

As there was no Westleton Parish Council (WPC) update in the May Fisherman, this text provides details of the past 2 months' developments.

I hope you are all now aware that there is a strong possibility that EDF will pay for Average Speed Cameras (ASC) to be installed on the B1125 to prevent speeding in the village. WPC presented this news and its views on the previously presented traffic calming measures during the Parish Council Annual meeting on 30 April. We then invited you to give your views (via a consultation in the Village Hall Foyer in early May) on the traffic calming measures you would still want in the scenario that ASC are installed. Many thanks to all who participated – your views will be presented to the next B1125 Working Group meeting on 11 June.

As noted in the last Yoxmere Fisherman and the minutes of the Parish Council meetings (available on the Westleton website), with the ending of the Barrel Fair, the WPC has taken a decision to hold a summer fete for villagers. We have chosen Saturday 10 August for a picnic with games and entertainment on the playing field. WPC will need help to stage the fete and welcomes all volunteers – if you would like to help, please contact Ian Haines, the Parish Clerk, on westletonclerk@gmail.com.

You may be aware that National Grid (NG) has proposed a number of on-shore cabling projects in East Suffolk. Each of these present the threat of more energy infrastructure and traffic impacts in the area. WPC has been making its views known through the various NG consultations over recent years – notably to express concern about the cumulative impact of all of these projects and Sizewell C on the area. NG has just published a study which largely rejects the alternative and less intrusive option of off-shore cabling. Background to the study and the study itself can be found at: www.nationalgrideso.com/document/304496/download. National Grid has also recently published the results of its 2023 consultation on the Lionlink interconnector cabling project where they state they favour either the Southwold and Reydon or the Walberswick landing options with the 26m high converter Station being located just to the east of Saxmundham. Each of these options would result in cabling being laid around the north and west side of Westleton. The document can be found at: www.nationalgrid.com/document/151096/download.

Many thanks to all of you who completed the Housing Needs Survey. The results are being analysed by Community Action Suffolk and will be used by Orwell Housing for its planning application for a small plot of affordable housing in the village. Timescales for the application are not yet known but it will be as soon as possible.

After many years of work, John Beddington will stand down as Secretary of the Commons Group at the end of the year. WPC expresses our sincere thanks for all he has done. This does mean that there is a vacancy for the post. Please contact Ian Haines, the Parish Clerk, on westletonclerk@gmail.com if you are interested in taking on the job.

The June Parish Council surgery in the Village Hall will be on Monday 24 June - 10.30-11.30. Please do feel free to attend to ask questions or raise matters with Councillors.

Andrew Turner
Chair, Westleton Parish Council