



WHINBURGH & WESTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual Parish Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 19th May 2026 at 7.00pm at Whinburgh Pavilion

Present: - Siân Carrel (Chair) Rebecca Wade (Parish Clerk), Kabeer Kher (County Councillor) Paul Plummer (District Councillor) and 10 members of the public

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed everyone to the Annual Parish Meeting, congratulated Cllr Kher on his recent election win and thanked him for attending and also thanked District Cllr Paul Plummer for being present.

Apologies of absence were received from Cllr J Riches.

2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 21st May 2025

The minutes of the 2025 meeting were signed by the Chair as a correct record without amendment.

To receive reports from:

3. Siân Carrel, Chair of the Parish Council, on the Council's year.

The Chair gave a report on Whinburgh and Westfield's Parish Council's activities in 2025-26. The report is available on the village website.

4. Report from County Councillor.

CC Kher reported positive news that NCC Children's Services had been rated Outstanding by Ofsted this week. He also highlighted the significant improvements being made in Adult Social Care, including the adoption of a new service model based on the Essex one, which will help to reduce costs while improving outcomes. This will support the Council in meeting ongoing financial challenges. He emphasised that although there are difficulties, there is also a great deal of positive progress happening at NCC.

CC Kher confirmed that his NCC email address is now live on the County Council website, and he also has a personal website at: <https://www.kabeerkher.com/aboutme>.

Cllr Plummer asked when CC Kher's highways budget would become available, as the Parish Council remains keen to progress the request to reduce the speed limit on Shipdham

Road, Westfield, from 60mph to 40mph, and wished to register the request early. CC Kher asked the Clerk to send him the details so he can familiarise himself with the issue.

Cllr Plummer also raised concerns regarding the two new developments and associated drawings regarding the bridge, seeking assurances that a new bridge would be constructed rather than the original bridge being retained.

5. Report from District Councillors.

District Cllr Plummer reported that he enjoys attending Whinburgh and Westfield Parish Council meetings and noted that both District and County Councillors always do their best to support the parish. His full report is available on the village website.

6. Reports from village groups and other organisations.

The Chair explained that there was no report from the Church as the Vicar had recently retired and the benefice is currently in interregnum. She reported that the Whinburgh Dog Show will take place on 19th September 2026 and that there is a great deal of enthusiasm for the event. The organisers have secured £250 sponsorship from Norfolk Livestock Market.

7. Questions and comments from electors in the parish.

A parishioner asked for an update on the new defibrillator recently installed. The Clerk reported that the cabinet has been installed and that the defibrillator unit is currently at her home ready to be set up. She confirmed that it will be added to The Circuit once the road is reopened. The Clerk said the cabinet would be unlocked.

Siân Carrel
Chair