

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 9th April 2026

1 Present and Opening

Present:

Chair, Cllr Linda Coe, Vice-Chair, Cllr David Panther, Cllr Kalvyn Friend, Cllr Kim Harvey, Cllr Dominic knight, Cllr Dale Goldsmith, Cllr Chris Dixon, Cllr David Eccles, Cllr Mike Medland, Cllr Adele Coleman, SCC Cllr Michael Ladd, ESC David Beavan.

Clerk – Ann Dobson.

There were no members of the public present.

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

2 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllr Sarah Jerman and these were duly accepted by the Chair and Councillors.

3 Public Forum and Councillor Reports

Cllr Michael Ladd gave his report as follows:

“The inspection of Potters Bridge will be undertaken in April and hopefully the results will be available at the Highways meeting in the first week of May. The ruts and potholes on the bridge surface have now been repaired.

Suffolk County Council plans to invest nearly £4 million to improve and protect the public rights of way network. The network, which provides more than 3,500 miles of off-road access for walking, cycling and horse riding, is supported by 3,770 structures including bridges, boardwalks, revetments and signposts. It follows a comprehensive condition survey where the council has identified a programme of improvements to replace or refurbish ageing structures. The report says that over the next five years, 1,800 structures will need to be replaced or undergo major refurbishment.

A new scheme to remove parked vehicles from roads to be resurfaced has been agreed by the County Council. There is a large cost involved when Highways resurfacing crews turn up to resurface a road and there are still vehicles parked after being given prior notice, and they cannot undertake the work. In future any vehicle will be removed to a compound and the owner will have to pay a fee to get it back. Mount Pleasant and Princess Road in Reydon have not had resurfacing work undertaken recently due to parked vehicles.

The government has announced its decision on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Suffolk in 2028, opting for three unitary authorities. This is a major milestone in the future of local government in the county and reshapes how councils are structured and how services are delivered across the county. Each of the three new unitary councils will cover their own new geographical area: West Suffolk, East Suffolk, and South Suffolk and Ipswich.”

The Chair, Cllr Linda Coe, thanked Cllr Ladd for his report and, as it was his last Meeting, she also thanked him on behalf of all at Reydon Parish Council for all his support over the last 13 years.

Cllr David Beavan said that the result was now in about the re-organisation of the County and District Councils and he was pleased with the decision to have three unitary councils. These would be shadow councils from this time next year and then would come in to force fully in 2028. He went on to say that this would mean ward changes and Southwold and Reydon would be with all the surrounding villages including Wangford, Wrentham etc – 12 parishes in all. With regard to the proposed Blyth Bus, Cllr Beavan said they were still waiting on the licence but he was hopeful this would be in place by July and he was pushing for a one year pilot if possible. The bus would be very flexible in that it could go where the passengers wanted it to go, including Darsham Station. Those with a bus pass could use it for free and others would pay the

normal rate for a bus journey. He said it was important that passengers used it – “use it or lose it”. Cllr Beavan went on to say that The Harbour project was gradually getting there and there was a new Project Manager to take things forward. Static Caravan owners were aware of the rent going up. With regard to LionLink, Cllr Beavan said that the fight was continuing. Cllr David Panther asked if there was any progress on Copperwheat, and Cllr Beavan said that this was still going through the process, but he was pleased to see the affordable housing at the St Felix development was now available. 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 March 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

Crime Figures for January 2026

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

Annual Parish Meeting and Reports to Prepare

The Clerk said that the Agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting would be coming out shortly. She said that, for the benefit of new Councillors, this included reports from various Councillors on the key Working Groups and Committees, along with presentation of the Reydon Stars, with refreshments provided.

Audit Progress and Updated Documents

The Clerk reported that the Internal Audit was back and this had been circulated to all Councillors in advance of the Meeting. The Chair, Cllr Linda Coe, proposed a vote of thanks to the Clerk for all her hard work on the Audit, and Cllr David Panther seconded this. The Internal Audit was approved by all the Councillors. It was noted that there was still the External Audit to come and the Clerk said she would be working towards submitting this in the next week or so. The Audit Forms (AGAR) were signed by the Chair and RFO and noted under this Minute as approval for submission. The Exercise of Public Rights dates would be Wednesday 3rd June to Tuesday 14th July.

The Clerk said that the Internal Auditor had suggested a slight amendment to the Asset Register and that she had re-circulated this to all the Councillors ahead of the Meeting. This amended Asset Register was approved by all the Councillors and therefore adopted.

The Website Accessibility Document was approved by all the Councillors and therefore adopted. This had been updated after the work carried out the previous year to comply with the latest regulations.

8 Highways Committee (DP)

Cllr David Panther said there was nothing new to report.

Cllr Kalvyn Friend asked if there had yet been a discussion as to whether imposing a 40mph limit on the A1095 was a good use of public money. He had suggested Deer Signs instead. Cllr Panther said he questioned the effectiveness of Deer Signs and that the proposal for a 40mph limit had been agreed at previous Meetings. It was decided to ask the SCC Highways Engineer for his opinion and this was then to be discussed further at the next Highways Meeting at the beginning of May.

ACTION: Clerk to contact the Highways Engineer.

9 Finance Committee (RFO/DK)

There was nothing new to report as there had not been a meeting of the Finance Committee. It had been agreed to wait on the Internal Audit and now that this was back the Clerk said she would send some dates round to the members of the Committee so that a meeting could be arranged.

10 Green Spaces Working Group (MM)

Cllr Michael Medland gave an update on the outstanding Cooper & Denny work at the Recreation Ground. It was hoped this would all be completed very soon.

The seats for the bus shelters were also in production.

He went on to say that the proposed Pump Track was still at the information gathering stage and would be reported on again hopefully next month by which time another Green Spaces Meeting would have taken place.

Cllr Kalvyn Friend asked about the proposal some time ago for a MUGA at the Recreation Ground and whether this would be better.

It was agreed that Cllr Friend would investigate the installation of a MUGA and Cllr Medland would continue investigating Pump Tracks.

It was thought that it could be beneficial to see what the young people themselves would prefer and Cllr Adele Coleman said she would see if this could be included in a Parents Newsletter at the Primary School and that she would also speak to Sir John Leman.

Cllr Kim Harvey made the comment that there was so much equipment being considered for younger people but that there were other people in the community, especially older people, so it would be good to have things that they could benefit from too.

ACTION: Cllr Medland and Cllr Friend to investigate Pump Tracks and MUGA's and Cllr Coleman to speak with John Leman and the local primary school.

11 WW1 Pillbox Working Group (CD)

It was reported that Philip O'Hear and Laurence Vulliamy were to be interviewed for Radio Suffolk the following morning at 7.00 am and a Vote of Thanks was proposed by Cllr Linda Coe and seconded by Cllr David Panther for all the hard work they were doing on this project.

The Clerk explained why the GoFundMe page had been taken down. This was mainly because the organisation would not accept the funds being paid in to the Reydon Parish Council Account. Donations were still being sought, however, and it was hoped that all the donors who had their money returned would instead donate through Reydon Parish Council by contacting the Clerk. It was also hoped that the publicity being planned would encourage more donations to be made.

Cllr Kim Harvey said that her brother would be taking drone shots of the "before and after" of the project. It had been asked if RPC would lend £3,000 to the project which would be paid back when more donations were obtained. This would enable match funding to take place and work to begin. SALC had been asked for their opinion on this and had said that it was essentially coming out of RPC Reserves and this should be acceptable. Cllr Linda Coe proposed that the £3,000 loan be made to the project and Cllr Kalvyn Friend seconded. All Councillors were in favour.

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

Cllr Linda Coe had sent her report as follows:

"We continue to trial our new three day opening and all seems to be going well with people appreciating the additional slot we now offer. There is less wastage in that food deliveries are distributed sooner but it sometimes appears that we have less food to offer since foodstuffs are not sitting around too long.

Overall, things are looking good with regular customers glad of an extra opportunity to collect foodstuffs and new visitors coming to see what we have to offer.

Twenty-one volunteers are now undertaking Food Hygiene Training Level 2 with several having already completed their training online. Others are yet to start.

At the Reydon Village Hall Management Committee meeting, our proposal to build a free-standing independent Pantry was warmly received and I have met with our architect David Vaughan to take measurements and begin the project by drawing up plans to be submitted to East Suffolk Planning Dept for approval. David Eccles joined in that meeting to discuss our requirements and expand our ideas with David Vaughan. We will report back as soon as we have any developments."

Cllr Coe gave an update on her meeting with the Architect which had now taken place. The plan was for a building 12 metres long by 5 metres wide which would include a kitchen, a toilet, a delivery space and the 'shop'. Cllr David Eccles said that consideration would need to be given as to whether the building was to be fully self-sufficient, ie, utilities paid for separately to Reydon Village Hall. It was also discussed that a new Fire Assembly Point would need to be sought. Cllr Coe was asked about the next stage and she said this would be circulating the proposed plan as soon as she received it and then it would go for planning. Cllr Mike Medland made the point that the management of food waste was changing which could affect the provision of fresh goods in the future.

13 Footpaths Working Group (CD)

The Minutes of the recent Meeting had been circulated.

Cllr Chris Harvey said that the re- quote for the new village map had only gone up a small amount and it would include some advertising and walks etc. The King Charles III Walk – Footpath 8 – from Potters Bridge to the Pier was progressing with the Easton Bavents part being addressed.

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

It was reported that a new Treasurer had been appointed for the Management Committee and the insurance was now sorted. At the last Meeting the EV Charger at the Village Hall had been discussed with a request made to Reydon Parish Council for a change in the supplier. Several options had been given by the RVHMC and these were discussed at length by the Councillors, including the possibility of taking out the charger altogether. It was decided to continue the discussion at the May Meeting and, in the meantime, for the Clerk to contact Plug in Suffolk to get some more information about the options and also to email the Management Committee to ask for stats on how many people actually use the charger.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Plug in Suffolk and also the VHMC.

15 Reydon Robin (DomK)

Cllr Dominic Knight said that the Reydon Robin was out and distributed. Thanks were given to Cllr Knight for all his hard work on this. At the time the Robin was being distributed Southwold Town Council had been in touch to say that they had copies of the Residents Handbook available for Reydon residents that they thought could go out at the same time. Unfortunately, RPC did not know anything about this publication and the notification of its existence arrived too late. Cllr David Panther said they would need to go out to residents but it was agreed that it was too soon to ask the Robin delivery team to help with this. Cllr Kim Harvey asked if they could just be left in strategic places in Reydon rather than delivered to every house, but the general opinion was that individual delivery would be of most benefit.

Cllr David Eccles said that he thought RPC should have some involvement if there was to be another issue and Cllr Dominic Knight and all the other Councillors agreed with this.

Cllr Linda Coe said she would pick up the supply from the Town Council and let them know that they will be delivered but not immediately.

ACTION: Cllr Linda Coe to collect the Residents Handbooks from STC.

16 Website (DomK)

Cllr Dominic Knight said that this was ticking over with 3,500 active users. The number of UK users had fallen but this was thought to probably be because of the sensor at Potters Bridge being broken for a period of time, as this was displayed on the website, with a lot of local people checking it when they were intending to use the road.

17 Correspondence (Clerk)

There was no correspondence to report.

18 Planning Committee (DomK)

Minutes of Meeting held on 1st April will be circulated in advance of the Meeting.

Applications:

- DC/26/0921/FUL – Ground floor in-fill extension, 9 The Crescents, Reydon IP18 6RT
No objections by Planning Committee
- DC/26/0745/FUL – Single-storey rear extension, Montell, 56 Wangford Road, Reydon IP18 6QA
No objections by Planning Committee
- DC/26/0949/FUL – Single-storey rear extension, 20 Elliott Avenue, Reydon IP18 6QX
No objections by Planning Committee
- DC/26/0828/FUL – Porch extension to front and single storey extension to rear of property, 17 Hurn Crag Road, Reydon IP18 6RG
No objections by Planning Committee
- DC/26/1048/FUL – Demolition of existing side and provision of new side extension together with some internal alteration work and a raised patio at the rear, Harvesters, 19 Gorse Road, Reydon IP18 6NQ
No objections by Planning Committee as long as unadopted road not obstructed.

Decided Applications:

- DC/25/3875/FUL – Conversion of garage to letting room for Sizewell C and associated alterations – 27 The Drive, Reydon IP18 6PN
Application Permitted
- DC/26/0080/FUL – Bungalow conversion to 2 storey house – Hunters Walk, 1 Hill Road, Reydon IP18 6NL
Application Permitted
- DC/26/0442/FUL – The erection of a 1.8m high close boarded fence on the east boundary of the site returning westwards to meet the main house on the north east corner, together with hedge screening to the fence – 1 Nicholas Drive, Reydon IP18 6RE
Application Permitted

Cllr David Panther said that he had been telephoned by a concerned resident about the trees surrounding the new St Felix development. The resident said that it appeared some were being taken down and that it was currently nesting season and, in any event, it was not clear why they were being taken down. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Hill Developments and copy in the RPC Tree Warden, and that this would also be discussed at the next Planning Committee Meeting in May.

ACTION: Clerk to write to Hill Developments and report back.

19

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

High Speed Training – Health & Safety	£456.00
Sole Bay Arts Centre Donation	£1,000.00
G Graham – Salary	£171.05
Litter Picking Sticks	£12.49

b) Invoices to be paid

Wills	£185.00
Pantry Driving	£118.80
Hall Hire	£60.00
SID Battery - Westcotec	£84.60
New sensor for Potters Bridge - UDLive	£1,164
Extra electricity for Warm Mornings	£17.99
Warm Rooms Supplies	£52.40
Pantry Electricity	£91.30
Southwold Press – Reydon Robin	£603.00
Stationery – Debit Card	£20.00
Keith Seaman – Rec and Jubilee Green grass	£185.00
Planning Mtg – Debit Card	£9.00
Ann Dobson – Salary at end of month	

c) Bank Balances and Reconciliation as at 31st March 2026

Commercial Instant Access Account as at 31st March 2026	£ 252,445.02
Community Account as at 31st March 2026	£ 1,308.13
TOTAL	£ 253,753.15

d) CIL Money Remaining as at end March 2026 - £196,134.16

e) Working Budget (circulated prior to meeting)

20 Any Other Business

There was no other business as the Residents Handbook had been discussed earlier in the Meeting.

21 Date of Next Meeting

The next Meeting was to be the Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 23rd April 2026 at 6.30 pm at Reydon Village Hall.

The Chair closed the Meeting at 8.15 pm.