



WEST HANNINGFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

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REPORT FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2026

The Annual Parish Meeting was held in May 2026 and provided residents with an opportunity to hear updates on key issues affecting the village and to raise questions directly with Parish Councillors.

Road Safety and Anti-Social Driving

A significant part of the meeting focused on speeding and anti-social driving, particularly along Middlemead. The Chair explained that these issues remain a major concern for residents and the Parish Council.

The Council continues to fund S-Type Security, a private security company that patrols the parish and responds to reports of anti-social behaviour and other security concerns. Steve Appleby, owner of S-Type Security, attended the meeting to explain how residents can report incidents and how his team works alongside Essex Police.

Residents were encouraged to continue reporting incidents directly to Essex Police, as police resources and enforcement decisions are based on reported crime and incident data.

The meeting also discussed the potential use of CCTV and other technologies to gather evidence of dangerous driving and anti-social behaviour. The Parish Council agreed to revisit these options and consider proposals at a future meeting.

Community Safety

Residents raised questions about response times, reporting procedures and the types of incidents attended by the security patrols. There was also discussion about providing residents with more information on the service being funded by the Parish Council and how it is being used across the village.

The Three Compasses Public House

An update was provided regarding efforts to register The Three Compasses as an Asset of Community Value. A new application has been prepared and is due to be submitted shortly.

Members of the Parish Council stressed the importance of the pub as a community hub and discussed the potential for the building to serve a wider community role in the future should opportunities arise.

Village Hall Car Park and Recreation Ground

Residents received an update regarding discussions between the Parish Council, the Village Hall Trustees and Savills concerning lease arrangements for the Village Hall car park, recreation ground and playground.

A meeting has been arranged to discuss future management arrangements and the Parish Council hopes to provide a further update following those discussions.

Communication with Residents

The Chair acknowledged that communication with residents has not been as strong as the Parish Council would like, largely due to reduced clerk staffing hours over the past year.

Residents suggested increasing contributions to the parish magazine and publishing more information about Parish Council activities. The Council welcomed these suggestions and committed to improving communication moving forward.

Parish Clerk

The Chair announced that Parish Clerk Lucy White will shortly be leaving her role. Councillors expressed their thanks for her dedication, professionalism and support to the Council and village during her time with West Hanningfield Parish Council.

Looking Ahead

The Parish Council remains committed to improving road safety, tackling anti-social behaviour, supporting community assets and strengthening communication with residents. Councillors thanked everyone who attended the meeting and encouraged residents to continue sharing their views and concerns throughout the year.