Reydon Parish Council

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Minutes of the Parish Meeting held in the Village Hall on 19th September 2024 at 6.30 pm.

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Present:

Chair, Cllr Pam Cyprien, Vice-Chair Cllr David Panther, Deputy Vice-Chair Linda Coe, Cllr Dominic Knight, Cllr Kim Harvey, Cllr Dexter Kirk, Cllr Mike Medland, Cllr Kalvyn Friend, Suffolk County Councillor Michael Ladd.

Clerk – Ann Dobson.

Present and Opening

There was one member of the public present.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting which began at 6.30 pm.

2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from ClIr Mellory Birch, ClIr Sarah Jerman and East Suffolk ClIr David Beavan and these were duly accepted by the councillors.

3 Public Forum

Cllr Michael Ladd gave his monthly summary. He said that SCC regretted that the devolution plan had been scrapped after a lot of work had been put into it all. He said that he had attended the Community Partnership Meeting where there had been talk about funding and foodbanks, including whether the foodbanks should be operating some form of means testing, and the next Scrutiny Committee meeting (which he chaired) was planned for October. Everyone agreed that the newly opened Gull Wing Bridge was a great achievement for the area and would help a lot in terms of accessibility from and to Lowestoft and through Lowestoft.

Cllr Ladd went on to say that a portacabin had been sourced for the Sole Bay Mens Shed and this should be ready in the next few months. The Sole Bay Mens Shed was aimed at those living on the Reydon side of the A12 and currently there were around 15 members. He said that local trusts and public funding would be sought – tools were already being donated - and it was suggested that The Pantry could give out leaflets or put one up to advertise it when the portacabin was ready.

At this point, Cllr Pam Cyprien thanked Cllr Ladd and welcomed Adele, the member of the public who was present, as Adele had indicated that she wanted to attend a Parish Meeting with a view to becoming a Councillor.

Cllr Cyprien went on to say that with the current cost of living situation – increased fuel prices, scrapping of the winter fuel payment for many pensioners etc, it was more important than ever to keep The Pantry going and Adele mentioned there was also the Rapid Relief Team who offered food boxes to those in need and that she would send details to the Clerk.

4 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5 Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting on 15th August 2024 were unanimously agreed to be authorised by the Chair and duly signed.

6 Matters Arising from the Minutes

All matters still outstanding were to be followed up under their respective headings later in the meeting.

Clerk's Report

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Crimes – July 2024 – 2 Reydon, Other Crime, 11 Southwold, 3 Burglary, 3 Criminal Damage and Arson, 1 Other Theft, 4 All Other Crimes.

The Insurance Quote for RPC which had already circulated to Councillors was proposed for approval by Cllr David Panther, seconded by Cllr Kalvyn Friend, and unanimously agreed by all councillors.

Possible Closure of Reydon Pharmacy (DexterK)

Cllr Dexter Kirk gave an overview of the information he had obtained from various sources regarding the possible closure of the Reydon Pharmacy. He said that he understood that, along with many pharmacies currently, it was running at an unsustainable loss. Cllr Cyprien said that closure would be a disaster for the local community and the other Councillors agreed. Whether the pharmacy would actually close was still unknown and Cllr Kirk said he would continue to liaise with everyone involved and pass on any updates he was able to obtain.

Highways Committee (DP)

Cllr David Panther began by saying that the Minutes from the recent Highways Committee Meeting had already been circulated and he would just give a brief summary of recent events.

With regard to Quay Lane, Cllr Friend had spoken with the landowner who had in turn spoken with the tenant pig farmer about reducing the flow of rainwater and silt on to Quay Lane. It had been established by Suffolk County Council that it was not a drain problem causing the flooding but rather the silt and effluent coming from the fields. Wayne from SCC Highways said that their Drainage Team were being asked to make sure the silt on all the banks was taken away.

Cllr Panther went on to say that he was hoping the Nightingale Avenue Parking Restrictions would soon be going ahead. It was now more urgent as the Dentists were moving in to the Health Centre. Cllr Ladd said he hoped this would go through next month.

A new SID Pole on the Wangford Road had finally been approved by SCC and Cllr Panther said this would be invoiced to the Parish Council when completed. This would cost £300 which could come out of the CIL Highways Budget.

With regard to the Copperwheat Development, Cllr Panther reiterated that the Construction Traffic Plan had been withdrawn by Orbit and a new Plan was currently being worked on. Orbit were to attend the Parish Council Meeting in October and the Plan would hopefully be out before then. Orbit had said that they would apply to change Keens Lane in to a bridleway, mainly with a view to allowing cyclists to use it, but one resident had sent in a concerned email to the Clerk as he was worried about horses then using the path. The Parish Council had tried to reassure him, as it was not a likely route for horses, but had also assured him that his comments had been passed on to the relevant people at East Suffolk and Suffolk County Councils.

Cllr Panther said the Parish Council were currently waiting on visitor stats from Old Hall Farm which would help when making a re-application to the Council for a 40 mph limit to run from Wolsey Bridge to St Felix School and the Clerk said she would chase this.

Finally, Cllr Panther asked the other Councillors if any of them would be willing to join the Highways Committee as there were only currently two Parish Councillors. There was no immediate agreement but everyone was asked to think about it and contact Cllr Panther or the Clerk if they were interested. ACTION: Clerk to chase Old Hall Farm for visitor stats.

10 Finance Working Group (DomK and Dexter K)

First of all, Cllr Dexter Kirk asked for approval to spend approximately £1,500 on the RVH Survey out of CIL money. This was approved by Cllr Linda Coe, seconded by Cllr Kim Harvey and unanimously agreed by all the other Councillors.

The Clerk gave details of the other quotes that had been received for various improvements at the Village Hall totalling approximately £23,000 plus VAT (including the survey) and the Councillors unanimously agreed on these being approved. It was also agreed that Reydon Parish Council would pay the invoices when presented to them so that the VAT could be reclaimed.

Cllr Kirk commented that it is difficult to justify spending CIL money on two community halls. It was also agreed that the PC should take legal advice regarding long term responsibilities for the village hall maintenance and management as the constitution/conveyance document is complicated and difficult to interpret. The document seems outdated and should probably reviewed, e.g. some of the organisations that are listed as being represented on the management committee are no longer active.

Green Spaces Working Group (PC)

Prior to the meeting, the notes from the recent Green Spaces Site Meeting at the Rec had been circulated by Cllr Mike Medland, along with a suggested plan for the new play equipment together with pictures and pricing.

Cllr Kalvyn Friend said that he was not happy that the installation of a MUGA appeared to have been dropped as he thought this was a very important part of the original proposal and would encourage team games etc. Cllr Dexter Kirk agreed with Cllr Friend.

Cllr Mike Medland disagreed saying that he didn't think a MUGA was needed and that a couple of goal posts would do just as well and some of the other Councillors agreed. Cllr Medland said that surely the Sports Pavilion would be the place for a MUGA rather than the Rec which was a more informal space. Cllr David Panther said that a compromise could be reached by getting the playground equipment first, but not ruling out the possibility of adding the MUGA later, ie, doing it in two stages.

There was general agreement with this and it was decided to ask the representative from Playdale to make a further site visit and price everything out and then a final decision would be taken.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Playdate and arrange a further site visit to make sure the selected equipment would work in the space and to re-quote for it.

A quote had been obtained by Cllr Mike Medland for repairing the currently broken swings. This was thought to be a high quote and ClIr Friend said that he would speak to Cooper & Denny about doing this instead. He said he would then report back on costings etc.

ACTION: Cllr Friend to speak with Ben at Cooper & Denny and report back to the Councillors.

With regard to the allotments, it had been discussed earlier in the year that a skip would be a good idea at the end of the summer so that the tenants could get rid of their rubbish in one go. It was agreed that the Clerk should investigate the cost of a skip for a week and also what could be placed in it.

ACTION: Clerk to investigate the cost of a skip and the 'rules' regarding rubbish disposal.

The Clerk said that the allotment renewals were due on 1st October and she asked if the rents were to increase. The Councillors unanimously agreed that as these had not been increased for years, it was in order to increase them to £15 annually for half a plot and £30 annually for a full plot, but that this should include a small contribution to the cost of the water.

ACTION: Clerk to write to the Allotment Holders to inform them and ask for their annual payments.

12 **Community Pantry (LC)**

Cllr Linda Coe gave her report as follows:

"This has proven to be a busy month for the Pantry, with some new volunteers coming forward to help in the Pantry and we have decided that the time is ripe for the introduction of Volunteer Agreements. These are informal statements of what volunteers can expect from the Administration team of the Pantry and also what we expect from them. As the group grows larger, we feel it's important that we have some sort of written connection with our group of helpers.

We have also experienced a rise in numbers using the Pantry, including new faces who have either just heard about us, or decided that they would like to come and see what we have to offer. As tourist numbers drop off, so our donations from the local supermarkets have increased, giving lots of choice for our customers. Allotment donations have also been very good meaning there has been an increase in the fresh fruit and vegetables on offer.

A problem with the new freezer meant a visit from the Foster technician but as the freezer is under warranty, this was at no cost and was done very quickly.

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I have applied to RPC to fund two one day courses on volunteer management which I hope to complete by the end of November.

Thanks as always to Kim and Sarah for their invaluable contributions to the smooth running of the Pantry".

Cllr Coe also said that there were plans for the Village Hall Management Committee to host a monthly coffee morning through the Winter with refreshments and the Pantry had been asked to help with food for this. The Councillors all agreed this was an excellent idea and the Clerk said she would include this in the Cost of Living Grant she was currently seeking from East Suffolk Council.

13 Village Hall (LV)

The Notes on the meeting of the Reydon Village Hall Management Committee had been circulated in advance of the Parish Council Meeting. There were no questions on these from the Councillors.

14 Reydon Robin (DomK)

Cllr Dominic Knight said that due to personal time constraints currently, Laurence Vulliamy, the former Editor of the Reydon Robin, had kindly agreed to take over preparing for the Autumn edition, for which he was extremely grateful. The deadline for copy and publication had been pushed back to 4th and 17th October respectively and a sponsor was still being sought. Some further suggestions were given to the Clerk to try. The Parish Council was asked to approve financing the whole edition if a sponsor could not be found and also to approve giving the back page to the RNLI to utilise as a very worthwhile charity locally. The Councillors unanimously approved both requests. Cllr Knight said that there were possible sponsors for the Christmas and Spring editions.

15 Website (DomK)

Cllr Dominic Knight said that the website was currently being used to advertise the Councillor role as well as the Robin, and during the last month the Southwold and Reydon Choral Society had been listed.

16 Latest Developments with Nautilus and LionLink and Sealink (PC/DomK)

There was nothing new to discuss here.

17 Correspondence (Clerk)

There was no correspondence to discuss.

18 Planning (DomK)

Planning Report and Minutes (already circulated) by the Planning Committee Planning Decisions:

DC/24/2314/DRC - Discharge of condition Nos 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18, 22, 24 and 29 on DC/23/2401/FUL – Phased development, including creation of a new outdoor bowling green, demolition of front part of bowls club building, creation new side extensions to the bowls club building, creation of new bowls club car park, development of changing facilities, development of eight homes, creation of new vehicular access and alterations to existing vehicular access, demolition of three existing buildings – Cycle Storage – EV Charging – Site Investigation – Remediation Strategy – Completed Remediation Strategy – Validation Report – Ecological Enhancement Strategy – Landscaping Scheme – Garage staircase screening measures – 50 Halesworth Road, Reydon, Southwold IP18 6NR.

Application Permitted.

DC/24/1598/DRC – Discharge of Condition No 26 of DC/19/1141/OUT – Outline Application – Development of up to 220 dwellings with associated open space – Construction Traffic Management Plan – Land to the West of Copperwheat Avenue, Reydon. Application Withdrawn. DC/24/2509/FUL – Single storey extension comprising entrance hall and additional bedroom – 11 Three Marsh Lane, Reydon, Southwold I18 6NP. Application Permitted. DC/24/2150/AME -Non-material Amendment to DC/22/0462/ARM – Approval of Reserved Matters of DC/15/3288/OUT – Outline application to enable improvements to Saint Felix to include residential development, public open space and associated infrastructure on the former playing field at Saint Felix School. Appearance, landscaping, layout and scale, pursuant to outline permission DC/15/3288/OUT for the development of 55 dwellings – Land South of Halesworth Road, Reydon.

Application Permitted.

DC/24/2547/FUL - Flat roof extension to the side - Frierns, Mount Pleasant, Reydon IP18 6QQ

Application Permitted.

DC/23/4736/FUL – 4 Residential properties to be built to replace 3 cottages lost to erosion and 1 house due to be lost in next 20 years. Replacement properties to be highly sustainable and demountable. No additional access required onto public highway. High quality design, low impact and sympathetic to AONB with landscaping to enhance the area and biodiversity. Properties will be closer to amenities than those they are replacing – Larks Rising, Easton Lane, Reydon IP18 6SS. Application Refused.

New Applications:

DC/24/2944/FUL

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Construction of a new 3 bedroom detached dwelling (Use Class 3) (Self Build) 70 Wangford Road, Reydon Southwold, IP18 6NX

The Planning Committee recommended refusal on the following grounds: overdevelopment on plot, loss of privacy for neighbours, and construction traffic challenges on a busy junction of the road. The Councillors unanimously agreed with this decision.

Finance (RFO)		
a) