

# **WESTERFIELD**

## **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

### **PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FOR 2016/2017**

**CHAIRMANS' ANNUAL REPORT**

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**PLANNING REPORT**

**ANNUAL REPORTS FROM**

**LOCAL GROUPS AND ORGANISATIONS**

## **Chairmans' Annual report 2016-17**

**Presented at the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

In my report last year I said that in many ways we had seen little actually happen and yet we had been exceptionally busy in (1) seeking to get some things done (2) seeking to prevent things happening and (3) seeking to maintain those things that we value, and that we seem to spend more time consulting on issues rather than actually achieving decisions and end results. Well, this year I feel we can say that some things have happened and some decisions made.

The Parish Council started the year with a full complement of members but regrettably Yvonne Maynard felt unable to continue due to other commitments although she continues to be involved in Parish affairs and kindly agreed to organise the recent Litter Pick that was well supported. The Parish Council advertised for a successor to Yvonne and at the January meeting we were pleased to welcome Peter Hudson as a new Councillor. Peter is new to the village but has knowledge of local issues as he previously lived in Rushmere St Andrew and we look forward to his contribution as a representative of the village.

The Parish Council also received the resignation of Kathy Broyd as Clerk to the Council. Kathy had been our Clerk for just over ten years but has recently had personal problems that made it difficult for her to cope with the duties of Clerk. We thank Kathy for her efforts on our behalf and trust she will find life easier in the future. We have been pleased to appoint Rod Caird of Henley as our new Parish Clerk and look forward to working with him to maintain effective administration of Parish Council affairs.

All scheduled Council meetings last year were held as planned and there have been several additional meetings needed to provide comments on planning matters that needed careful consideration. It is therefore appropriate for me to thank all members for their support over the year and also to appreciate their commitment to the life of the village

Following the County Council by-election last July we have welcomed Robin Vickery as our local member and we note that he has been re-elected for the next four years at this months scheduled election.

The "savings" in public expenditure that is supposed to control increases in our Council Tax bills continues to make the headlines and the effects of these cuts are being felt in many areas. Last year at this meeting Inspector Roger Salmon of Suffolk Police gave a talk on the future of policing in Suffolk and he gave details of reductions in the numbers of PCs and PCOs and the changes that would be made to Safer Neighbourhood teams in the coming months. The overall effect has been that the remaining PCSOs no longer work after 6.00pm and the area of our Woodbridge Safer Neighbourhood Team now extends over 47 parishes some as far away as Orford. Little wonder we rarely see a uniform in the village.

Since the consultation for the Westerfield Parish Plan in 2006 efforts have been made to implement some traffic calming along Lower Road and Church Lane to reduce the speed of vehicles. After a number of schemes were rejected by the Highways Authority in 2014 I reported in 2014 that the County Council had finally agreed the remaining content of our traffic calming scheme for the village. After two more years of frustration the provision of the flashing speed indicating signs and enhanced gateway lining was finally completed in September. More can still be done however and further works have been suggested to the County Council that may improve safety at the cross roads where there have been a number of "near misses" observed both to vehicles and pedestrians. When we know the bill for the just completed works we will be able to assess the ability to pay for further work.

With the support of the Police and County Council more parishes now operate Speedwatch schemes. Westerfield Parish Council are now managing the costs of the Fynn Valley group and hence a separate account is included in the Finance Summary. The Westerfield team now have a Speedwatch camera every four weeks and also use a Portable Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) on a regular rota. The team is led by Barry Reeve who organises the rotas for the equipment and the volunteer staff. It is noticeable that when in operation there are less speeding motorists than when this initiative first started – however more volunteers are needed to maintain this service which ensures greater awareness of speeding to drivers.

The Local Plan for East Suffolk District Council for the period up to 2027 has now been adopted. It includes support for land in Westerfield to be included in the Country Park proposed between the built-up part of the Ipswich Garden Suburb and Westerfield Village. Two sites in the village are considered suitable for housing development, the Old Station Works Site (ex Cubitts) for a shared use between housing and employment, and the site of the old football pitch in Lower Road for shared use between housing and a village green type facility of open space. It is considered in the document that the village could support an extra 40 dwellings between these two sites. The Plan also amends the Village Physical Limits Boundaries to enable better control of planning applications in the Parish.

The Local Plan for Ipswich Borough Council has also been adopted for the period up to 2031. A supplementary Planning Document for the Ipswich Garden Suburb is now in place and Planning Applications will need to meet the requirements of this document.

With the Planning Applications already approved and the identification of sites in the village in the Local Plan it is possible that the number of houses in the village by 2027 could reach 260, an increase of a third.

Rosie Horsfield has been pursuing Suffolk Better Broadband for a definitive action plan and timeline to show when Westerfield will eventually see an upgrade to a "Superfast" service. The most recent correspondence received has confirmed that Westerfield will be included in Phase 3 of an 8-phase rollout plan with BT. Phase 3 is due for building during the Spring and Summer of 2017 to be completed by September 2017. We have seen before, that timescales are more of a rough guide than something BT/Openreach have fully committed to but the PC will continue to follow this up at regular intervals and remain optimistic.

Ten years ago following a village-wide consultation, a Parish Plan led to an action plan whereby many initiatives were introduced to the community. The success of some of those initiatives was that they were being organised by local people for local people. It is important to realise however that the population of the village is changing and it is essential that younger members of the community and newcomers to the village are integrated and given the opportunity to support and organise activities for us all. Society makes many demands on peoples' time but the feeling of being a community rather than a dormitory is worth preserving. I do not have a magic wand but believe we have to be active in maintaining this status.

Finally, last year we had three elections/referendums and this year we will have had two. I appreciate that democracy requires people to make choices but I am not certain that sufficient care is taken to ensure the public have enough understandable detail to make the right decisions.

Peter Miller (Chairman)

## **Websites**

### **Westerfield Village Web-site**

This can be found at [www.westerfield-village.co.uk](http://www.westerfield-village.co.uk) and contains details about village activities and a news section for current information. It is kept up to date by Val Byrne so please help her by forwarding anything of interest about the village and what is going on. The number of hits being made shows that it is being read by many people, both local and from further afield.

### **Parish Council Web-site**

This can be found at [www.westerfield.onesuffolk.net](http://www.westerfield.onesuffolk.net) and contains agendas and minutes of parish council meetings and reports as well as other information.

## **Financial Report 2016-2017**

### **Income and expenditure**

The precept and a small amount of interest made up the regular income during 2016/17. Hedge and grass cutting costs, street lighting charges, and general administration costs have increased over the year and Insurance is regularly monitored to maintain adequate cover for the risks involved. The usual grant to the Parochial Church Council towards maintenance costs was approved but payment was mislaid and will appear in next years' accounts. The Parish Council also made a specific grant to the PCC towards the cost of cleaning and fencing the pond in the paddock.

### **Bank Balances**

As at the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 the Deposit Account stands at £32914.11 and the Current Account at £3158.10 making a total of £36072.21. Payments made by cheque and not yet presented amount to £538.05 leaving an actual balance carried forward of £35534.16. The following table shows a summary of receipts and payments for 2016/17 for the revenue account, reserve account and the speedwatch account. The Chairmans' report mentioned that the agreed traffic calming measures have been completed but the County Council have not yet submitted details of the final costs which are expected to exceed £22000. Completed work on Parish Council owned street lights valued at approximately £1400 has also not yet been invoiced.

### **Future Plans**

Services provided by the County Council and District Council are at a minimum level and require input from the Parish Council to meet expectations of village cleanliness and appearance. Last year additional sweeping was commissioned to clear debris from our footways and it is likely that further work will need to be carried out locally in the coming year. Further street lighting replacements will soon be needed for the remaining Parish Council owned lights.

*Rod Caird – Clerk/Financial Officer*

## Westerfield Parish Council Summary of accounts 2016-17

<b>Total Funds Brought Forward</b>			
	2016/7	2015/6	2014/5
Revenue Account	11954.61	7113.60	4077.53
Reserve Account	20650.00	20650.00	20650.00
Speedwatch Account	10.43	0.00	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>32615.04</b>	<b>27763.60</b>	<b>24727.53</b>

<b>Revenue A/C</b>							
	2016/7	2015/6	2014/5		2016/7	2015/6	2014/5
<b>Receipts</b>				<b>Payments</b>			
Bal. bf 1/4/2015	11954.61	7113.60	4077.53	<b>Admin Costs</b>			
Precept	9380.28	9031.00	9043.43	Salary and travel	2438.06	1913.47	2222.89
VAT Refund	0.00	0.00	0.00	Stationery etc	863.86	445.96	492.79
Recycling Credit	0.00	0.00	0.00	Audit Fee	248.80	0.00	100.00
Bank Interest	17.42	12.59	10.14	Subscriptions	368.89	345.75	430.75
NALC Bursary	0.00	0.00	0.00	Training	18.00	118.00	10.00
Transfer from Reserves	0.00	0.00	0.00	website	50.00	64.97	0.00
Traffic Calming Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	<b>Running Costs</b>			
				Grass Cutting	600.00	300.00	388.34
				Street Lights	586.61	426.08	520.99
				Insurance	314.47	300.03	306.62
				Hall Hire	68.00	98.00	121.00
				Other	108.30	295.00	182.07
				<b>Other payments</b>			
				S137	246.23	53.28	456.33
				Grant to Village Hall	0	400.00	0.00
				Transfer to S/watch a/c	50.00	75.49	82.99
				Grant to PCC	255.00	350.00	300.00
				VAT	160.95	258.59	402.73
				Transfer to Reserves	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>21352.31</b>	<b>16157.19</b>	<b>13131.10</b>	<b>Total payments/transfers</b>	<b>6377.17</b>	<b>5444.62</b>	<b>6017.50</b>
				<b>bal. at 31/3/2016</b>	<b>14975.14</b>	<b>10712.57</b>	<b>7113.60</b>

<b>Reserve A/C</b>							
	2016/7	2015/6	2014/5		2016/7	2015/6	2014/5
<b>Receipts</b>				<b>Payments</b>			
bal. bf 1/4/2015	20650.00	20650.00	20650.00	Transfer to revenue a/c	0.00	0.00	0.00
Transfer ex revenue a/c	0.00	0.00	0.00				
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>20650.00</b>	<b>20650.00</b>	<b>20650.00</b>	<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
				<b>bal. at 31/3/2016</b>	<b>20650.00</b>	<b>20650.00</b>	

<b>Speedwatch A/c</b>							
	2016/7	2015/6	n/a		2016/7	2015/6	n/a
<b>Receipts</b>				<b>Payments</b>			
bal. bf 1/4/2015	10.43	0.00	n/a	New camera	0.00	1014.00	
From parishes	125.00	162.67		Misc. replacements	276.41	152.24	
Transfer ex revenue a/c	50.00	1014.00					
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>185.43</b>	<b>1176.67</b>		<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>276.41</b>	<b>1166.24</b>	
				<b>bal. at 31/3/2016</b>	<b>-90.98</b>	<b>10.43</b>	

<b>Overall reconciliation</b>							
	2016/7	2015/6	2014/5		2016/7	2015/6	2014/5
Balance of Reserve account at 31/3/2016	20650.00	20650.00	20650.00	<b>Bank Balances as at 31/3/2016</b>	36072.21	32615.04	28741.81
Balance of Revenue account at 31/3/2016	14975.14	10712.57	7113.60	Less cheques paid but not yet presented	538.05	1242.04	978.21
Balance Speedwatch Account at 31/3/2016	-90.98	10.43	n/a				
				<b>Adjusted Balance</b>	<b>35534.16</b>	<b>31373.00</b>	<b>27763.60</b>
<b>Balance c/f 2016/17</b>	<b>35534.16</b>	<b>31373.00</b>	<b>27763.60</b>				

(all above figures subject to audit and final approval of Parish Council)

## Westerfield Parish Council Planning Report for 2016-2017

Westerfield Parish Council have been consulted on a further 22 planning applications for the village over the last year. Of the applications considered there were seven applications for house extensions, one for tree management and one for cameras at the level crossing and some to vary conditions on previously approved applications. The Parish Council generally did not object to these applications but did make significant comments on some to ensure that the works being considered did not have a detrimental effect on neighbours and traffic safety.

Of the applications for housing development, most involved variation of conditions or information on reserved matters. Various applications have been considered for the site at Fullers Field and although the Parish Council objected to this development the District Council gave approval to the original application. Amendments and variations have since been the subject of further applications that would possibly create a development of 23 homes.

An application for housing development on land at The Mount in Church Lane was not in accordance with the Local Plan and was rejected by Suffolk Coastal but this is now the subject of an appeal to the Secretary of state against this refusal.

The East Suffolk Local Plan has now been formally adopted and includes two sites that are considered suitable for possible development during the next ten years. One of these sites is the Old Station Works near the Westerfield Business Centre that has an outstanding approval for industrial use but attracts little interest. An application for a mixed development for housing and light industrial/commercial use employment has been considered and the Parish Council have not objected but have made several comments for Suffolk Coastal to consider. The other site is that alongside Lower Road between The Oaks and Linden Cottage.

All applications for further housing need to be carefully considered in the light of ongoing permissions in the village and the cumulative effect on the character of Westerfield. Details are listed below. More information on all planning applications can be found on the website [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk)

Registered Date	No.	Location	Proposal	Parish Council Observations	Suffolk Coastal Decision
<b>Outstanding Applications pending consideration from previous year</b>					
	IP14/O 0638/O UTFUL	Ipswich Garden Suburb Fonnereau Village	Amended to exclude the detailed application section- further details of outline.	Continue to object but also to stress that drainage works in Henley gate must occur prior to building on this section	Pending Consideration
22/06/2015	DC/15/ 2539/L BC	Mill Farm Westerfield Road Westerfield Ipswich Suffolk IP6 9AA	Conversion of existing barns to form 2 dwellings plus associated car parking from existing private drive	No objection	Application Permitted
20/05/2015	DC/15/ 2077/F UL	Mill Farm Westerfield Road Westerfield Ipswich Suffolk IP6 9AA	Conversion of existing barns to form 2 dwellings plus associated car parking from existing private drive	No objection	Application Permitted
15/12/2015	DC/15/ 5031/O UT	Land At Old Station Works Westerfield Road Westerfield Suffolk	Outline planning permission with all matters reserved, except for means of vehicular access to/from the site, for the redevelopment of the site for a mixed use scheme comprising 1,120 sqm of office floorspace (B1a), 35 dwellings (C3 Use Class), of which 12 will be affordable, with 160 sqm community floorspace (D1/D2 Use Class), publicly accessible open space and associated works on land at Old Station Works, Westerfield.	Supported in principle but concerned that a village shop is not included in the scheme as shown at the local exhibition. (Copy of comments available on request)	Application Permitted

12/03/2016	DC/16/ 1084/F UL	Pine Lodge Westerfield Road Westerfield Ipswich Suffolk IP6 9AL	Installation of a new septic tank: WPL DMS4 treatment plant	Application Supported	Application Permitted
22/03/2016	DC/16/ 1257/F UL	Rovian Glen Westerfield Road Westerfield Suffolk IP6 9AJ	One and a half storey and single storey rear extensions and associated works plus formation of a new front parking/turning area.	No Comment	Application Permitted
31/03/2016	DC/16/ 1364/L BC	Swans Nest Westerfield Road Westerfield Suffolk IP6 9AJ	Proposed single storey extensions and alterations to North and South-west	No Comment	Application Permitted
31/03/2016	DC/16/ 1363/F UL	Swans Nest Westerfield Road Westerfield Suffolk IP6 9AJ	Proposed single storey extensions and alterations to North and South-west	No Comment	Application Permitted
01/04/2016	DC/16/ 1382/F UL	The Lilacs Fullers Field Westerfield Suffolk IP6 9Ax	Erection of 9 No. dwellings including changes to plots 10, 11, 12 and 15 on approved DC/14/3660	Objected as not acceptable under SCDC Local Plan and poor access arrangements	Application Withdrawn
<b>New applications during year 2016/17</b>					
19/04/2016	DC/16/ 1627/F UL	7 Station Cottages Westerfield Road Westerfield Suffolk IP6 9AE	Proposed alterations and two storey side and rear extension	No objection subject to due consideration to effect on next door properties.	Application Permitted
17/05/2016	DC/16/ 2048/A ME	Plot 5 Fullers Field Westerfield Suffolk IP6 9AH	Non-Material Amendment of DC/14/3660/FUL - Extension of existing access road and erection of fourteen new dwellings including four affordable homes - Installation of 6no velux windows on plot five to facilitate yoga/hobby room	Objected as not acceptable under SCDC Local Plan and poor access arrangements	Application Permitted
20/05/2016	DC/16/ 2092/T PO	Ash House Westerfield Road Westerfield Suffolk IP6 9AG	Work required on Ash tree to South West of Ash House	No Comment	Application Permitted
26/05/2016	DC/16/2 210/FUL	The Lilacs Fullers Field Westerfield Suffolk IP6 9AH	9no. New Dwellings plus Amendments to 2015 Consent to make a total of 23no. Dwellings including 7no. Affordable Homes for Rent.	Objected as not acceptable under SCDC Local Plan and poor access arrangements	Application Permitted
06/06/2016	DC/16/2 330/FUL	The Oaks Lower Road Westerfield Suffolk IP6 9AR	Retention of mobile home as annexe ancillary to main house.	Objected to using a mobile home as a permanent residence	Application Permitted
22/06/2016	DC/16/2 592/OUT	Henley Gate Henley Road Ipswich Suffolk IP6 9AA	Mixed use development comprising up to 1,100 residential dwellings (C3); a local centre inc. up to 250sqm (net) of convenience floor space (A1), up to 300sqm of comparison floorspace (A1), up to 250sqm in use classes A1-A5; and up to 500sqm community centre (D1); provision of land for a primary school (D1); provision of sports facilities, Country Park (including visitor centre D1) and open space (including amenity space/childrens play areas and allotments) and sustainable urban drainage systems; associated landscaping, infrastructure and engineering/earthworks; and the creation of 2No. new vehicular accesses from Henley Road, 1No. vehicular access from Westerfield Road (to serve Country Park only), pedestrian/cycle bridge over railway and vehicular bridge over railway (access only).	Objected as:- a) cumulative drainage effects from the whole Ipswich Garden Suburb and global warming are not proven to be negligible on properties in Westerfield. b) the east/west route across North Ipswich will not cope with the traffic from the Ipswich Garden Suburb. c) traffic forecast on local roads in Westerfield is underestimated and will have a detrimental effect on the village environment and Road Safety.	Application Permitted

