

Reydon Parish Council

Ann Dobson – Clerk to the Council

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Reydon Village Hall on 19th March 2026

1 Present and Opening

Present:

Chair, Cllr Linda Coe, Cllr Kalvyn Friend, Cllr Kim Harvey, Cllr Dominic knight, Cllr Dale Goldsmith, Cllr Chris Dixon, Cllr David Eccles, Cllr Sarah Jerman, Cllr Adele Coleman, ESC David Beavan.

Clerk – Ann Dobson.

There was one member of the public present.

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

2 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllr David Panther, Cllr Mike Medland, SCC Michael Ladd, and these were duly accepted by the Chair and Councillors.

3 Public Forum and Councillor Reports

The Chair, Cllr Linda Coe, explained that the member of the public was an observer from Wangford who was thinking of joining Wangford Parish Council.

Cllr David Beavan began by saying that the Sensor at Potters Bridge was now working. He said he would chase up the invoice so that this could be paid. He thought that this would be a decent breeding season for the bitterns which was good news. Cllr Beavan went on to say that it had been recognised that there were three ways in to Reydon and Southwold and two of those involved water.

Unfortunately, it looked as though the hoped-for temporary haul road to Copperwheat would not be going ahead as the land was possibly going to be sold. Cllr Beavan went on to say that there would be a lot of development going on as part of the Call for Sites process.

The Southwold Harbour Caravan Site redevelopment was moving forward with all winter works completed.

Finally, Cllr Beavan said that there was a problem with deer on the marshes and this was increasingly becoming a problem on the roads too. It was thought that action would need to be taken at some point.

The Chair, Cllr Linda Coe, thanked Cllr Beavan for his report.

4 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5 Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 19th February were unanimously agreed to be authorised by the Chair and were duly signed.

6 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising.

7 Clerk's Report

Cllr Medland's Crime Stats already circulated.

Crime Figures for January 2026

Reydon – 4. 3 – violence and sexual offences, 1 – other crime. Southwold – 0.

The Councillors unanimously approved the updated copies of the Financial Regulations, the Asset Register, The Risk Assessment and Financial Management, Councillor Code of Conduct and the Statement of Assurance forms were collected.

The Clerk confirmed the Date of the Internal Audit as w/c 6th April 2026.

The Clerk explained that she had negotiated a new Fixed Rate for the Jubilee Green Electricity for a further two years.

8 Highways Committee (DP)

Cllr David Panther was not present, but had sent in the following report:

“Potters Bridge..

The new depth sensor is now active and giving up to date depth measurements again.

Although the start of 2026 has been particularly wet Lowestoft Road has remained open so far. Flooding has been greatly reduced by the overflow pipes installed by Natural England. These have reduced reliance on repeated clearing of the drainage channel by Easton Broad.

SCC Highways are aware of the degradation of the road surface at Potters Bridge. Repairs will be undertaken when weather conditions are more conducive.

40 mph speed limit on Halesworth Road

There are plans to reapply for a 40 mph speed limit from just west of Wolsey Bridge to the entrance to Reydon. Advice from SCC Highways is that there is insufficient additional supporting evidence to pursue a second application at present. Preparation for a further request includes two additional speed and traffic volume surveys to be undertaken in late June or Early July this year. Survey sites are:

At the junction of Shepherds Lane and Halesworth Road (This will provide data comparable from two earlier surveys.)

Adjacent to the Adnams distribution Centre. (This will provide speed and volume data on vehicles approaching Reydon.)

Both surveys are being funded from Councillor Ladd’s localities budget (at a cost of approximately £1000).

Overhanging trees on Lowestoft Road

We continue to press for further reduction of the hedgerow along Lowestoft Road in order to restore the width of the carriageway and make it safer for pedestrians to cross from the footpath at the end of Elliott Avenue to the only footpath on the eastern side of Lowestoft Road.”

Cllr Kalvyn Friend said that he had been discussing the proposed 40mph limit on the A1095 with some residents and that it was generally felt this would be a waste of money, and that a better plan would be to spend some of the money on Deer Signs. It was agreed to add this point of view to the next Highways Meeting for discussion.

ACTION: Clerk to add to next Highways Agenda.

9 Finance Committee (RFO/DK) (In camera)

As some of this discussion was ‘in camera’ it was moved to the end of the meeting. However, the following actions were agreed and are therefore minuted:

A newly prepared CIL form would be adopted for community organisations who wanted to apply for CIL money for their project. Cllr David Eccles said he would prepare a document for the Robin explaining this and also where the Precept was spent each year.

