

# **WESTERFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

**APPROVED MINUTES** of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Church Room on July 20, 2021, at 7.30pm

<b>PRESENT</b>	Cllrs Peter Miller, Graham Austin, Jason Kirk, and Michael Noble. Rod Caird (Clerk), District Councillor Tony Fryatt and County Councillor Elaine Bryce were also present. No member of the public was present.
----------------	---

**1/200721 Apologies and approvals of absence**

Peter Hudson and Trevor Cade sent their apologies, and their absence was approved.

**2/200721 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation**

None

**3/200721 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on April 28, 2021**

The minutes were approved.

**4/200721 To receive reports from the County and District Councillors, and comments from members of the public on matters on the Agenda**

Cllr Bryce reported that there are problems in rural areas with the home to school transport service; the situation is being reviewed. A live consultation is also in hand on the special education and disability services. The vaccination programme in Suffolk is among the most advanced in the country. She is also tackling outstanding Highways issues. Jason Kirk has been in contact about the withdrawal of flexible ticketing on Ipswich buses at the same time as price increases. Meanwhile there has been encouraging progress on the park and cycle initiative.

Cllr Fryatt drew attention again to the likely increased use of minor and major roads by heavy traffic as a result of the Sizewell C proposed development. He also noted that proposed planning reforms were in the government's recent Queen's Speech and suggested this needs to be closely monitored.

**5/200721 To consider the vacancy on the Parish Council brought about by the resignation of Felicity Borwick**

As the vacancy has been formally published it will be possible to co-opt a volunteer at the September meeting of the Parish Council, assuming there is no call for an election.

The Parish Council expressed thanks to Felicity Borwick for her valuable contribution as a Councillor.

**6/200721 To receive a report on current planning applications and related matters:**

**DC/21/3336/OUT | Outline Application (With All Matters Reserved) - The erection of 1no. detached dwelling with detached double garage | Land North East Of The Mount Church Lane**

Notice of this application was received after publication of the Agenda. After discussion it was agreed to comment as follows: This site had been the subject of a planning application for four bungalows (DC/20/5222/FUL), to which the Parish Council objected, but which has subsequently been withdrawn.

In discussion the Parish Council noted that:

1. This development would not be in accordance with the Local Plan and there is no proven need for further dwellings other than already granted permission or scheduled within the Local Plan.
2. There is no pedestrian provision between this site and the village centre and
3. The arrangements for presentation of refuse and recycling bins are unsatisfactory and detrimental to the safety of the junction between Church Lane and this shared access.

The Parish Council considers that, should the District Council consider approving this application, further consideration should be given to the safety of this shared access, and recommends improvements for the safety of pedestrians on Church Lane.

**DC/21/3035/FUL | Change of use of land from agricultural to an enclosed dog exercise field (Sui Generis) | Land at Church Lane – *for consideration***

No objection was raised but concern was expressed that roadside hedgerows should not be lost. The proposal was also considered a good opportunity to control traffic speeds on Church Lane, on the section between the 30mph limit at the entrance to Westerfield and the junction with Tuddenham Road. There is a strong view that in the interests of the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and other road users the full length of Church Lane should not exceed 40mph.

**DC/21/2858/FUL | Erection of two storey side/single storey rear extension, re-facing of part of existing front and rear elevations and raising of existing rear flat roof element to match extension | Briar Rose Lower Road – *for consideration***

There was no objection to this application.

**DC/21/0649/FUL | Erection of 1no. new dwelling, with detached double cartlodge, and driveway. | Land East Of 5 And 6 St Marys Way – *withdrawn***

**DC/21/2987/DRC | Discharge of Conditions 4, 5, 6, and Part of 7 of DC/21/0311/FUL- Erection of 1no. new dwelling, with detached double garage, and extension of vehicular access driveway. | Land East Of 5 And 6 St Marys Way – *awaiting decision***

**DC/21/3187/CON | Other Consultation -IP/21/00486/CON-Discharge of Condition 18 (Temporary Rail Crossing Diversion Strategy) of outline planning permission 14/00638/OUTFL | Land to South of Railway Line Westerfield Road – *awaiting decision***

**DC/21/0264/VOC | Variation of Condition 2 on Application APP/J3530/W/17/3167309 (The appeal is allowed, and planning permission is granted for the erection of 5 dwellings at The Mount, Church Lane, Westerfield, Ipswich IP6 9BE in accordance with the terms of the application, Ref DC/16/2765/FUL, dated 5 July 2016 subject to the conditions on the attached schedule.) | The Mount Church Lane – *permitted***

**DC/21/0140/FUL | Construction of detached dwelling with detached cart lodge building on a site with planning permission for a similar development. | Plot 8 Development Site Fullers Field – *permitted***