04/07/2016	DC/16/2 758/CON	Land North West Of Mill Farm Westerfield Road Westerfield Ipswich Suffolk IP6 9AA	Consultation by Ipswich BC to Suffolk Coastal DC on application as listed above for the Henley gate section of Ipswich Garden suburb	As above	Responded to Ipswich BC
05/07/2016	DC/16/2 765/FUL	Land North Of The Mount Church Lane Westerfield Suffolk	Erection of 5no. new dwellings	Objected as not acceptable under SCDC Local Plan and unsatisfactory access	Application Refused but now subject of appeal to the Secretary of State
18/07/2016	DC/16/3 108/DRC	Mill Farm Westerfield Road Westerfield Ipswich Suffolk IP6 9AA	Submission of details as required by Conditions 3-12 of DC/15/2539/LBC (Conversion of existing barns to form 2 dwellings plus associated car parking from existing private drive)	No comment	Application Permitted
18/07/2016	DC/16/2 984/DRC	Mill Farm Westerfield Road Westerfield Ipswich Suffolk IP6 9AA	Submission of details as required by Conditions 1 -18, 21 and 22 of DC/15/2077/FUL (Conversion of existing barns to form 2 dwellings plus associated car parking from existing private drive)	No comment	Application Permitted
21/09/2016	DC/16/3 952/DRC	Mill Farm Westerfield Road Westerfield Ipswich Suffolk IP6 9AA	Discharge of condition(s) 3,4,6,7,8,9,10,11 & 12 on planning permission DC/15/2539/LBC	No comment	Application Permitted
26/09/2016	DC/16/4 030/VOC	Development Site Fullers Field Westerfield IP6 9AX	Variation of Condition 2 on application DC/14/3660/FUL - Extension of existing access road and erection of fourteen new dwellings including four affordable homes - Re-positioning of Plot 13, removal of internal garage and provide an additional bedroom, and the erection of a detached cart lodge to serve the house	No comment	Pending Consideration
26/09/2016	DC/16/4 031/VOC	The Lilacs Fullers Field Westerfield Suffolk IP6 9AH	Variation of Condition 2 on application DC/16/2210/FUL - 9no new dwellings plus amendments to 2015 consent to make a total of 23no dwellings including 7no Affordable Homes for rent - Changes to Plot 13 including a slight re-positioning of the dwelling house, removal of internal garage and provide an additional bedroom, and the erection of a detached cart lodge building to serve the house	No comment	Pending Consideration
22/11/2016	DC/16/4 928/DRC	The Lilacs Fullers Field Westerfield Suffolk IP6 9AH	Discharge of conditions; 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 13 and 16 of DC/16/2210/FUL - 9no. New Dwellings plus Amendments to 2015 Consent to make a total of 23no. Dwellings including 7no. Affordable Homes for Rent.	No comment	Application Permitted
23/11/2016	DC/16/4 947/VOC	Mill Farm Westerfield Road Westerfield Ipswich Suffolk IP6 9AA	Application Reference Number: DC/15/2077/FUL Date of Decision: 15/07/2016 Condition Number(s): 2 Conditions(s) Removal: To reduce the size of the extension of Plot 1 following discussions with the client. The development hereby permitted shall not be carried out other than in complete accordance with Drawing No's PW637_PL_11, PW637_PL01, PW637_PL02, PW637_PL03 revision A, PW637_PL04 revision A, PW637_PL05 and PW637_PL06 revision A. Reason: For avoidance of doubt as to what has been considered and approved.	No comment	Application Permitted
23/11/2016	DC/16/4 948/LBC	Mill Farm Westerfield Road Westerfield Suffolk	conversion of existing barns to form 2 dwellings plus associated car parking from existing private drive. this application is to amend details approved under DC/15/2539/LBC and is related to a change to the proposed extension to plot 1 only. a variation of condition application has also been submitted to vary the details approved under full planning permission DC/15/2077/FUL	No comment	Application Permitted

06/12/2016	DC/16/5 138/FUL	7 Main Road Westerfield Suffolk IP6 9BZ	Conversion of Part of Garage/Barn to Physiotherapy Practice with Associated Parking. Formation of Additional Vehicular Access to Main Road.	No objection subject to SCC agreement to Highways access	Application Permitted
07/12/2016	DC/16/5 179/FUL	Cygnets House Westerfield Road Westerfield Suffolk IP6 9AJ	Erection of detached cart lodge style garage building	No objection	Application Permitted
13/12/2016	DC/16/5 237/FU	Pipps Farm Barn Pipps Lane Westerfield IP6 9AP	Proposed single storey rear extension including mezzanine floor	No objection	Application Refused
06/02/2017	DC/17/0 445/FUL	Westerfield Level Crossing Westerfield Road Westerfield IP6 9AE	Installation of Red Light Safety Equipment on the approach to Westerfield Level Crossing.	Supported but commented that further safety works are needed	Application Permitted
03/03/2017	DC/17/0 901/LBC	Mill Farm Westerfield Road Westerfield IP6 9AA	Listed Building Consent - Conversion of existing barns to form 2 dwellings plus associated car parking from existing private drive. This application is to amend details approved under DC/15/2539/LBC and is related to the addition of rooflights to the new roof of Plot 2 only. A variation of condition application has also been submitted to vary the details approved under full planning permission DC/15/2077/FUL	No comment	Pending Consideration
03/03/2017	DC/17/0 899/VOC	Mill Farm Westerfield Road Westerfield IP6 9AA	Variation of Condition 2 of application DC/15/2077/FUL - Conversion of existing barns to form 2 dwellings plus associated car parking from existing private drive - To reduce the size of the extension of Plot 1 following discussions with the client.	No comment	Pending Consideration
20/03/2017	DC/17/1 174/DRC	Westerfield Level Crossing Westerfield Road Westerfield IP6 9AE	Details as required by Condition 3 of Planning Consent DC/17/0445/FUL	No comment	Application Permitted
22/03/2017	DC/17/1 232/AM E	The Lilacs Fullers Field Westerfield Suffolk IP6 9AH	Non-material Amendment to DC/16/2210/FUL - Approval of revised drawings for Plots 15 & 18 which describe changes to the roof finish materials and amendments to windows/doors to plot 15. Roof finish to main roof section on both plots are proposed to be changed to natural slates.	No comment	Application Permitted

