



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Reydon Village Hall on 17th September 2026

1 Present and Opening

Present:

Chair, Cllr Linda Coe, Vice-Chair, Cllr Dominic Knight, Cllr Kalvyn Friend, Cllr Kim Harvey, Cllr David Eccles, Cllr Dexter Kirk, Cllr Natalie Jones, ESC Cllr David Beavan(Part)

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 Mike Medland, Cllr Sarah Jerman, Cllr Dale Goldsmith, Cllr David Panther and Cllr Chris Dixon, and these were duly accepted by the Chair and Councillors.

3 Public Forum and Councillor Reports

ESC Cllr David Beavan was present at the Meeting. He began by saying that, as the Councillors would be aware, the planned local government reorganisation would not be going ahead at the moment and that elections would take place next May.

He said that the Council were slowly getting on top of the bin situation and he apologised on behalf of ESC for the hiccups. The food waste bin collections were still behind but were improving gradually. He urged the Councillors to contact him if they heard of a serious bin problem. Cllr Linda Coe said that RPC had contacted him about one resident and he said he was following that one up.

Cllr Beavan said that the McCarthy & Stone planning application had been refused by the ESC Planning Committee and RPC Councillors thanked Cllr Beavan for all his hard work on this. It was, however, thought it would go to appeal. Cllr Kalvyn Friend asked what would happen if the development went ahead but the properties didn't sell, although it was generally thought they probably would sell and that the problem with them was more when they needed to be resold, ie, when someone died or moved on.

Cllr Beavan went on to say that the proposed new planning changes which were coming into force on 31st October, meant that there would now just be one ESC Planning Committee, and they also meant local planning influence would be more constrained.

Cllr David Eccles said that he didn't feel Reydon needed any more large detached houses, as there were currently a lot for sale, and that he hoped when the Copperwheat development went ahead this would be reflected in what was built.

Finally, Cllr Beavan said that the harbour development was gradually getting there. The caravan site was progressing well with the plan being for less statics and more tourers.

Cllr Linda Coe thanked ESC Cllr David 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 of 20th August were unanimously agreed to be authorised by the Chair and were duly signed.

6 Matters Arising from the Minutes

Cllr David Eccles asked if there was any progress on the Neighbourhood Watch investigations. Cllr Dominic Knight said he had received an email from Nick, the person who had come to talk to the Councillors about

Neighbourhood Watch, offering to write an article for the Reydon Robin. The Councillors thought this would be a good idea. Cllr Linda Coe said she had not yet contacted the lady in Lakeside Park Avenue but would do so very soon.

ACTION: Cllr Dominic Knight to follow up re the article for the Robin and Cllr Linda Coe to make contact with the lady in Lakeside Park Avenue.

7

Clerk's Report

Crime Figures for July 2026

Location	Jul-26	Total 7 Crimes
	Details	Outcomes
Hill Road	1 x Violence/sexual offence	Under investigation
Moyse Ave	Anti-social behaviour	No timeline
Nicholas Drive	1 x Violence/sexual offence	Under investigation
Teal Close	1 x Violence/sexual offence	Under investigation
Teal Close	Public Order	Under investigation
The Firs	Public Order	Under investigation
Seaview Road	1 x Violence/Sexual offence	Under investigation

Councillors approved the updated reports circulated in advance:

RPC Internal Controls Policy

RPC IT Policy

RPC Data Protection and Information Management Policy

Terms of Reference for all RPC Committees

Cllr Dominic Knight queried whether an AI Policy should be introduced for the Parish Council and the Clerk said she would look into this.

ACTION: Clerk to set up an AI Policy.

The Clerk reported that a good number of colouring competition entries had been received. She also said that there had been a great response so far to the Parish Survey with another 250 copies printed and currently being distributed. The closing date for the Survey was the end of September and the results would be reported in full at the October Meeting but the Clerk gave some indication on responses so far which were largely in favour of amenities for children and young people of all ages.

8

Highways Committee (DP)

Cllr David Panther was not able to attend the Meeting but had sent in a note to say that all the grit bins were now full and ready for the Winter. Cllr Natalie Jones was thanked for taking and sending photos of the pavement issue at Might's Bridge ready for the next Highways Meeting in early October.

9

Finance Committee (RFO/DK)

Allotment Rent Review 26 (RFO)

The Clerk discussed with the Councillors the running costs for the allotments. In the last financial year, the allotments had cost £994.49 against allotment rents of £589.00. The current cost was £30.00 a year for a full plot and £15.00 a year for half a plot.

After much discussion it was decided to hold the rent for this coming year but to make it clear to the allotment holders that it was costing the PC a good deal each year and it was expected that allotment holders would, in return, be very careful when using water, to save on the water bill, and make sure their plot was kept in good order. They would also be asked to consider letting The Pantry have any excess produce so this could benefit the community.

Renewal Quote for RPC Insurance – circulated in advance (RFO)

The renewal quote had been obtained from CAS Insurance, and this showed an increase of around £200 on the current year. As this now included the Pillbox, plus more volunteers and increased turnover, it was felt that this was a good price and the Policy was authorised by all the Councillors to be paid.

Bank Account Changes (RFO)

The Clerk explained that because the PC had been receiving large amounts of CIL money this meant that the bank accounts were showing high balances and a letter had been sent to say that in November the 'Community' Account would be changed to a 'Business Account'. This meant more bank charges, especially for anything other than online transactions. The Clerk had queried this with the Bank who were looking into it but, assuming it did change, it was agreed by the Councillors that when the CIL money was spent it would be prudent to contact the bank again with a view to reverting back to a Community Account.

Approval for Back Pay for Clerk to 1st April 2026, and increase going forward, due to local government pay agreement in August 26.

The local government unions had agreed an annual pay rise to be backdated to 1st April. Cllr Dominic Knight approved the back pay to be paid to the Clerk and to adopt the new rate going forward. Cllr Kim Harvey seconded this, with all the Councillors in favour.

Mileage

Cllr Kalvyn Friend asked about the rate of mileage paid for an electric car, ie, was it 55p a mile, the same as for a petrol/diesel car and the Clerk confirmed that it was.

10 Green Spaces Working Group

Cllr Michael Medland was not present and the Councillors had been sent the following report in advance of the meeting:

"The Green Spaces working group did not meet over the summer, as the successive heatwaves brought growth of the flora to a standstill and I was away on an extended holiday for the last month, leaving little to report. The recent rainfall has since revived the grass on the recreation ground, and children have returned to play ball games and use the zip wires. At the last meeting, Cllr Harvey reported wastage of water on the allotments. Cllr Goldsmith suggested this may be due to some plot holders not securing their locks properly, allowing unauthorised access. I have chased Ben Cooper regarding the junior playground repairs and am awaiting a response. The Green Spaces working group is looking forward to the results of the Council survey, to establish whether residents are in favour of additional equipment being sited on the recreation ground. Finally, there has been considerable online comment following the e-petition regarding the proposed pump track, which received 137 positive votes online, with a further 75 signatures collected on a paper version at the Randolph."

11 WW1 Pillbox Working Group (CD)

Cllr Kim Harvey had just finished the Minutes from the recent Meeting and these were being circulated. The finances for the Pillbox were discussed and it was noted that there should be enough money left to finish the refurbishment which was what the money had been raised for. Cllr Linda Coe explained to Cllr Natalie Jones the background to the Pillbox project and the various discussions that had taken place with regard to the website and other expenditure outside the refurbishment itself. It was also explained that when the building was fully complete another discussion could take place about how the group would operate in the future, fundraising etc.

Philip O'Hear was going to give a talk on the Pillbox project at the Southwold and Reydon Society Lunch which would be very good publicity.

12 Cost of Living and Community Pantry (LC)

Cllr Kim Harvey said that supplies were slowly picking up. There was to be a Community Breakfast the following week and the plan was for these to continue throughout the Winter as a joint initiative between the Pantry and the Village Hall. The Clerk said that, if available this year, she would apply for the Warm Spaces Grant from ESC. Some of the volunteers at the Pantry had not been active for some time and it was agreed that Cllr Linda Coe and Cllr Harvey would go through the list of volunteers and bring them up to

date. Cllr Harvey said that currently the Wednesday was busier than Friday. Cllr David Eccles asked if records should be kept to see when the Pantry needed to close early etc, just to make sure it was still viable to build a new separate Pantry. This was to be discussed further if thought to be necessary. Cllr Coe said she had received a letter from Environmental Health re cooking smells from the Pantry and she assured them that there was no cooking taking place – the goods were coming in and handed straight out.

13 Footpaths Working Group (CD)

Cllr Chris Dixon was on holiday so there was no report this month.

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

Cllr Kim Harvey said that the last Village Hall Meeting had been very successful. The budget for the coming year was discussed and Nicholas, the maintenance person, gave his report. Fundraising was also discussed with some events proving more popular than others. Preparations were taking place for 8th/9th May next year which was the actual 50th Anniversary Weekend. It was thought the weekend could include a children's party, afternoon tea, a 70s disco on the Saturday and a tea dance on the Sunday. Cllr Harvey said there was now a new Bookings Secretary and her name was Hazel.

15 Reydon Robin (DomK)

Cllr Dominic Knight said he had received a suggestion that an amount of £5 could be added to the precept each year to cover the production of the Robin but he did not think this would be very popular with the residents. The deadline for the Christmas Robin was 17th November with publication on 10th December.

16 Website (DomK)

Cllr Dominic Knight said that he had given the Clerk a training session on the basics of the website so that she could assist with this in the future.

17 Correspondence (Clerk)

There was no significant correspondence to report.

18 Planning Committee (DomK)

A Planning Committee Meeting had taken place on 1st September with the following matters and conclusions discussed:

Ref: DC/26/2770/FUL – Demolition of front storm porch and rear sub-standard extension. Alterations to front entrance and erection of rear extension to form bedroom and shower. 29 Windsor Road, Reydon IP18 6PQ

The Planning Committee had no objections to this proposal.

Ref: DC/26/2798/FUL – New building for Southwold and Reydon Community Pantry, Village Hall, Lowestoft Road, Reydon IP18 6RF

As this was instigated by RPC, the Planning Committee felt this was a conflict of interest and should not comment.

Ref: DC/26/2919/VOC – Variation of Condition No 2 of DC/24/2390/FUL – Single storey rear and side extension. New front and rear dormers – Enlarge ground floor section and remove dormer window aspect. 10 Evans Close, Reydon, IP18 6PU

The Planning Committee had no objections to this proposal.

Ref: DC/26/2979/FUL – Demolition of the existing dwelling and construction of a replacement dwelling. 52 Halesworth Road, Reydon IP18 6NR

It was felt that this needed further discussion so as the closing date was 21st September it was deferred.

Decided Applications:

Ref: DC/26/1471/FUL – Construction of rear and side extension and erection of summer house, including demolition of garage and conservatory – 27 Hurn Crag Road, Reydon IP18 6RG

Application Permitted

Ref: DC/26/2899/CON – Proposed Decommissioning Works at Easton Broad Outfall – Easton Broad Outfall, Easton Bavents, Reydon.

Objections

Ref: DC/25/2677/FUL – Redevelopment of the site to provide 36 Retirement Living (Use Class C3) apartments with associated communal facilities, access, parking and landscaping – Land South of Sole Bay Health Centre, Teal Close, Reydon

Application Refused

Cllr Dominic Knight said that he and the Clerk had attended a Planning Forum at East Suffolk Council where the new Planning changes were discussed. These changes were coming direct from central government and would come into effect as from 31st October. It meant that, going forward, Planning Officers would be making far more decisions themselves, with less applications going to the ESC Planning Committees, and that, in reality, local parishes would have less ways to influence the decisions. Cllr David Eccles suggested this should be mentioned in the forthcoming Reydon Robin so that residents were prepared.

A further Planning Committee Meeting had taken place on 16th September and this was discussed at the Parish Council Meeting. Cllr Dominic Knight had sent the Councillors a proposed response to Planning Application DC/26/2979/FUL- 52 Halesworth Road - it was agreed to object to this proposal. The other proposal that had been discussed at the Planning Meeting was Planning Application DC/26/3013/FUL – 5 Shearwater Way, and this was to be discussed further by the Planning Committee.

ACTION: Cllr Dominic Knight to liaise with the other members of the Planning Committee re DC/26/3013/FUL and formulate the response by 25th September and Clerk to enter the response regarding DC/26/2979/FUL.

19 Finance – (RFO)

a) Invoices already paid

David Panther – Wildflower Seeds	£84.99
CAS – Mailbox for Cllr Natalie Jones	£27.00
Feed All Children	£5,000
E-On D/D Electricity Jubilee Green	£21.00
Gillian Graham – Salary	

b) Invoices to be paid

Southwold Press – Residents Survey	£90.00
Southwold Press – Parish Map	£833.00
SN Groundcare Ltd	£140.00
Hall Hire	£24.00
Ann Dobson – Stationery	£22.56
Pantry Driving	£217.80
Pantry Electricity	£333.83
WP Bees – Pillbox Website Interim	£180.00
Wills – Reydon Corner and Bridgefoot	£210.00
Ann Dobson – Salary at end of month	

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

Commercial Instant Access Account as at 31st August 2026	£ 321,258.00
Community Account as at 31st August 2026	£ 601.00
TOTAL	£ 321,859.00

d) CIL Money Remaining as at end August 26 - £265,723,93

e) Working Budget (circulated prior to meeting)

20 Any Other Business

Cllr Kalvyn Friend said that there was an untended property at 22 Seaview Road that was causing issues with neighbours. It was agreed that photos would be sent to ESC for them to investigate.

ACTION: Clerk to send the photographs to ESC.

21 Date of Next Meeting

The next Meeting would be held on Thursday 22nd October 2026 at 6.30 pm at Reydon Village Hall.

The Chair closed the Meeting at 8.10 pm.