**DC/21/0240/FUL | Excavate two number small wildlife ponds as part of District Level Licencing provision in Suffolk, works to include provision of low bank features created with excavated material, to be below 500mm in height. Ponds will be one of 159sqm area, one of 245sqm area. Remaining development area to be associated low earth bunds. Each pond to meet NE pond creation guidelines and will be at least 1m deep at deepest part, with varying bank profiles and irregular shape. | Cockfield Hall Cockfield Hall Lane – *permitted***

**20/5222/FUL | The erection of 4no. bungalows with garages and shared driveway | Land North East Of The Mount Church Lane – *withdrawn***

**IP/20/00943/CON Land to North of Railway Line and East of Henley Road, Ipswich, Suffolk - Discharge of Condition 28 of outline planning permission IP/16/00608/OUT in relation to the Community Development Strategy. Details of condition approved**

It was noted that this strategy will include involvement of Westerfield in the Country Park and Visitor Centre

#### **Update on Ipswich Borough Council consultations and other matters relevant to Ipswich Garden Suburb**

Some concern was expressed about the relative interests of the various developments including Lower Road and the Henley Gate/Ipswich Garden Suburb sites, with particular reference to flood risk assessments and drainage problems.

#### **Other Planning matters**

A planning application is expected to be submitted for the allocated site south of Lower Road, and the developer has provided an advance copy of the plan for information

#### **7/200721 To discuss any policing concerns and matters arising from the Safer Neighbourhood Team and other meetings attended by Parish Councillors**

At the most recent SNT meeting Tuddenham Parish Council expressed concern about speeding in the village, which is seen by many as an example of Anti-Social Behaviour. The same subject was also raised at the East Suffolk SALC Forum attended by Michael Noble. It will be helpful to increase attendance by Councillors at SALC and other meetings.

#### **8/200721 To discuss the Westerfield traffic survey**

About 50% of the village has responded to the survey. There is general agreement that traffic behaviour in the village is a problem, and the railway crossing is thought to be detrimental. The two major concerns seem to focus on speeding on Westerfield Road and the use of Church Lane/Lower Road as a rat run route. The lack of footway pavements is also a concern.

Reducing speed limits beyond the village boundaries is a frequent suggestion, with 40mph suggested on the Witnesham road past Fynn Valley. Further speed limits on Church Lane are requested. There is no support for traffic lights at the crossroads but engineered solutions such as speed cushions and priority buildouts and narrowings are favoured. A Zoom meeting will be held by the working group of Parish Councillors to progress these outcomes to a set of recommendations which can be considered at the next Parish Council meeting. Contact will also be made with Highways officers to follow up on previous commitments to allocate funding to a study of crossroads improvements.

The Parish Council has supported Tuddenham Parish Council in seeking to improve signing of “Unsuitable for HGVs” for Church Lane and Moss Lane, and consideration of possible restrictions.

**9/200721 To discuss issues arising from meetings of the East Suffolk Community Partnership:**

- **Environmental Care – Green Communities**
- **Roads and Traffic**

Funding has been agreed by the Partnership for the Westerfield station planting project. Consideration will also be given to the piece of land on Lower Road currently held by Anglian Water, but which could be managed by the Parish Council as a rewilding venture.

Westerfield has funding available to assist with roads and traffic projects based on agreement among residents as to the best way to proceed. The Partnership is able to share experience and projects among villages with shared concerns.

**10/200721 To consider participation in the Queen’s Green Canopy to mark the Platinum Jubilee in 2022**

This will be featured in the forthcoming Newsletter.

**11/200721 To discuss actions to commence the preparation of evidence for progress towards the Westerfield Neighbourhood Plan**

The next Parish Council meeting on September 21 will set a date for a public meeting in late September/early October to start the process moving.

**12/200721 To receive a financial report from the Clerk including payments due and consideration of the report of the SALC internal audit on 2020/21**

A bank reconciliation was presented showing a balance of £82,379.51. It was noted reserves were held as follows: CIL payments held as specified reserve for village infrastructure projects: £23,876.59; earmarked reserve: £30,000.00; general reserve: £27,502.92.

It was agreed an Agenda item would be included for the next meeting to discuss issues arising from the annual audit by SALC, and any action points which were necessary as a result of the report.

Other payments were made or agreed as follows:

June 25, 2021	Rod Caird	1108	£ 326.88	Wages
June 25, 2021	Rod Caird	1109	£ 25.00	Training
July 20, 2021	Graham Austin	1110	£ 6.90	Fixings
July 27, 2021	Peter Miller	1111	£ 107.30	Stationery
August 5, 2021	HMRC	1112	£ 49.60	PAYE

**13/200721 Correspondence and urgent matters to be brought to the attention of the Parish Council, including the venue for future meetings and the next village newsletter, due for delivery at the end of July**

The Chairman has the newsletter in hand; the next meeting will be held on Tuesday September 21 in the Church Room.

Signed:- P Miller (Chairman)

Approved by Parish Council on September 21<sup>st</sup> 2021