## Reports from Westerfield Church and Village Charities

### St Mary Magdalene, Westerfield - Church Report Jan-Dec 2016

The Rev'd Alan Forsdike continues as a non-stipendiary Parish Priest for the benefice. He leads a Ministry Team of a self-supporting Assistant Priest, two Readers and an Elder. Local retired priests or members of other Ministry Teams have officiated at services when our priests have been on holiday. Having an ordinand attached to us is a privilege and a pleasure. Sarah Jenkins is training at Westcott House, Cambridge; she is fitting in well and contributing much.

The pattern of Sunday services has continued unchanged with an 11am service each week and an 8am Holy Communion service on the second Sunday of each month. An informal Prayer Service has taken place on most Wednesdays at 9.30am, with a Communion Service on the first Wednesday of most months. There have been 2 weddings, 4 baptisms and 3 funerals during the year.

Benefice-wide special services were held daily the first week of Advent, rotating round the three churches in the benefice. This was the pattern used successfully earlier in the year in the week of Pentecost as part of the Archbishops' national call to prayer "They Kingdom Come".

The church has continued to sponsor the Scout, Cub and Beaver groups. We hold a Family Service once a month which they have attended three times in the year. A Carol Service held for them in December which was very well attended.

The annual Church fete, held in August, was very successful with good attendance from both church members and villagers as well as other local people. We are fortunate in receiving help with the fete from non-churchgoers which we greatly appreciate. Our annual Gift Day, held in September, was also most successful. We receive no funding directly from the national church so rely entirely on voluntary donations to raise the £22,000+ it costs to run the church in this community.

We have three benefice priorities for our work as a church:

- 1 Doing Festival Services well and inviting the community to participate.
- 2 Providing opportunities for people to explore faith
- 3 Encouraging the involvement of congregation members in community life

The festivals of Christmas, Mothering Sunday, Easter, Remembrance Day and Harvest have indeed seen good attendances and engagement. The church in Westerfield is there to serve the people of Westerfield.

We provide opportunities outside of Sunday worship for people to explore faith particularly during Lent and Advent. We had a very good Benefice Away-day last November where we learned a lot, we discussed a lot, we had good food and fellowship and time to talk with each other.

Many of our congregation are involved in community life where they live out their faith: God at work again.

Our Bishops recently undertook a Lent Pilgrimage walking from Dunwich to Bury St Edmunds and stopped off along the way to visit businesses, communities and churches. They had time for fellowship and conversation; opportunities to see God at work. One thing which really struck Bishop Martin was people talking affectionately and thankfully about their church buildings; he described them as buildings soaked in praise and adoration of God.

He asked the question, "How do we keep them going?". We ask ourselves the same thing. But, as Bishop Martin went on to say, God has given us everything we need, skills, gifts, materials, money, time... we just need to harness it.

I know that in our three parishes we have those same gifts; gifts that enable communities and churches to work. I know we have people who serve the church and serve the wider community so that church and village intermingle. Those who give unstintingly and generously, without fanfare, are rewarded richly. As the Bishop said, 'generosity is a divinely natural way of being'.

Turning to the church building, a fall of masonry from the tower in the autumn damaged some roof tiles which were replaced. Some smaller pieces of masonry also fell from the tower. The tower has been (and continues to be) closely monitored for any further damage. The pond in the church paddock was treated to clear it of algae, with some success. Vegetation around the pond was cleared and a new fence will be put up round the pond in the New Year.

Volunteers, working to a rota, have continued to clean the church and church room: this works well. A small number of people assist at services by reading lessons, administering the chalice, leading intercessions and undertaking sidesperson duties as well as preparing coffee after services.

We are grateful to those who help but we desperately need more people to help at services by reading or carrying out sidesperson duties or preparing coffee after services. Hilary Bisset coordinates a team of flower arrangers who ensure that the church looks welcoming throughout the year. We thank all who help in these activities, making sure the church looks well cared for and inviting to visitors.

*The Revd Alan Forsdike, Parish Priest, The United Benefice of Westerfield and Tuddenham St Martin with Winesham, Tel 01473 252904, Website - wtandw.org.uk*

### **Westerfield Village Hall Charity No 1086331**

Lettings for the past year have been very good and the Hall being is in use on most days. There is however still room for more bookings so please think of this as a venue if you are holding a party, family get together or need a small room for a meeting, the person to contact is Yvonne Maynard on 01473 226709 or check availability on the Westerfield website.

The never ending maintenance of the hall has continued with the path being replaced at the front of the hall. The air bricks have all been replaced and new guards fitted allowing ventilation under the hall floor. The main cold water feed pipe to the toilets burst under the concrete floor and had to be replaced by over ground pipes.

The Village Hall AGM takes place on the 19<sup>th</sup> of June at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, followed by cheese and wine, please come along and support your Village Hall.

My thanks to the trustees and committee members for their help and support during the past year.

