

WESTERFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Notes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Village Hall
at 7.15pm on 17th May 2023

PRESENT	For the Parish Council: Jason Kirk, Peter Hudson, Michael Noble, Sue Peace, John Barber, and David Gooch (Clerk). There were also 7 members of the public.
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1 Apologies for Absence - None

2 Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 27th April 2022 -
No comments were received; the notes were approved.

3 Chairman's welcome, introduction, and report on 2022/23, including finance and planning matters

The Chair Jason Kirk welcomed those present, then expressed thanks to retired councillors Peter Miller (Parish Councillor for 20 years of which 15 were as Chairman), Graham Austin, and Trevor Cade. He also expressed thanks, along with bouquets of flowers, to Olive Miller, Anne Baker, Linda Rolph and Val Byrne, for their work for the Events Committee.

The Finance 2022/23 report was then presented, followed by a review of the various planning issues (incl Henley Gate) considered by the Parish Council during the year.

A copy of the Chairman's report, which includes reports from the Church and other local groups (Item 4 below), and also the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group update (Item 5 below) can be viewed [here](#).

4 Reports from the Church and other local groups

All available reports (St Mary Magdalene Church, and Community group reports for the Gardening Club, Village Hall, Bridget Collett Education Foundation Charity, and 1st Westerfield Scout Group) are included in the Chairman's report referred to in Item 3.

5 Westerfield Neighbourhood Plan Working Group update

The Neighbourhood Plan update was also included in the Chairman's report (Item 3 above). In brief, after presentation to the working group (June), then Parish Council (July), the Village consultation will begin, followed by formal submission, then a referendum on adopting the plan.

6 Open questions and discussion

Similar to the previous years' APM, the majority of the discussion focussed on traffic and road safety issues particularly the options for reducing vehicle speeds in the village particularly on the B1077 Westerfield Road, Lower Road, and Church Lane. Suffolk County Council Highways Department would continue to be lobbied, while it was noted that the Parish Council believed it had accumulated adequate funds to pay for improvements.

7 Date of next meeting

April/May 2024, exact date to be confirmed.

Chairman: Date: