

Reydon Parish Council

Ann Dobson – Clerk to the Council

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Sports and Community Centre on 18th December 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 Mike Medland, Cllr Sarah Jerman, Cllr Dominic Knight, Cllr Adele Coleman, SCC Cllr Michael Ladd, ESC Cllr David Beavan.
Clerk – Ann Dobson.

There were four members of the public present.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the representatives of the Sports and Community Centre for allowing the Parish Council to host their Meeting there.

2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Dale Goldsmith and Cllr Chris Dixon and these were duly accepted by all the Councillors present.

3 Public Forum and Councillor Reports

SCC Cllr Michael Ladd gave his report as follows:

‘Suffolk County Council is encouraging affected residents and communities to engage with a public consultation for National Grid’s LionLink project, details of which have just been announced. A written consultation and materials will launch on 13 January 2026, supported by five public information exhibitions in Saxmundham, Southwold, Hinton, Westleton and Yoxford. The consultation will close on 10 March 2026. The planning of the LionLink project is now reaching its final stages, before an expected application for a Development Consent Order later in 2026. Therefore, the county council is urging concerned residents, businesses, organisations and town and parish councils to get up-to-speed with the scheme’s plans, so they are in a position to contribute to the forthcoming consultation.

Suffolk County Council has been awarded more than £12 million over four years by Active Travel England to continue its work promoting sustainable travel. Active Travel England (ATE) works with local authorities and other bodies to help them put in place infrastructure and facilities that make it easier for more people to walk, wheel and cycle, more often, on local journeys. It has awarded Suffolk a total of £12,537,098 for the period 2026/27 to 2029/30 to invest in footpaths, infrastructure, and cycle lanes.

His Majesty’s Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) has confirmed it is satisfied with the progress Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service is making to address improvements identified during its previous inspection. In a letter received this week following an October revisit, inspectors recognised early positive change across leadership, governance and organisational culture, supported by a comprehensive action plan developed with staff and representative bodies. Inspectors also noted the significant investment and support from Suffolk County Council - totalling £1.6 million over two years, which has enabled new posts, development programmes and organisational reforms to be put in place. Applications to join Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) have surged by 32% compared to last year, highlighting a growing interest in a career that makes a real difference to local communities. This year’s recruitment drive also saw a significant increase in female representation among successful candidates, with women making up 17.2% of the recruitment pool compared to 11.7% last year, which represents a 38% rise. This marks an important step toward building a workforce that truly reflects the communities it protects. Over the last two days I have been in conversation with Henry from the Reydon stores as he is concerned about the traffic lights outside his shop having a big impact on his pre-Christmas takings. I have been in touch with the project manager for the Gas contractor who has confirmed that the lights will be removed on 19th December.’

ESC Cllr David Beavan began by saying that with regard to LionLink, although it was Walberswick affected at the moment, there was nothing to say that Reydon would not be affected in the future.

With regard to Potters Bridge, Cllr Beavan said that the sensor had ‘died’ and needed to be replaced. The total cost of the replacement was in the region of £1,000. SCC Michael Ladd said that the cost of this could possibly come from his locality budget and that he would ask and report back. All the Councillors thought it was important to get this

sensor replaced as soon as possible and if Cllr Ladd couldn't facilitate this they were unanimous in agreeing for it to come from RPC funds.

ACTION: Cllr Michael Ladd to investigate funding this.

Cllr Beavan said that the affordable housing at St Felix should be coming on next year, and with regard to Copperwheat, that he was meeting the owners of the field between the church and the site in January about a possible alternative temporary HGV haul route.

He went on to say that he was very concerned about health in the region. There was currently a 10 year programme which included more use of the NHS App, and prevention rather than cure etc, but he felt it was only right for there to be a decent health service to serve the local people.

The Chair, Cllr Linda Coe thanked Cllr Ladd and Cllr Beavan for their reports.

Cllr Coe, said that she and the other Councillors were concerned that St Felix School were not fulfilling their Agreement to allow the public to use their leisure facilities outside school times. Gareth Jones (The Operations Manager) had been asked to attend the Parish Meeting in January so that this could be discussed and taken forward. Cllr Linda Coe thanked Cllr Ladd and Cllr Beavan for their reports.

