

Westleton Parish Council

This is the first of a brief but regular update on activities of the Westleton Parish Council (WPC). A full report of the Council meetings is provided by the Minutes which are posted on the Village notice board and on the Parish Council Website: [Parish Council » Westleton \(onesuffolk.net\)](#)

The focus of the October WPC meeting was the flooding in the village because of the recent storms. Unfortunately, 3 residences were badly flooded and so a large part of the meeting was devoted to hearing from the residents effected and asking the Suffolk County Council (SCC) and East Suffolk District (ESDC) councillors for reassurance that measures will be put in place to avoid it happening again. Discussion centred around where responsibility lies for the clearing of culverts, ditches and drains. Suffolk County Councillor Richard Smith agreed to undertake an audit of the culverts and ditches around Westleton which are SCC responsibility, and to also report on when they were last cleared.

During the September WPC meeting, EDF gave an update on the Sizewell C project (SZC). During the Q and A, WPC explained to residents that it has been meeting with EDF, SCC, ESDC in the *B1125 Working Group* for 2 years to agree traffic calming measures in the village to mitigate the anticipated increased traffic volumes which will result from the 12+ year SZC construction. The Group had their final meeting in November. WPC will present the *draft* plans to residents during a meeting in the Village Hall to allow comment/suggest changes to the proposals before they are finalised. When the date of the meeting is agreed, it will be publicised in the shop, on the notice boards and on the website. WPC encourages all residents to attend this important meeting.

On a related matter, traffic speeding through the village remains a very real concern. One of the discussions items of the B1125 Working Group is the possibility of a 20mph speed limit through the village. All the villages impacted by SZC are calling for 20mph speed limits as we are concerned that higher traffic volumes with continued speeding will make our communities much less safe. However, SCC will not agree to the proposal unless there is evidence of local support. We are therefore asking for your views: you should have received a survey through your letter box asking if you support/oppose a 20mph limit in the village; please respond either by taking your completed survey paper to the village shop, by signing the form in the village shop or by email to: Westletonclerk@gmail.com. In parallel, the Westleton Speed Watch has just restarted with new equipment provided by Suffolk Constabulary. Please contact Andrew Turner (a.andrew.turner@btinternet.com) if you would like to join (or learn more about) the team.

National Grid have started a new statutory consultation on further cabling through the Suffolk countryside. WPC will lodge its opposition stressing that all cabling should be off-shore as it is practical and is probably cheaper. WPC encourages residents to attend NG consultation sessions. Details of the proposals and the consultation paper can be accessed at: www.nationalgrid.com/electricity-transmission/network-and-infrastructure/infrastructure-projects/sealink.

Cllr Andrew Turner - Chair, Westleton Parish Council