*C Farrow Chairman*

## **Bridget Collett Education Foundation Charity No 310435**

The Bridget Collett Educational Foundation traces its origins back to the Will of Bridget Collett who died in the 1660s. She was a spinster who lived, and was buried in London and it is believed that she was related to the Collett family who lived in the Manor House Westerfield. In her Will of 23 September 1662 she left property in Claydon in trust to support the young people of Westerfield Tuddenham, Akenham and Henley in their educational endeavours.

Could you or your family benefit from the Bridget Collett Educational Foundation? In 2016 we are pleased that 18 young people in Westerfield, Henley, Witnesham and Tuddenham have benefited from the Bridget Collette Education Foundation. 11 children attending the local primary and secondary schools have received grants to ensure that they gain maximum benefit from the school year and 7 young adults over the age of 18 have received grants towards further education, apprenticeships and university courses.

Westerfield Scout Group has received support to help with the ongoing costs of running this organisation as has Witnesham Brownies group and the 1st Henley and Witnesham Guides.

The market value of the Foundation's investments showed an increase over 2016 of £25,226, taking the total value to £468,808. The Foundation's income from investments in 2016 increased by £1,023 compared with 2015. With this in mind, the trustees approved grants totalling £6,000 towards the provision of music therapy at Thomas Wolsey School as it has proved very beneficial for the severely handicapped children. We also have agreed to offer support (when appropriate), to primary schools and individuals in need within the immediate area beyond the Trust boundary. The Trustees also have discretion to apply income to other beneficiaries in the adjoining areas of Ipswich, Mid Suffolk and Suffolk Coastal Districts, in certain circumstances.

Young people over the age of 18 can apply to the charity directly and we are pleased to support further education, apprenticeships, college courses as well as university places. The only eligibility is to be continuing in education or training.

If anyone is under the age of 18 whether at primary or secondary school, working as an apprentice or pursuing education or training, then the application is via parents or carers. If anyone felt that their children would benefit from additional support for a special project or if the family has fallen on hard times we would be pleased to hear from them.

The Trustees liaise closely with Witnesham and Henley Primary schools to ensure that eligible parents are aware of the Charity but we welcome applications directly. We are keen to promote applications to the charity, so please pass the word on to any neighbours, friends and family.

The board of trustees who manage the funds are Bill Pipe (Chair), David Brow (advisor), Yvonne Maynard, Mary Scholey, Hugh Rowland, Julia Farmer and Charlotte Morrison with Cllr Robin Vickery as the representative from Suffolk County Council. The trustees meet quarterly.

Further information on the charity and applications forms can be found on the web site [www.bridgetcollett.org.uk](http://www.bridgetcollett.org.uk) or phone Bill Pipe or Yvonne Maynard (01473 226709)

*Yvonne Maynard (on behalf of the Trustees)*

## **Reports from Village Groups and Organisations**

### **Westerfield Bowls Club**

The playing green at the beginning of the year is in excellent condition and club members are grateful for the hard work put in by the groundsman and his team. The result is that the club and its glorious surroundings are the envy of many other bowling clubs. It is pleasing to say that we have been selected to host a number of finals of the local Bowls Association because of the setting and the friendliness of the club.

Last season was very successful and resulted in the club winning numerous cups and trophies in the local leagues.

The bowls club is a valuable asset to our community. It is a friendly club that endeavours to make guests and visitors most welcome. Members of the community who are experienced bowlers, or who are interested in learning more about bowling, should come along to the club on a Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock and introduce themselves. The club arranges a social bowl each Saturday afternoon when visitors are most welcome.

*Tony Baker (Secretary)*

### **Wednesday Coffee Morning**

The Wednesday Coffee Morning from 10.00 till 11.00 continues to be a flourishing weekly event. More people have become involved in running and organising it so that it has become a more Community run event and responsibilities are spread. Attendances are normally between 25 and 30 each week and this provides a valuable opportunity for people in the village to meet each other.

It has been good to have some new people join us but there is room for more so if you are new to the village or have lived here for a considerable time do come along and enjoy a coffee and chat and get to know other people from within the village and further afield. Any profits from the Coffee Morning are donated to the Village Hall funds

A big "thank you" to Russell Bridges for setting-up the tables & chairs each week and to everyone who helps to keep the Coffee Morning running smoothly.

### **Westerfield Events Group**

This time last year we were looking forward to our Music the Paddock afternoon in celebration of the Queens "90<sup>th</sup>" birthday. Unfortunately due to adverse weather the attendance was very low.

In December we held our annual Christmas Fish and Chip lunch. This event is always very popular and was very well attended. After our meal we had a talk by Ann Day from Ipswich Tourist Information on "The Ipswich Waterfront" which was very interesting and enjoyed by all.

On July 26<sup>th</sup> we are having another outing to the "End of the Pier Show" at Cromer, calling at Taverham Garden Centre for coffee in the morning and then on the way home stopping at Aylsham Lodge Hotel for high tea. Tickets are still available so why not join us for an enjoyable day out.

*Olive Miller (Committee member)*

### **Fit Villages (Pilates, Chi Kung and Yoga)**

The Pilates class is held in the Village Hall on Mondays for one hour starting at 10.45am.

Chi Kung sessions are held in the Village Hall on Tuesday afternoons at 2.15pm and on Thursdays (apart from the 2nd Thursday in each month) at 7.15pm

Yoga sessions are programmed in the Village Hall for Thursday mornings at 9.40am.

Further information, costs and contact details for these activities can be found on the Westerfield Village website at [www.westerfield-village.co.uk](http://www.westerfield-village.co.uk)

## **Westerfield and District Gardening Club**

The Gardening Club meets in the Village Hall at 7:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of the month, excluding January and August, with a current membership of 50.

We started our programme this year with advice on 'Plants for Difficult Spaces' by Notcutts, followed by the popular Chris Bell from Weatherquest who informed us how the Weather Forecast is put together. He then went on to show us some amazing Sky Photography which is his hobby. David Coop on his 3<sup>rd</sup> visit all the way from Rutland Water, told us the Story of Unwins Seeds and tested our knowledge with a short quiz.