4 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5 Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 20th November 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 for October:

Reydon – 6. 4– violence and sexual offences, 1 – criminal damage and arson, 1 drugs.

Southwold – 4. 3 – violence and sexual offences, 1 – criminal damage and arson.

The Clerk reported that the full amount asked for had been received from ESC for the Cost of Living Grant.

8 Highways Committee (DP)

The Minutes of the recent Meeting had been circulated.

Cllr David Panther began by saying that Potters Bridge had not been so flooded since the new pipes had been installed by Natural England. The SCC inspection had not yet taken place but it was expected before the end of the financial year in March 2026. The surface was suffering but needed to be drier before Highways could do anything to improve it.

Cllr Panther went on to say that it was disappointing that the traffic calming measures for Copperwheat had been passed as a condition when Wangford Road was the quietest of the three roads in to Reydon (Halesworth Road, Lowestoft Road and Wangford Road). He said he had written to Joe Blackmore to ask him to re-consider but there had been no reply so far.

ACTION: Clerk to re-send and copy in Cllr David Beavan and Cllr Michael Ladd.

Cllr Panther said the Council had been notified that the ANPR would be based on the Halesworth Road in the New Year. He had been thinking about something to count how many people crossed this road by the new St Felix Development but he didn't think there was any feasible way of doing this without a person actually counting. Finally, Cllr Panther said it had been decided to reduce the Highways Committee Meetings to quarterly so that the representative from SCC Highways could always attend.

Cllr Kalvyn Knight asked about the hedge cutting on the Lowestoft Road and Cllr Panther said this was happening in the New Year. The Clerk was asked to check the date.

ACTION: Clerk to check the date for the hedge cutting.

Cllr Kalvyn Knight then asked if this same area would be cleared back to make the road wider but Cllr Michael Ladd said this would be a definite 'no' as there were many roads far narrower and there was also an argument to say that if the road was narrow, cars etc were more likely to slow down.

Finance Committee (RFO/DK)

Before any decision was taken on the Precept and the Budget, Cllr Mike Medland said that he wanted to make it clear that RPC were proposing a 6.78% increase in the Precept and also that maintaining Reydon Corner with its tubs etc was costing quite a lot more each year and accounted for a large amount on the Budget figures. It was agreed this would need to be monitored a little more closely.

The Councillors had a full discussion on the proposed Budget and the proposed increase in Precept. It was agreed that this was necessary in view of increased costs which had been carried for some years now with reserves being used to make up the difference. To show residents what the Precept paid for, it was agreed that in a future Reydon Robin this would be fully explained.

The increase in the Precept would mean an increase of £2,000 on this year, or 6.78%, and it would equate to £25.82 on a Band D Property (currently £24.18). This increase was proposed by Cllr Kim Harvey, seconded by Cllr Adele Harvey and all Councillors were unanimous in their agreement.

The adoption of the Budget on this basis was proposed by Cllr Dominic Knight and seconded by Cllr Kalvyn Friend and all Councillors were unanimous in their agreement.

ACTION: Clerk to circulate the adopted budget and let ESC know of the precept amount being requested.

Green Spaces Working Group (MM)

The notes from the recent Meeting had been circulated.

The Clerk had just received the quote from Cooper and Denny for the various works at the Recreation Ground in the sum of £4,488. Cllr Kim Harvey proposed that this quote was accepted and Cllr David Eccles seconded this, with all Councillors in favour. The works would be financed from CIL money.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Cooper and Denny and accept the quote, asking them for an approximate start date.

Two other playgrounds were discussed. It was noted that Winston Road was being improved by ESC whilst they had said that the play equipment at Barn Close was to be removed and left as an open space, with a new play area coming as part of the new Copperwheat Development.

Cllr Mike Medland said that Cllr David Panther had arranged for the planting of spring bulbs and would like to plant more next season. All the Councillors were in favour of this and Cllr Panther said he would review in the Spring. Cllr Kim Harvey asked if the wildflower garden would be continuing and Cllr Panther said it would which everyone was pleased about.

