting Pack available to all parishioners.
2. The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of 16<sup>th</sup> May 2013 were approved and signed
3. There were no matters arising from the last minutes.
4. **Annual report from the Chairman of the Parish Council.** (Full copy in the Parish Meeting Pack on file)  
The Chairman thanked all Councillors for their continued work and support during the year. Thanks were given to Y. Maynard for organising the Litter Pick and to Barry Reeve for organising our rota for Community Speedwatch which continued to operate. Thanks were expressed to our County and District Councillors for their regular visits.

There had been no progress on further traffic calming works but the County Council had now agreed a scheme and were preparing a brief for their outsourced consultants.

For four months the police have been carrying out more speed checks in the village as a matter of high priority.

Planning matters had taken considerable Council time especially maintaining representation with Ipswich BC and the ongoing proposals for the Northern Fringe development. The effect of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) in this context had also led to concern. The NPPF was also given as the reason why the planning application for land adjacent to manor Farm had been approved.

The Boundary Commission are restructuring Suffolk Coastal electoral wards and the Parish Council have asked Westerfield be included in a one member ward together with other rural villages rather than being part of Rushmere sharing three members.

Other aspects included the new timetables for trains stopping at the Station, the renegotiation of the contract for bus services and the opportunity to brighten up the village by planting at the Station and at the Village Gateways.

- 5 **Parish Council Financial Report.** (Full details are in the Parish Meeting Pack on file)  
Income from the precept had been sufficient to cover expenditure during the year and that a grant of £5000 had been received from Felixstowe Dock towards forthcoming traffic calming works. A grant was made to the parochial Church Council towards the upkeep of land surrounding the Church and a Salt Bin had been purchased to enable gritting in area area around the Village Hall during icy weather. Further Traffic calming works were expected during the year and some Parish Council street lights are in need of replacement, A statement of the 2013/2014 accounts was presented together with a bank reconciliation.

6. **Planning Applications** – Suffolk Coastal DC had consulted the Parish Council with 9 applications for properties in Westerfield and one in Witnesham during the year. Full details are on file.
7. **Reports** received from: (full copy included in the Parish Meeting Pack on file)  
County Councillor Peter Bellfield sent a report giving relevant information on the work of the County Council during the year.
8. **Bridget Collett Educational Foundation.** Report received stating that there had been 42 recipients in the past year. A full report of this Charity is in the Parish Meeting Pack on file.  
**Village Hall Charity.** Reported that lettings had held up well and that a new on-line booking system had been set up. Work was needed to the roof and would be completed during 2014. A full report is on file
9. A **Parochial Church Council report** was received by the meeting and a copy is on file.

10. **Reports** were received from Parish Groups and Clubs in the village and full copies of these are on file.

Westerfield Bowls Club	Mothers Union Report
Wednesday Coffee Morning	Fit Villages – Pilates and Zumba
Westerfield Events Group	1 <sup>st</sup> Westerfield Scout Group
Westerfield and District Gardening Club	Westerfield Tennis Club
Westerfield Horse Show	Westerfield Women’s Institute

11. A member of the public asked a question about the ownership of land over which a footpath existed. Being unable to give exact details of the location of this path and the context of his question the Chairman offered to discuss this further after the meeting.

12. Date of next meeting – Spring 2015

Following the meeting there was a presentation by Simon Hoare on the forthcoming Planning Application by Mersea Homes for the first phase of the Ipswich Garden Suburb. An exhibition of plans was being held at Ipswich Sports Club over the following two days when all members of the public were welcome to attend. Mr Hoare explained that much discussion was still needed before approval was likely to be given and it was unlikely that any building would take place before the end of 2016.