We have to look forward to in the first half of our programme, Jamie Blake, Alan Bloom's son-in-law with 'The weeding of the 5,000 with 2 hoes and 5 wishes, and 'Hedgehogs in the Garden', which brings us round to our BBQ and the ever popular potato competition.

Over the Summer we have two outings, July 13<sup>th</sup> a visit to Capel Manor Gardens in Enfield followed on August 17<sup>th</sup> by starting our day at Fernatix where we will be having coffee and cake as well as looking round the Nursery, and then on to East Ruston Vicarage Gardens.

Our Autumn programme starts in September with a talk on the local Oak Tree Low Carbon Farm Project, followed by Autumn Planting for Spring Colour and Woottens of Wenhasten advising us on Seasonal Planting. We finish off our year with a local Flower Demonstrator showing us how to make some simple Christmas Flower Decorations followed by our annual Christmas Party.

Membership is £20 for the year. Visitors are very welcome at £4 for the evening which includes refreshments and a raffle ticket.

The programme can be found on the Village Website, Parish Council Newsletter and Intouch Magazine.

*Barbara Bell*

## **Westerfield Horse Show**

Our show this year will be on 24<sup>th</sup> June starting at 9am and will be held in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support fundraising for the Woolverstone Macmillan Centre at Ipswich Hospital which provides patients and their loved ones with the dignity they deserve, and staff with a facility they can be proud of. The Westerfield show committee are proud of the incredible support and generosity of the local community and welcome any offers of help, donations to the tombola, cake stall or visitors on the day who wish to pop along and cheer on the children's gymkhana races, pick out the pony the judge would most like to take home or marvel at the creativity of the fancy dress riders (last year we had a pony dressed as an elephant – complete with trunk!) Admission to the show at Westerfield Hall is just £3 per car.

Last year's show, which had to be re-arranged was held in August instead of June due to the terrible weather still raised an amazing £1800 for the Bridge School Holiday club thanks in no small part to our wonderfully generous sponsors and also our competitors who agreed to forego receiving any prize money!

*Sylvia Partridge*

## **The United Benefice of Westerfield and Tuddenham with Winesham Mothers' Union**

We have had another busy year in 2016. Sadly, we lost Sylvia Rush a very long-standing loyal member who enthusiastically supported every project we undertook.

Meetings are held on the first Thursday each month, apart from January and August when we don't meet. Our programme has been very varied and interesting: ranging from talks by Laura Squirrel about the work of the Women's Refuge to Revd Toby Tate who described his move from teacher to preacher. We had a shared lunch and a sing-song and many other things in between. All meetings were very well attended and we encourage husbands and visitors to attend. A number of us went to the Cathedral for the Lady Day service when our banner was processed. I attended two Diocesan MU Council Meetings and three MU

Deanery Meetings. We held a Coffee Morning to raise funds for the "MU Big Summer Appeal" and raised £114.20 and, as a result, we have two new members from Tuddenham which will bring our membership up to 23. We also made 25 dresses for the "Dress a Girl Charity" in Africa.

Rita Morton and I travelled to Bournemouth with a coachful of MU members from around this diocese, for the Annual National Council Meeting and the 140th Anniversary of the founding of MU, with a service in Winchester Cathedral. This was combined with a few days holiday where we enjoyed fun, faith and fellowship.

My thanks to members the Rev'ds Alan and Catherine for leading our *Lent Communion* and *Wave of Prayer* services, to Claire Lunney and Christine Laughlin for playing the organ and piano, to Daphne Bristo for the beautiful birthday posies, to Mary Scholey, for keeping our finances in order, and to all members for their support and encouragement.

Mothers Union is a world-wide organisation working to support families and communities around the world, and our theme this year is *Faith in Action*.

We are always looking for new members; please contact me on 01473 785685

*Ann Bennett (Branch Leader)*

## **1<sup>st</sup> Westerfield Scout Group**

### **Beavers**

This year Nathalie Broadhurst and Natasha Richards have been helping plan the programme and run the sessions. Natasha has taken on the job of co-ordinating badge work that children choose to work on at home which has worked brilliantly, and Nathalie has just started training to be a leader. We were sad to say goodbye to our young leader Tilly, just before Christmas, who left so she could spend more time on her studying. Luckily for us Tilly's sister has just started helping. She is getting to know the children and is already working with small groups. We are pleased to have a new helper, Hazel, who has just moved to the area and doing her leader training. We now have more help but we are continuing to have a parent rota as we don't want to lose the parents support which has been so helpful.

In the summer term we increased our numbers to 18 to meet an increased demand for spaces. It has worked well having 3 lodges of 6: mud, water and twigs. It was lovely to see my first Beavers moving onto cubs in January. This term we are down to 16 Beavers and with more Beavers leaving at Easter we will be able to take on 4 new children in the summer which will reduce our waiting list substantially.

We had lots of outings and camps in the spring and Summer. Nine Beavers attended the District indoor camp at Wardens, Sizewell, taking part in an evening walk and campfire, slept in tents, did archery shooting, had fun on the beach and made pirate swords and parrots to peg on their pirate outfits. Four Beavers spent the Bank Holiday Weekend camping at Glemham Hall with Westerfield Cubs and lots of other children from the District for a big Birthday celebration for Beavers (30<sup>th</sup> birthday) and Cubs (100<sup>th</sup> birthday). We helped the Cubs, with the Westerfield Gateway, by decorating bunting by sewing on a birthday message. We are delighted that the gateway was awarded 1<sup>st</sup>! All the children had a fantastic weekend, taking part in activities which included a blindfold trail, back woods cooking, orienteering, wood craft, archery and a number of crafts.

In the Autumn term we had a visit to Foxburrow Farm to pond dip and a District trip to Bewilderwood in September to celebrate the Beavers' 30<sup>th</sup> birthday. We had a fantastic day. During the term the children earned their Safety badge by learning the Green Cross Code and how to be safe in the home. We also covered the Emergency Aid badge and were lucky to have a first aid lesson from a nurse. The children very much enjoyed putting their parents in the recovery position when they got home.