WW1 Pillbox Working Group (KH)

Cllr Kim Harvey gave an overview of this. She said the next Meeting was on 2nd January and that the Payback Team had been doing a great job moving all the earth etc. Geoff Cooper had put the fencing up and Cllr Chris Dixon, Philip O'Hear and Laurence Vulliamy were looking at fundraising.

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

Cllr Linda Coe's Report had been received as follows:

'This month began with the great news that we have been awarded a Cost of Living Community grant which means we are able to help with donating even more goods to our customers. Lynn Nicholls, who is one of our Administrators, has the pleasant task of buying extra dry goods for the Pantry to subsidise the regular donations we get from our local supermarkets and shops, and we are very grateful to her for taking on that additional job. The remainder of the grant will be used to support the Village Hall's monthly coffee mornings and soup lunches.

As the weather deteriorates somewhat, we have seen more customers visiting us and we are pleased that our stocks are standing up to the pressure of additional demand. We also received a donation from Reydon Primary School of some children's toys and gifts which we will happily distribute amongst our clientele.

This is the time for thanks, and as always these go to all of our drivers who turn out every evening to collect from the stores and all our volunteers who man the Pantry, even when its very cold. Thanks also to Sarah Jerman who does so much in the background, ably supported by Poppy, despite her broken arm and to Kim Harvey who keeps our rotas in fine form. We also 'hosted' a Christmas Tree in the Southwold URCwe hope you've been to see the different trees there, and special thanks to Lynn Nicholls who created so many of our decorations on the tree this year.

Our very best wishes to everyone for a Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year'.

Cllr Kim Harvey said that the Pantry would be opening on Saturday 27th December instead of the Friday and this was going on social media. She went on to say they had been seeing a lot of new people, had been receiving lots of food, and were working together with the RVHMC for the Warm Spaces mornings once a month.

- 13 Footpaths Working Group (CD)**
 Cllr Chris Dixon was not present but it was said that the Working Group would be meeting with the Southwold and Reydon Society in January. The Clerk was asked to contact the Southwold Mayor to see if anyone from STC could attend this meeting too.
ACTION: Clerk asked to contact Mayor.
- 14 Reydon Village Hall (KH/DE/KF) Update**
 Cllr Kim Harvey said that the AGM had been a low-key affair with not many people attending. Dorcas Rogers had passed the Secretary part of her role on to someone else and Ray Rogers was expected to stand down as Treasurer in 2026.
 Cllr Linda Coe said that there was some confusion over the hall hire contract as there had been two contracts issued recently and this was being checked out.
 Cllr Kim Harvey said that the floor was being done over the next two weeks with the hall out of action until the New Year.
- 15 Reydon Robin (DomK)**
 Cllr Dominic Knight said that the publication of the Reydon Robin was to go down to twice a year and that the next issue would be in April to tie in with the Southwold Arts Festival. Discussion amongst the Councillors took place including just placing in shops and businesses rather than house to house delivery, but it was eventually agreed that everything should stay as it was for now (reducing to twice a year) as there was no equivalent publication in Reydon and older residents in particular appreciated receiving it.
- 16 Website (DomK)**
 Cllr Dominic Knight said he was delighted to report that the RPC Website was now fully compliant with the new regulations.
- 17 Correspondence (Clerk)**
 The Clerk said there had been no correspondence not already discussed.
- 18 Planning Committee (DomK)**
 Cllr Knight began by saying that there had not been another Planning Meeting as there were no new applications. Cllr Dominic Knight had sent a further report to ESC Planning regarding the Easton Bavents application but had heard nothing. The Clerk was asked to arrange a further Meeting between Cllr Knight, Cllr Friend and Joe Blackmore.
ACTION: Clerk to contact Joe Blackmore at ESC Planning to arrange a further meeting.
Planning Decisions/Updates:
 DC/25/3911/VOC – Variation of Condition 2 of DC/24/2507/FUL – 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, Southwold IP18 6RE Application Permitted
 DC/25/3987/P14J – Prior Notification – proposed: Installation, alteration or replacement of other Solar Photovoltaics (PV) equipment on the roofs of Non-domestic Buildings – Installation of roof mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panels and associated equipment to provide on-site renewable electricity generation – Lytton Tree Lodge, 72A Halesworth Road, Reydon, Southwold IP18 6NS Prior Approval Not Required
 DC/25/4670/CON – Call Flow Solutions Limited is planning to install under the Company's code powers – part verge opposite 49 Mount Pleasant, Reydon No Objections
 DC/25/3766/LBC – Listed Building Consent – Retention of brick-built chimney stack to northern end of west roof pitch, 59 Wangford Road, Reydon Application Permitted
 DC/25/3348/FUL – Erection of 1no detached chalet bungalow (self build) – Land off Halesworth Road, Reydon IP18 6NH Application Permitted
 DC/25/4643/CON – Consultation – License notification for telegraph poles that Call Flow Solutions Ltd is planning to install under the Company's code powers – Part Verge, Lowesoft Road, Reydon No Objections
 DC/25/4651/CON – Consultation – Medium 9m Electronic Communications Pole – Part Verge, Mount Pleasant, Reydon No Objections
 DC/25/4669/CON – Consultation – Call Flow Systems Limited is planning to install under the Company's code powers – 45 Mount Pleasant, Reydon IP18 6QP No Objections
 DC/25/4486/AME – Non-material Amendment of DC/22/4373/FUL – Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension to existing premises, together with internal alterations – 34 Wangford Road, Reydon IP18 6PY Application Permitted