ACTION: Cllr David Eccles to send this to Cllr Dominic Knight.

There would be a Priority List for CIL expenditure and this was still to be finalised.

As some reserves money still remained from 25/26 for the Pillbox Restoration, it was agreed by the councillors that a total of £12,000 would be ring-fenced for this project in 26/27 and from RPC Reserves rather than from CIL.

£1,000 was agreed by all the councillors to be awarded to the Southwold Arts Society for 25/26 (this had been allowed in the budget) and further consideration would be made in terms of the roof restoration project, following completion of a CIL request form.

It was also agreed by all the councillors to amend the Budget for 26/27 to allow £1,000 donation for the Arts Society and to remove the allowance for Mr Bus which had ceased trading.

Further consideration for funding for the Scout Hut would be given following the completion of a CIL request form.

The sum of £5,000 was agreed to be paid to RVH from CIL in June 2026 towards maintenance of the Village Hall.

ESC Cllr David Beavan said that it would be worth looking into the Small Town Grant for the Pump Track or Pillbox.

ACTION: Clerk to look into this.

10 Green Spaces Working Group (MM)

Cllr Medland was not present but it was agreed by the councillors to ask him to get three quotes for the proposed pump track so these could be considered at a future meeting.

ACTION: Clerk to ask Cllr Medland to obtain three quotes for this proposed project.

A quote for a new seat in the bus shelter on Lowestoft Road had been obtained in the sum of £575.00 plus VAT and this was approved unanimously by the councillors.

It was also noted that the bus shelter in Jermyns Road was without a seat and it was agreed to get a quote for this to be installed.

ACTION: Clerk to liaise with Cooper & Denny.

Cllr Kalvyn Friend had met the representative from Playdale Playgrounds that afternoon for the annual inspection of the play equipment at the recreation ground. He said it had all gone well and that he had been told the splits in the wood were due to weather and were nothing to worry about. The representative was surprised about the ramps though and it was hoped that the rubber sheeting being ordered by Cooper & Denny would soon be in place.

11 WW1 Pillbox Working Group (CD)

The question of whether to go for Charity status for the project was discussed at length by the councillors. The pros and cons were explained by Cllr Linda Coe and by the Clerk. On balance, it was thought that it was better not to go down this route at the present time. The motion to keep everything under direct RPC management and not set up a CIC was proposed by Cllr Kim Harvey, seconded by Cllr Kalvyn Friend and all the other councillors agreed.

Cllr David Eccles had prepared two logos for the project and these had been circulated. He was congratulated on how good they were and the general consensus was that the one with the poppy was the best. Funding for the project was ongoing. An answer on the Adnams Grant application was due in early May, £5,000 had been pledged by the Reydon Society and it was hoped that the Southwold Society would match this. If they did then an anonymous donor would match the two. A Quiz to help with fund raising was to be held on 26th July and it was thought to be approximately 2 years to the official opening. Philip O’Hear would be taking over as Chairman from Laurence Vulliamy who had decided to step back and Dominic Knight had joined the working group.

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

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

“This month saw the start of our three mornings per week opening, which have proven to be quite successful. Our ‘regulars’ enjoy having an extra ‘bite of the cherry’, we have welcomed more new faces and we are able to distribute more foodstuffs with less wastage

We held our first Training Day on Tuesday 10th March, when volunteers, new and more experienced were able to meet over tea and cake and go through all aspects of a volunteer Pantry session. Explanations of why and how we do what we do were given and many questions answered. It is hoped to run another session for those who could not make this initial one.

Sarah was able to share with everyone that we are hopeful of adding Sainsburys at Pakefield to our list of suppliers in the near future.

It was agreed to try to arrange on-line training for those who need Food Hygiene and Safety Certification.” As an update to the above, Cllr Linda Coe said that 19 people had signed up for the Level 2 Online Training Course at £20 plus VAT per person, and it was agreed that this would be funded out of the remainder of the Pantry budget for 25/26.

In conjunction with RVH, free taster community sessions were taking place for exercising and keeping fit, all for the wellbeing of the community.

13 Footpaths Working Group (CD)

Cllr Chris Dixon said that the next Footpath Meeting was being held on Wednesday so there would be an update after this.

14 Reydon Village Hall (KH/DE/KF) Update

The next Village Hall Management Committee Meeting was not until 25th March so there was nothing new to report.

15 Reydon Robin (DomK)

Cllr Dominic Knight said there had been a good take-up for the next Robin which was on course for 2nd April.

16 Website (DomK)

Cllr Dominic Knight said that he would be giving the quarter stats at the next Parish Meeting. He was also looking towards creating a page for the Pillbox Restoration.

