**BENHALL AND STERNFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 19 May 2025 at 7pm at the Ex-Servicemen’s Club, Benhall**

**Councillors present**: Bev Barclay (Chair), Charlotte Fox, Sue Nicholson, Mark Stebbings and Alan Woods

**In attendance**: Katherine Abbott (Parish Clerk).

**1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Riven Brace, Chris Durrant and Paul Nicholson.

**2 Declarations of Interest for items on the agenda**

There were no declarations of interest.

**3 Minutes of the Meeting held on 22 May 2024**

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held in 2024 were approved without amendment.

**4 Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

**6 Presentation on the status of the various current and proposed energy projects**

Councillor Fox provided a comprehensive presentation on the energy projects underway or proposed in the vicinity. She referred to the pre-examination period for the Sealink project which had opened on 8 May and encouraged residents to register via the Planning Inspectorate’s website to submit their comments and concerns by the closing date of 23 June. In terms of mitigation, Councillor Fox stated that suggestions for this, for example in relevant representations, needed to be achievable, reasonable and realistic. It was, she said, important to challenge the proposals constructively and to identify what could be improved through mitigation. Mitigation needed to be linked to what the harm of the proposal was deemed to be.

Full and further details and a summary of the key aspects of the presentation were available in the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 7 May 2025 on the Council’s website.

The meeting concluded and the Annual Parish Council Meeting followed at 7,42pm (separate minutes)