

Reydon Parish Council

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on 23rd October 2025

1 Present and Opening

Present:

Chair, Cllr Linda Coe, Vice-Chair Cllr David Panther, Cllr Kalvyn Friend, Cllr Kim Harvey, Cllr David Eccles, Cllr Adele Coleman, Cllr Mike Medland, Cllr Chris Dixon, Cllr Sarah Jerman, ESC David Beavan
Clerk – Ann Dobson.

There was one member of the public present.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from SCC Michael Ladd, Cllr Dominic Knight and Cllr Dale Goldsmith, and these were duly accepted by all the Councillors present.

3 Public Forum and Councillor Reports

ESC Cllr David Beavan said that a new Harbour Management Committee would be meeting next month and it was hoped that the increased site fees at the caravan park could be used to reinvest in the project.

Potters Bridge had started to flood again and so far nothing had been done to stop it. Cllr Linda Coe said that the Council had heard that Natural England had a plan and it was thought this could involve taking an overflow pipe across the broad towards Benacre.

Cllr Beavan went on to say that a recent table showing the CIL money for the area was very encouraging.

Cllr Kalvyn Friend asked Cllr Beavan about the car charging points in Southwold in that he had heard they had been changed to only suit Tesla cars. Cllr Beavan said this was not the case and that they were CCS chargers (combined charging system) which suited most electric cars.

A member of the public was in attendance to tell the Councillors that he had been emailing ESC Planning Department for several months with regard to traffic calming for the Copperwheat development and also to check on the access route for the CTMP scheme, ie, either via The Crescents or via Copperwheat Drive. ESC had indicated the access would be via Copperwheat Drive but Orbit (the developers) had said it would be via The Crescents. With regard to the traffic calming, the ESC Planning Manager had notified the resident to say that he was meeting with a representative from Suffolk Highways the following Monday and that nothing had been decided as yet. The Chair, Cllr Linda Coe, said she was very grateful to the resident for all the time he had spent on this.

ACTION: The Clerk to follow up with ESC on Tuesday for an update and to notify the resident. The Clerk to also put this on the RPC Highways Agenda for the Meeting taking place on Thursday 30th October.

4 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5 Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 18th September were unanimously agreed to be authorised by the Chair and duly signed.

6 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters Arising from the Minutes that were not being discussed later in the Meeting.

7 Clerk's Report

Cllr Medland's Crime Stats already circulated.

Crime Map for August: Reydon – 3. 1 x possession of weapon, 1 x antisocial behaviour, 1 x violence and sexual behaviour. Southwold – 11. 1 x burglary, 4 x other theft, 3 x violence and sexual offences, 2 x antisocial behaviour, 1 x all other crimes.

Cost of Living Grant applied for but the Clerk said there had been no decision so far as to what sum would be awarded.

The Notice Boards in the Village Hall needed updating and the Clerk confirmed she was liaising with Laurence Vulliamy who had organised this in the past.

8 Highways Committee (DP)

Cllr David Panther the Chair of the Highways Committee began by saying there was not much to report as there had not been a Highways Meeting since the last Parish Council Meeting. The next one was scheduled for Thursday 30th October. Cllr Panther went on to say he had been along to Reydon Primary School at the end of an afternoon with Cllr Linda Coe to see if there were any parking issues. He said it was busy but there was nothing untoward and they had agreed to repeat this after half term. Traffic wardens were in attendance too.

Cllr Panther said that with regard to possible speeding on the Lowestoft Road, the 85% percentile was 35 mph going in to Reydon and 39 mph coming out on the recent survey, so it would be good to have the ANPR deployed there next time if a suitable site could be found.

9 Finance Committee (RFO/DK)

Cllr Dominic Knight, the Chair of the Finance Committee, was not present but sent in this report in advance of the meeting:

“The Reydon Finance Committee held its inaugural meeting on 9th October. The full details of the discussion are available in the supplied minutes.

The Committee reviewed the quarterly figures and noted that the halfway-mark figures show no cause for alarm. The review of CIL expenditure confirmed RPC is well within the required time limit for spending the funds, with a further payment anticipated soon from the St Felix development.

A significant portion of the meeting focused on the draft budget for 2026/27, which initially projected a deficit approaching £10,000, which would have to be covered by RPC reserves. This was felt to be too high. Consequently, Committee members conducted a line-by-line review, suggesting expenditure reductions that successfully halved the projected deficit.

A revised draft budget will be circulated shortly and is scheduled for adoption at the November RPC meeting. The precept letter from ESC is expected at the end of November, and a decision as to whether the Precept level should be changed will be discussed at the same November meeting. The next Finance Committee meeting is planned for early January 2026.”

The RFO said there had been requests for funding from the following:

Reydon Church Lunches Hall Hire – It was proposed that £200 be donated for this, proposed by Cllr Kim Harvey, seconded by Cllr Chris Dixon and all in favour.

WW1 Pillbox Restoration – A ballpark figure of £10,000 had been requested towards this, which would be match funded. It was felt that this was a very large amount and perhaps grants could be applied for. It was agreed to ask Laurence Vulliamy, the current Chair of the group, to come along to the November Meeting to explain what was needed and the current situation. The Clerk said she would also check with ESC whether CIL money could be used.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Laurence re the November Meeting and also to contact the CIL department at ESC.

The Clerk said there was a sum of £300 allocated in the budget for the Reydon Christmas Lights fund. Cllr Chris Dixon proposed that this be given to the fund, Cllr Mike Medland seconded the proposal and all were in favour.

10 Green Spaces Working Group (MM)

Cllr Mike Medland, the Chair of this Working Group, said that the notes on the recent Green Spaces and Allotment Meetings had been circulated to all the Councillors. At the Allotment Meeting, a few of the Allotment Holders had said that the gate needed a latch as it would swing back in high winds and could potentially hit their cars. At the Green Spaces Meeting, Cllr Medland said that an all-weather base in front of the basketball frame, along with reinstalling the sign board currently in the brambles had been discussed. It was agreed that the Clerk should get a quote for these three items.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Cooper & Denny in the first instance for a quote and report back when it was received.

Cllr Friend asked whether seats could be provided in the bus shelters. This was discussed by the Councillors and the Clerk said she had already obtained a quote for adding a perch type seat to the recently refurbished bus shelter on Covert Road. There was another similar shelter at the top of The Drive and it was agreed by all the Councillors that both should have seats installed if this was possible, and then to review the rest at a later date.

Enquiries had been made about the two playgrounds that needed attention in Reydon – Barn Close and Winston Road. ESC had said that the Winston Close upgrade was in hand but that the Barn Close equipment had reached the end of its life and would be removed with the area turned back to an open space. It was felt by all the Councillors that this was an unsatisfactory situation and Cllr Sarah Jerman said she would ask local parents to write in to ESC if they were also upset about this and hopefully they would re-consider.

The Clerk reported that, in the end, RPC had to pay £162.51 of the £975.04 bill from New Leaf for new equipment (the rest was paid by East Suffolk Council). It was felt by the Councillors that New Leaf could perhaps do more projects including keeping the bus shelters up to standard.

ACTION: Clerk to contact New Leaf to reiterate that ESC should be asked first for any future expenditure and to see if they could periodically check the bus shelters to make sure they were kept up to standard.

Cllr Mike Medland said they had received a very interesting report from the Tree Warden, Denise Faulkner ahead of the Meeting. She had said she was actively looking for suitable land for Black poplars and would like anyone who has old varieties of apples or pears they would like grafted to let her know.

ACTION: Cllr Dominic Knight to add to the next Reydon Robin.

11 Cost of Living and Community Pantry (LC) (report already circulated)

Cllr Linda Coe's Report as follows:

"This month has seen a considerable rise in the amount of goods our drivers have collected from the various supermarkets and shops. We believe this is because the summer stock lists are much higher in quantity than the winter lists and the supermarkets normally take about two weeks to reflect the lower stock levels.

We have also benefitted from allotment holders passing on their gluts of fruits such as apples and pears.

Having just had our large fridge repaired, the smaller of our two freezers is exhibiting strange temperature fluctuations and it may well be that the repairman will have to be called again. It is generally thought that this may be the result of the freezer being overloaded, - reflecting the large amount of goods we have been receiving.

We continue to have very good numbers of customers visiting and Sarah has also benefitted from having two new drivers to add to her squad.

Ann has applied for this year's Warm Homes Grant which, if successful, this will be used for the shared Coffee Mornings and Soup Lunches over the winter period."

Cllr Linda Coe went on to say that since writing the report the large freezer had broken and Beeline had been asked to attend to see if they could mend it. They were to be asked about the cost of a new one too.

There had been three potential volunteers come forward and there were two new drivers.

12 WW1 Pillbox Working Group - Update

It was reported that the last Pillbox Meeting on 17th October had been well attended and the next Meeting would be in January 2026. Wendy Mantin had agreed to become a Patron. The soil removal was to start on 30th October (should have been 23rd but the weather was bad), and a GoFund Page was being set up along with a bank account etc.

13 Footpaths Working Group (CD)

Cllr Chris Dixon said there was nothing new to report this month.

14 Reydon Robin (DomK)

Cllr Dominic Knight was not present but sent in his report as follows:

"The October edition of *The Reydon Robin* was regrettably cancelled due to operational issues. The editorial team again apologises for all this and extends their thanks to contributors and distributors for their understanding. All submitted articles will be held and carried forward for the next, Christmas edition, which is definitely going ahead. The Christmas edition is due to be published on Wednesday, 10th December. To meet this date, and following discussions with the printer, Mike Mayhew (who needs to start printing on Monday, 8th December, due to later commitments), the copy deadline has been brought forward to Tuesday, 25th November. The final copy will be sent to the printer on Thursday, 4th December.

At the next meeting, I propose that RPC discusses the future of *The Reydon Robin*. Given the cancellation of the October edition and the ongoing challenge of securing distribution volunteers (which was a factor in our prior decision to reduce the number of editions annually), we need to determine definitively whether we wish to continue its production and what a sustainable path forward looks like."

15

Website (DomK/Clerk)

CLlr Dominic Knight was not present but sent in his report as follows:

"Following the last RPC meeting, the necessary corrective work to bring the Reydon Village website into compliance with the new Accessibility Regulations for local government has been finalised. This work involved adjusting the website's underlying code to ensure users with disabilities retain full access to essential information.

We gave the go-ahead to Chris from WPBees to work on this project, estimated to cost £800 plus VAT. To minimise disruption, the work was carefully planned so the site remained live throughout most of the changes. The project was successfully completed on 13th October. Our thanks go to Chris for his diligent work.

A few minor changes remain to further enhance accessibility, specifically tweaks to 'alerts.' The majority of these relate to 'suspicious links' where link text, such as 'Here' or 'Click here', lacks sufficient context for accessibility software. I will amend these gradually over the coming weeks by replacing them with more descriptive text (eg, changing 'Click here' to 'Find out more about xyz by clicking here').

I will present the website statistics, courtesy of Google Analytics, at the next Council meeting in November. Thank you for your patience."

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Correspondence (Clerk)

The Clerk said she had received a lot of correspondence about the flags that had been erected in Reydon but it seemed that many of these had since been taken down.

17

Planning Committee (DomK)

CLlr Dominic Knight was not present but had sent a detailed planning report to all councillors prior to the Meeting. The Minutes of the last meeting had also been circulated along with responses to planning applications. A further Planning Meeting was to take place on Friday 27th October and Minutes from that would be circulated in due course.

New Applications:

DC/25/3348/FUL – Erection of 1no. detached chalet bungalow (self build). Land off Halesworth Road, Reydon IP18 6NH

Response by Planning Committee submitted with local residents concerns

DC/25/3766/LBC – Listed Building Consent – Reconstruction and reinstatement of a brick built chimney stack to northern end of west roof pitch to allow for installation of a log burning stove at the ground floor, 59 Wangford Road, Reydon

Response by 6 November 2025

DC/25/3911/VOC – Variation of Condition 2 of DC/25/0433/VOC – convert single storey bungalow to two storey chalet bungalow – to reduce internal floor changing walk-in-store to loft space with trap door access – new floor plans and elevations, 1 Nicholas Drive, Reydon IP18 6RE

