

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The minutes of the **Annual Parish Meeting** held at 7.00 pm on Monday 28 April 2025 in Westleton Village Hall.

Ian Haines
Clerk of the Council

There were 27 people in attendance

AGENDA

Chair for the Meeting

Andrew Turner in the Chair.

Apologies

An apology was received from Cllr Ian Webber.

Minutes of the previous meeting

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 30th April 2024 were a true record.

Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising.

Annual report from SCC County Councillor

Cllr Smith had submitted a published report and gave a brief summary. Focus was being placed on the Local Government Reform proposals and Cllr Smith provided a latest update from the County Council's perspective. A Residents Summary document was also circulated containing further information and the consultation process being followed were explained. It was noted that SCC would be submitting their business case and final comments to the Government by the deadline of 26 September 2025.

Annual report from ESC District Councillor

There was no written report available, but Cllr Paul Ashton spoke to a list of key work projects covered in the past year and priorities for the District Council going forward.

Annual report from the Parish Council

The Parish Council had produced a report summarising the main activities carried out over the preceding 12 months which has been published on the website.

Cllr Andrew Turner took the opportunity to highlight the following:-

- Sizewell C – update given on the various traffic mitigation measures due to be put in place for the village.
- 20 mph speed restriction – the Parish Council are first looking at the impact that the speed cameras will have (due to be installed May/June) before deciding whether to press for this.
- Parking – restrictions are being put in place to improve road safety as above.
- Cabling Projects – Sealink & Lionlink. There is strong local opposition given the wider environmental impact on the area.
- Affordable Housing Project - a successful village consultation event had been held. Orwell Housing Association are now in the process of drawing up final terms with the landowner prior to then submitting a formal planning application to ESC for determination.

- The Common – the Group continue to carry out various improvements to the site as well undertaking important fire break protection work.
- Summer Village Picnic – this has been set for Sunday, 6 July 2025.
- Community Field – continuation with a programme of upgrading play facilities with a new carousel having recently been installed.
- War Memorial – box hedging has suffered blight and so it has been necessary to replace. Work has also been carried out to upgrade the path and other new planting has been carried out.
- Allotments – negotiations are in the final stages over a proposed site and we are hopeful that this can be brought into use by Spring 2026.
- Bus Service – following a resident survey to gauge support, the Parish Council have pressed for a new route to be introduced serving Westleton. Final decision on this rests with SCC.
- Parish Council Surgeries – it is intended that these *open invitation* sessions will be run in future on a bimonthly basis.
- Parish Council website – thanks were recorded to Paul Shore who had now taken over the role as Webmaster. A number of new enhancements have been made to improve the user experience.

Local Government Reform/Devolution

This item was effectively covered by Cllr R Smith under his report.

Any Other Business

There were no items raised.

Date of next Annual Parish Meeting

To be confirmed.

Chairman Date