



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Reydon Village Hall on 22nd October 2026

1 Present and Opening

Present:

Chair, Cllr Linda Coe, Cllr David Eccles, Cllr Mike Medland, Cllr Chris Dixon, Cllr Sarah Jerman and Cllr Dale Goldsmith. ESC Cllr David Beavan(Part)

Clerk – Ann Dobson. There were four members of the public present.

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

2 Apologies for Absence

There were apologies for absence from Cllr Dominic Knight, Cllr David Panther, Cllr Natalie Jones, Cllr Dexter Kirk, Cllr Kalvyn Friend and Cllr Kim Harvey. These were duly accepted by the Chair and Councillors.

3 Public Forum and Councillor Reports

There had been a children's colouring competition as part of an anonymous donation to the Reydon Robin, and Freddie, aged 4, had drawn the winning entry. He came along to the meeting and was presented with his prize to a round of applause from all the Councillors. His entry would be featured on the back page of the Christmas Reydon Robin and the 4 runners up would also be included in the magazine.

ESC Cllr David Beavan began his report by saying that there were big planning changes from next month in that much more was being delegated to planning officers. He said that it was important for everyone to get involved in the new Local Plan being produced and that Neighbourhood Plans needed to be up to date and reflect what the community wanted.

Cllr Beavan went on to say that there was some movement on Copperwheat. He wanted to say that the Councillors should not be worried if they saw a reduction in the number of affordable houses being sought. The reason was that if the developers got planning for 50% affordable homes, they would not get any Homes England funding. If they got planning for 40% affordable homes, they could get Homes England funding for the 10% additional homes, which closed the viability gap but produced the same result. It was also expected that not so many large houses would now be built as there was a surplus in the village. Cllr Beavan said that he still had high hopes of getting the Community Bus going in the New Year and the licence had already been obtained.

He said that Potters Bridge was okay at present but a close eye on it was necessary as there had not been too much rainfall so far.

The Coastal Path was still not open at Easton Bavents but it was hoped that this would be soon be resolved.

Cllr Beavan said that the bin situation was definitely getting better - the food waste bin collection was not quite there but nearly. He said that if anyone knew of surplus bins to let him know.

Finally, Cllr Beavan reminded everyone that the normal elections would be taking place next May.

Cllr Linda Coe asked if anyone had any questions for Cllr Beavan. She herself asked about the McCarthy & Stone application and whether Cllr Beavan knew if the applicant had appealed. Cllr Beavan said that he didn't think they had yet.

Cllr Linda Coe thanked ESC Cllr Bevan for his report.

Philip O'Hear and Laurence Vulliamy were in attendance at the meeting to give a presentation on the progress of the WW1 Pillbox restoration at Might's Bridge.

Philip O'Hear began by saying that it was a tremendous feat by all concerned for the Pillbox to have been acquired by the Council, along with a metre of land, in order for it to be refurbished and repurposed.

He had sent round a report to all the Councillors in advance of the Meeting so said he did not intend to go over all that was in that report, but he did say that Cooper & Denny had finished most of the work now. At a site meeting on Wednesday, the path and handrail had been discussed and it was decided to try and get just a bit more land for access if possible.

The History Trail plans were going well. SCC Rights of Way Department had said they would put in the posts and plaques etc, which would then linked by QR codes to the relevant page on the website. He went on to say that the website itself was currently on hold – a RPC decision – but he hoped it could be finished soon. A board giving information about the History Trail was possibly (with permission) to be placed in the Millenium Car Park as well as at the Pillbox site itself.

Cllr Linda Coe said that the Councillors understanding had been that the money raised was for the restoration of the Pillbox itself and that they had known nothing about the History Trail, which was why the Group had been asked to put the website on hold.

Philip and Laurence said that they understood this thinking, although the History Trail seemed to link in very well with the Pillbox. They went on to say that the Working Group did not want to be independent of the Parish Council but an integral part of it.

Laurence Vulliamy commented that it had been said that Reydon did not have a lot of history on offer, but the Pillbox and the History Trail demonstrated that it was, in fact, a special place with a lot of history.

Cllr Mike Medland asked who would run the website, and the history trail etc when it was all set up. Philip said that SCC Discover Suffolk had been very helpful and may well be able to help.

It was thought by the Councillors that there would need to be a hierarchy for when the Working Group came to an end as the Pillbox and History Trails would be ongoing projects. This was to be discussed further at a later date. Philip did say, however, that local trusts were interested and that the costs, once it was all completed, would be minimal.

Laurence felt that Council should be more enthusiastic about the project, but it was pointed out that asking questions did not show a lack of support, but was merely to gain more understanding.

Philip and Laurence were thanked by the Chair for coming to the Meeting and giving all the Councillors a full insight in to the project so far.

4 **Declarations of Interest**

There was one declaration of interest from Cllr David Eccles regarding a CIL application, which was acknowledged by the Chair and Councillors.

5 **Minutes of Last Meeting**

The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 17th September were unanimously agreed to be authorised by the Chair and were duly signed.

6 **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising from the previous Minutes.

7 **Clerk's Report**

Crime Figures for August 2026

Location	Aug-26	Total 5 Crimes
	Details	Outcomes
Hurn Crag Road	Criminal damage & Arson	Investigation complete - no suspect identified
Queens Road	Theft	Investigation complete - no suspect identified
Keens Lane	Vehicle crime	Investigation complete - no suspect identified
Green Lane	Bicycle theft	Investigation complete - no suspect identified
Green Lane Close	Drugs	Under investigation

Councillor Approval for Dates for Meetings in 2027

The Clerk had circulated the suggested dates for the 2027 Meetings and these were approved by the Councillors.

ACTION: Clerk to book the Village Hall for the Meetings.

Update on Allotment Rents and New Tenants

The Clerk reported that all bar a couple of allotment rents had been received and the remaining tenants were being contacted. A few had given up and there were four new tenants. Cllr Dale Goldsmith had met with two of them.

Bus Shelter Damage

The Clerk reported that the refurbished bus shelter at Boydens Stores had been damaged. The noticeboard locks had been broken and the magnets removed. The company who did the refurbishment had been contacted for replacement locks to be sent and new magnets had been purchased. Cllr Linda Coe said there was also some graffiti in the shelter.

8 Highways Committee (DP)

Cllr David Panther was not present but had sent in the following: "I did see the mobile speed camera deployed by the bus stop at the junction of Halesworth Road and Lakeside Park Drive on Saturday 17th October. I assume this relates to the traffic surveys at the beginning of July where the 85th percentile speeds in the 30mph zone were 38mph".

9 Finance Committee (RFO/DK)

Minutes from Meeting circulated in advance.

Cllr Dominic Knight was not present but had said in advance: "The circulated minutes provide a clear and accurate summary of what was discussed and decided, and I have nothing further to add to them".

10 Green Spaces Working Group (MM)

Zip Wire at Rec.

Cllr Mike Medland explained that the zip wire ramp had been vandalised rather than it being a fault. It was thought that electric bikes had been the cause. Ben Cooper had said they could take the ramp away and deconstruct it, mending the hole with silicon and then putting synthetic grass back. This would cost in the region of £200-£300.

ACTION: Cllr Medland to follow up and report back.

New Bus Shelter Seats (KF)

Cllr Kalvyn Friend was not present but the Clerk explained that the bus stops opposite Reydon Corner on the Halesworth Road, and the one near Lakeside Drive, did not currently have seats. It was agreed by all the Councillors that these could be fitted.

ACTION: Clerk to notify Cooper & Denny.

11 WW1 Pillbox Working Group (CD)

This had been discussed earlier in the Meeting with Philip O'Hear and Laurence Vulliamy giving their presentation.

The Councillors felt that it was necessary to come up with a plan for any tours that would be taking place, including Health and Safety, a Risk Assessment and PLI etc. As discussed earlier, there would also need to be a chain of command. It was still felt that the refurbishment should be fully completed before worrying about finishing off the website.

12 Cost of Living and Community Pantry (LC)

Cllr Linda Coe began by saying that whilst there had been a lack of supplies during the summer this certainly wasn't the case now. There was an abundance of stock coming in on a daily basis, sometimes almost too much. She went on to say that Planning Permission had been granted for the new pantry to be built and the architect was just waiting on the Councillors decision before going ahead with the drawings necessary for Building Regulations and then to go out to tender. It was asked how much had been spent so

far and this was thought to be approximately £4,000. It was hoped that a new Pantry could also house a proper Foodbank as well as fulfilling its current function.

£500 for the Pantry had been received from Blyth Valley Rotary and they had been thanked for their generous donation.

13 Footpaths Working Group (CD)

Cllr Chris Dixon said that the Easton Bavents part of the King Charles III Coastal Path was still not open and the landowner had been dumping stuff, which wasn't helping. She also said that part of the existing path had been vandalised with anti-monarchy graffiti.

The dyke at Potters Bridge now had plastic boarding.

The distribution of the Reydon Map would be with the Reydon Robin but copies had also been left in various places in Southwold and Reydon. Cllr Dixon said that it wasn't yet on the website and the Clerk said she would speak to Cllr Dominic Knight about that.

Cllr Dixon said that the footpath from the Lowestoft Road to the Pier was getting narrow again and the Clerk said she would see if the Payback Team could help with this.

ACTION: Clerk to speak with Cllr Knight re the link to the map and to the Payback Team regarding the narrow footpath.

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

The Minutes of the most recent Meeting at the Village Hall had been circulated. Cllr David Eccles also said that the lighting of the car park was being improved as it was currently not safe for evening visitors. There was to be a coffee morning on 30th October.

15 Reydon Robin (DomK)

Cllr Dominic Knight had sent in the following: "The deadline for copy for the *Reydon Robin* is fast approaching – 27 November, ahead of publication on 10 December. I will be contacting all previous contributors next week to get the ball rolling; some copy has already arrived.

We also plan to feature a dedicated page for the Christmas Competition runners-up, alongside the winning entry on the back page. David and I were hugely impressed by the overall standard of entries, and found it a real challenge to narrow them down. Congratulations and well done to everyone who entered!"

16 Website (DomK)

Cllr Dominic Knight had sent in the following: "The website continues to perform strongly. According to Google Analytics for the last quarter (1 July to 30 September), the site recorded 2.9k active users and 2.6k new users, with an average engagement time of 28 seconds. Compared to the same period last year, active users are up by 44% and new users by 32%. Traffic came primarily from the United Kingdom, followed by Singapore, the United States, Brazil, Pakistan, the Netherlands, and Bangladesh. The most visited pages were the main Village Homepage, Amenities, Agendas/Minutes/Notes, and the Parish Council page. On a related tech note, GovAssist is proving to be a really useful tool, and well calibrated for the needs of local government business. I signed up for their recent planning webinar, but frustratingly it was cancelled at short notice".

17 Correspondence (Clerk)

There had been correspondence from two Reydon residents who were very concerned about the behaviour of certain motorcyclists in the village riding on footpaths and/or speeding, specifically in the Reydon Woods, Keens Lane area, as well as at the back of St Felix School. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to the Police, who were already aware of the issue, to ask them to maintain an enhanced presence in Reydon, acting with culprits accordingly, until the issue improved.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Suffolk Police.

Planning Committee (DomK)

Cllr Dominic Knight was not in attendance but had sent in the following report: “We have not held a planning meeting since the last full Parish Council meeting, as the volume of applications has slowed once again. We only had a single application to consider, the details of which are listed in the Agenda. Beyond that, it should be noted that the new Town and Country Planning Regulations come into force at the end of this month, just over a week away. As outlined in the document I circulated to all councillors, this could mark a significant shift in how we as a parish council are involved in planning decisions”.

New Applications:

DC/26/3337/FUL – Glazed extension to rear of dwelling creating garden room and window seat.

Permission is also sought for amendments to existing attached garage roof to allow for south orientated photovoltaic array. 10 Lakeside Close, Reydon, IP18 6YA Response on Portal

Planning Committee has no objections subject to certain conditions being met.

DC/26/3448/FUL – Demolition of conservatory and construction of single storey extension, internal and external alterations, improvement to parking area and associated landscaping. – Warren Cottage, Rissemere Lane East, Reydon, IP18 6SW Response by 9 Nov 2026

Decided Applications:

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 Application Permitted.

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

DC/24/2390/FUL – Non-material amendment and Variation of Condition No 2 – Single storey rear and side extension, enlarge ground floor section and remove dormer window aspect – 10 Evans Close, Reydon IP18 6PU Application Permitted.

Finance – (RFO)

a) Invoices already paid

Linda Coe – Wreath for Remembrance Sunday	£23.00
Linda Coe – Councillor Expenses	£17.48
Linda Coe – Bags, paper towels etc for Pantry	£57.00
E-On D/D Electricity Jubilee Green	£21.81
Meeting Costs	£12.20
Gillian Graham – Salary	£165.84
Wills – summer/winter bedding	£611.96
Ann Dobson – Voice Amplifier for Meetings	£33.98
HMRC quarterly D/D	£1,023.96

b) Invoices to be paid

Hall Hire	£50.00
SN Groundcare	£205.00
Pantry Driving	£338.80
Pantry Electricity	£158.45
Ann Dobson – Printer Ink and Magnets	£62.73
Wills – Reydon Corner etc	£225.00
Philip Burkill – War Memorial Cleaner	£12.70
Ann Dobson – Salary at end of month	

c) Bank Balances and Reconciliation as at 30th September 2026

Commercial Instant Access Account as at 30th September 2026	£	328,334.11
Community Account as at 30th September 2026	£	601.00
TOTAL	£	328,935.11
TOTAL AUG PLUS SEPT RECEIPTS	£	328,935.11
MINUS SEPT PAYMENTS		

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

e) Working Budget (circulated prior to meeting)

20 Survey Results and CIL Allocation (LC)

The results of the recent survey were discussed briefly by all the Councillors. It was decided, however, to defer a full discussion and voting to the next Meeting when there would hopefully be more Councillors present. In the meantime, it was suggested by Cllr Sarah Jerman that the Councillors took a look at the Barn Close Play Area to see whether it was, in fact, a suitable location for a new nature space.

21 Any Other Business

Remembrance Sunday

Cllr Coe said that the usual bugler for the service was in hospital and she asked if anyone knew of a suitable replacement. Nobody did so she said she would pursue a couple of names she had been given. The wreath had been purchased and Cllr Kalvyn Friend was to be asked to put up Tommy and Cllr Kim Harvey would decorate it etc.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Cllr Friend.

Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Linda Coe said she had a meeting the following Monday with Helen Nicholls to see if she would consider extending her Lakeside area.

Resignation

Cllr David Eccles officially tendered his resignation from the Parish Council due to other commitments. He said, however, that he would like to return in the future when he had more time available. Cllr Linda Coe thanked him profusely for all his hard work whilst a Councillor and said he would be very welcome to return when he felt the time was right.

22 Date of Next Meeting

The next Meeting would be held on Thursday 19th November 2026 at 6.30 pm at Reydon Village Hall.

The Chair closed the Meeting at 8.30 pm.