Response by 12th November 2025

Planning Decisions/Updates:

DC/25/3570/CON – Consultation – to install a new 1 x 8m light wooden pole at the above location, -S/O 8 Covert Road, Reydon

No objections

DC/25/3624/CON – Consultation – to install 10m Wooden Telecommunications Pole – OS 48 Windsor Road, Reydon

No objections

DC/25/3358/TPO – T1 1no Oak – reduce north stem to 1.5m from point of bifurcation – 3 Green Oaks, Reydon IP18 6RX

Application Permitted

DC/25/3625/CON – Consultation – installation of 8m Wooden Telecommunications Pole – OS 6 Windsor Road, Reydon

No objections

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Finance – (RFO)**a) Invoices already paid**

Kalvyn Friend – locks for Taps at Allotments	£31.98
E-On Direct Debit Electricity Jubilee Green	£21.12
Natural Ranks – 50% website changes plus report	£540.00
Ann Dobson – stationery and planning mtg refreshments	£21.78
CAS – balance of insurance premium	£33.96
Gillian Graham	£122.10

b) Invoices to be paid

Pantry Driving	£131.40
Linda Coe – Bags for Pantry	£13.74
RVH Electricity for Pantry – 2 months	£202.81
RVH – Hall Hire	£72.50
Gillian Graham	£122.10

Wills	£395.55
Keith Seaman	£180.00
WP Bees (Website – VAT to be Reclaimed)	£420.00
SALC – Training Course for David Eccles	£79.20
GW Shelter Solutions (Bus Shelter) – VAT to be reclaimed	£3,759.19
Philip Burkill – war memorial cleaning	£30.05
Thomas Fattorini – Chair, chain updating (VAT to be reclaimed)	£1,556.33
Ann Dobson – salary and expenses at end of month	

c) Bank Balances and Reconciliation as at 30th September 2025

	TOTAL	£	16,870.17
Commercial Instant Access Account as at 30th Sept 2025		£	166,913.55
Community Account as at 30th Sept 2025		£	601.00
TOTAL		£	167,514.55
TOTAL AUG PLUS SEPT RECEIPTS		£	167,514.55
MINUS SEPT PAYMENTS			

d) CIL Money Remaining as at end September 25 – £115,938.36

e) Working Budget (circulated prior to meeting)

19 Reydon Village Hall and Reydon Sports and Community Centre (LC)

This discussion was 'in camera' so no minutes to be published.

However, there had been a Village Hall Management Committee Meeting held and Cllr David Eccles gave a brief report on this.

He began by saying that neither he nor Cllr Friend were becoming Trustees of the Village Hall Management Committee so they would not be able to vote on proposals. They were there purely as Reydon Parish Council Representatives. He went on to say that the VHMC had applied to ESC for funding for the AV Equipment and if they received this it would be 80% of the total cost. The flooring was being done in December and that meant the December RPC Meeting would be held in the Sports and Community Centre instead. The AGM of the VHMC was to take place on 4th December at 7.00 pm.

20 Any Other Business

Cllr Linda Coe said she had been speaking with Pam Cyprien who was concerned about the County Wildlife site at the edge of St Felix. As she understood it, St Felix were supposed to be managing the landscape, gorse and grass etc, and it appeared they were not doing so. Also, the new sports field had not been reinstated, the pitch hadn't been marked out and the football posts had gone. There was supposed to be a proper football pitch for community use.

ACTION: Cllr Linda Coe to ask Pam Cyprien for a full report and then this could be discussed further at the next Meeting.

Cllr Coe asked the Councillors to give some thought to a possible speaker for the Annual Parish Meeting next April and the Clerk asked everyone to think about nominations for a Reydon Star Award.

ACTION: Clerk to add Reydon Star Award nominations to Facebook, and Cllr Dominic Knight to add to the Christmas Reydon Robin and the Website.

21 Date of Next Meeting

The next Meeting will be held on Thursday 20th November at 6.30 pm in the Village Hall.

The Chair closed the Meeting at 8.30 pm.