17 Correspondence (Clerk)

There was no correspondence to discuss.

18 Planning Committee (DomK)

Minutes of Meeting held on 16th March will be circulated in advance of the Meeting.

Applications:

DC/25/2677/FUL Redevelopment of the site to provide 36 Retirement Living (Use Class C3) apartments with associated communal facilities, parking and landscaping, land South Of Sole Bay Health Centre, Teal Close, Reydon, Suffolk. **Parish Council Planning Cttee objection submitted.**

DC/25/3322/FUL **Appeal**, Land To The Rear Of Larks Rising Easton Lane IP18 6SS and The Warren , Easton Lane, Easton Bavents, Reydon, Suffolk IP18 6SU

DC/26/0849/FUL Construction of two storey rear extension to existing dwelling, 21 Seaview Road, Reydon IP18 6RL **Parish Council Planning Cttee – no objections**

DC/26/0598/FUL Single storey infill and said extension. Bifold doors on east elevation, vertical heat treated tongue and groove timber on South elevation. Flat roof GRP construction, 118 Wangford Road, Reydon IP18 6NZ **Parish Council Planning Cttee – no objections**

DC/26/0921/FUL Ground floor in-fill extension. 9 The Crescents, Reydon IP18 6RT

Expiry Date 9th April 2026

Decided Applications:

DC/25/3679/DRC Discharge of Condition No 11 of DC/19/1141/OUT – Outline Application – Development of up to 220 dwellings with associated open space – Upgrades to southern FP – Land to the west of Copperwheat Avenue, Reydon IP18 6YD **Application Permitted**

DC/26/0125/LBC Listed Building Consent – Reconstruction of internal fireplace opening and installation of a working log burning stove – 59 Wangford Road, Reydon **Application Permitted**

In addition, Cllr Dominic Knight said that there would be another Planning Meeting on 1st April as several more new applications had come in to discuss.

19 Finance – (RFO)

A quote for a new seat on Reydon Corner had been received by the Clerk from Cooper & Denny and this was approved by the Councillors.

a) Invoices already paid

Gillian Graham	£122.10
E-on – Electricity Jubilee Green	£19.94
Playdale Playground Inspection	£312.00
Planning Meeting	£12.40

b) Invoices to be paid

Pantry Electricity	£91.30
Wills	£185.00
Pantry Driving	£168.30
Hall Hire	£60.00
Cooper & Denny – Replace leaking tap	£144.00
Cooper & Denny – Galvanised posts etc for sign	£351.00
Cooper & Denny – Repairs to burst pipe in shed, Climbing wall and burst pipe within standpipe	£291.60
Lynn Nicholls – Pantry Supplies	£117.66
Kalvyn Friend – Cllr Expenses – Mileage	£22.95
Ann Dobson – Salary at end of month	

c) Bank Balances and Reconciliation as at 28th February 2026

Commercial Instant Access Account as at 28th Feb 2026	£	251,449.19
Community Account as at 28th Feb 2026	£	601.00
TOTAL	£	252,050.19

d) CIL Money Remaining as at end February 2026 – £208.129

e) Working Budget (circulated prior to meeting)

20 Any Other Business

Last Call for Reydon Star Applications and Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting was to take place on Thursday 23rd April and there were currently nine nominations for awards. Any more were to be sent to the Clerk. The Clerk said she would prepare a poster for Facebook and the Website advertising this and Laurence Vulliamy was contacting Jenny Riddell-Carpenter with arrangements for the Reydon Star Presentations.

Community User Agreement

The Chair, Cllr Linda Coe, explained that Gareth Jones from St Felix had been due to attend the Meeting to give an update on this but had instead sent his apologies. She told the Councillors about the recent Meeting attended by herself and the Clerk with Gareth and also the Head of St Felix. At that Meeting it was intimated by the Head that the Agreement was ‘woolly’ but that community use was already happening for groups, just not for individuals. This would not be able to happen without significant investment by the Inspired Learning Group who owned the School. It was decided to take this up with East Suffolk Council who had signed the Agreement along with a representative from the School back in 2021.

Road Signs in Reydon

Cllr Linda Coe said that she was appalled by the standard of the road signs in the village in that they were really dirty and unloved. Various thoughts were put forward by the councillors as to how this could be rectified and it was decided to think more about this. In the meantime, it was suggested that if everyone cleaned their own road sign then this would at least be a start.

21 Date of Next Meeting

The next Meeting will be held on Thursday 9th April 2026 at 6.30 pm at Reydon Village Hall

The Chair closed the Meeting at 8.00 pm.