DC/25/4641/CON – Consultation – 9m Medium telegraph pole – Part Verge Adjacent 25 Green Lane, Reydon
No Objections

DC/25/4640/CON – Consultation – PLO653 1 x 9m Medium Pole – 74 Lowestoft Road, IP18 6RF
No Objections

DC/25/4565/AGO – Permitted Development Notification under Schedule 2 Part 6 Class A of the General Permitted Development Order – Relocation of access track on land south of Easton Lane – Part Land South of Easton Lane, Reydon
Prior Approval Not Required

19 Finance – (DK/RFO)

Finance – (RFO)

a) Invoices already paid

Reydon and Southwold Community Lunches Donation	£200.00
Gillian Graham	£122.10
E-on – Electricity Jubilee Green	£23.73
Planning Meeting	£12.45
Stamps (Debit Card)	£39.46
Supplies for Pantry – Lyn Nicholls	£91.60

b) Invoices to be paid

Pantry Electricity	£214.92
Pantry Driving	£108.90
Southwold Press (Reydon Robin)	£580.00
Natural Ranks Annual Domain Name Renewal	£30.00
Linda Coe – Paper Bags for Pantry	£21.96
Ann Dobson – Equipment for G Graham Bus Shelters	£23.13
Ann Dobson – Printer Ink	£23.79
Wave – Water for Reydon Corner	£108.49
Wave – Water for Allotments and Rec	£335.47
Warm Spaces Mornings	£75.02

Ann Dobson – Salary at end of month

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

Commercial Instant Access Account as at 30th November 25	£	256,137.99
Community Account as at 30th November 25	£	600.00
TOTAL	£	256,737.99
TOTAL OCT PLUS NOV RECEIPTS	£	256,737.99
MINUS NOV PAYMENTS		

d) CIL Money Remaining as at end November 25 – £202,068.82

e) Working Budget (circulated prior to meeting)

20 Reydon Sports and Community Centre (LC)

This discussion was postponed.

21 Any Other Business

St Felix had already been discussed earlier in the Meeting.

Cllr Kim Harvey reported that she had received a cheque for £300 for the Pantry from the Southwold and Reydon Constitutional Club. The Clerk said she would write and thank them.

ACTION: Clerk to send an email to thank them.

Cllr Sarah Jerman said that she wanted explain her thoughts on the proposed new Gym in Southwold as she had not been able to attend the previous Meeting. Cllr Linda Coe pointed out that this was being discussed in January but Cllr Jerman said she just wanted to make the point that she thought this was a brilliant idea that the Parish Council should support financially. It was agreed by all the Councillors that a Gym was a good idea but the question was whether it should be there or elsewhere. Cllr Coe said that Cllr Jerman's thoughts had been noted and this would be discussed again in the New Year when the questions that had been asked by the Council had been answered.

22 Date of Next Meeting

The next Meeting will be held on Thursday 22nd January 2026 at 6.30 pm at Reydon Village Hall

The Chair closed the Meeting at 8.05 pm.