This term we have been conducting lots of experiments for the Experiment badge and we have been learning about Fairtrade for the Global Issues badge. We are looking forward to the clocks going back so we can enjoy Beavers outside in the paddock again.

*Jenny Kent (Keo – 1<sup>st</sup> Westerfield Beaver Leader)*

## **Cubs**

Our numbers have grown to 16 boys and girls, now we are starting to get youngsters from the popular Beaver Colony. A few are local to Westerfield, Witnesham, others from Northern Ipswich & surrounding villages. There is 1 Pack Leader, an Assistant Leader in training, a parent assistant and a new Young Leader, a former Cub with the Pack, completing the service element of his D of E award by giving voluntary service for up to 3 months. He has just undergone some local training with other Young Leaders. My former Cub Assistant has also returned, together with an Occasional Helper, helping us from time to time.

The highlight event in 2016 was the Cub Centenary, celebrated by a district Cub Camp of over 200+ Cubs (& some Beavers celebrating their 30th Anniversary) at Glemham Hall for 3 nights! Nationally, Cubs had a 'Zoo Take-Over Day', where Cub packs from all over the UK visited London Zoo. It was a long day & the Cubs coped admirably with various exciting (unplanned) events such as having to complete the journey by Underground due to traffic problems! We concluded in December with a Promise Ceremony at Sutton Hoo (where the inspiration for our Deben district uniform badge came from!).

This year, as well as our usual Pack programmes, we have planned a trip to a Pet Shop and to go on our own Group Camp, where the Cubs can gain lots of badges. When the weather is fine, we hope to get out into the paddock & the local area for our meetings.

*'Akela', Joan Gibson*

## **Scouts**

There are 15 Scouts in the Troop, because a number had to move on during the last year due to their age, the average age is currently a lot lower. There are two adult leaders plus two Young leaders (Explorer age) who come approximately every other week.

Briefly the main activities and events during the past year were:-

A weekend camp in April held at Hallowtree. Unfortunately the weekend camp planned for September had to be cancelled at the last minute, but on the 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> December we spent a weekend at Felixstowe staying in the Ferry Residential Centre, the scouts did a number of walks / Hikes, the main one being Saturday afternoon which was organised by Anthony Gibson, unfortunately by the time they finished the rain had set in. There was also the obligatory Christmas Dinner.

There was also the District link camp held on the first weekend in October which is for older Cubs and Younger Scouts.

The Group held its annual Fete in June which was a success, although the weather in the morning prevented the scouts putting up the rope bridge.

20<sup>th</sup> September and a team of four scouts entered the District Scout cooking competition at Kesgrave, they finished in first place. In the ten times we have competed, Westerfield has come first five times, although one year we did have to share this with another Troop.

We held three church parades at Westerfield, as well as the District St Georges day Parade at Woodbridge in April and our Group Carol service at Westerfield in December.

*Peter Runnacles (Skip) Scout Leader*

## **Westerfield Tennis Club**

The Tennis Club continued in 2016 to have another successful summer season, meeting for 6 enjoyable evening sessions, including some under floodlights when necessary. It is open to any tennis players who live in Westerfield who would like to have a good and sociable evening playing doubles. Our first evening will be on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May and then on the second Monday of each month until October. Play starts at 7.00pm and if anyone in Westerfield would like to join us please call Karen Davidson on 01473 218943 or Bruce Doick on 01473 252330.

*Bruce Doick*

## **University of the Third Age (U3A)**

One of the most recent activities in the village, this group meets on Friday mornings in the Village Hall at 9.45am and is proving to be a popular.

## **Westerfield Women's Institute**

2016 was another very good year for the WI.

We had some excellent speakers including a talk on the history of the Cobbold brewery family; Bourne Nurseries with a talk on gardening matters with some excellent advice; a talk by a forensic science and firearms investigator; a talk on the transportation of convicts to Australia in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries which were all very interesting and entertaining. There was also a talk on Suffolk Farmhouse Cheeses which, together with the accompanying wine, was, unsurprisingly, thoroughly enjoyed by all!

Some of our members took part in the "Clean for the Queen" event in April which was great fun and a very satisfying experience.

The lunch club continues to enjoy the occasional gathering at various local venues – always a very social occasion. The two craft clubs are still going strong and continue to produce some beautiful work. Our bookmark entry for the Group Meeting in March, made by one of our members, won the competition rose bowl.

We had two parties, one for our 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday in May and another to celebrate Christmas. Always an occasion enjoyed by everyone attending.

Sadly one of our members, Val Bond, passed away this year and will be missed by all.

We have had a few new members this year and anyone interested in joining us should come along to the village hall on the second Thursday in the month, at 7.30 pm. Its a great social evening and a way of making new friends.

*Lynda May Secretary, Westerfield WI*

### **How to contact the Clerk to the Parish Council**

Rod Caird, 26 Church Lane, Henley IP6 0RQ

Email – [westerfieldpc@gmail.com](mailto:westerfieldpc@gmail.com)

### **How to contact your Parish Councillors**

Graham Austin, Field View Cottage, 9 Lower Road, IP6 9AS

Tel 250166

Bob Hill, Hawthorns, Main Road IP6 9AQ

Tel 251787

Rosie Horsfield, Firholm, Main Road IP6 9AJ

Tel 289718

Peter Hudson, 14 Fullers Field IP6 9AX

Peter Miller, Longways, Main Road, IP6 9AJ

Tel 212316

Charlotte Morrison, The Slade, Main Road IP6 9AJ

Tel 250414

Barry Reeve, The Brambles, Church Lane IP6 9BE

Tel 251843

### **How to contact your County Councillor**

Please contact me by e-mail at [Robin.Vickery@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Robin.Vickery@suffolk.gov.uk) for any assistance you may require with the County Council.

### **How to contact your District Councillor**

Please contact me 07714 598155 or e-mail at [robert.whiting@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk](mailto:robert.whiting@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk) for any assistance you may require with the District Council.

### **How to contact Woodbridge Safer Neighbourhood Team**

Woodbridge SNT, Suffolk Constabulary

Theatre Street, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP12 4NE Telephone 101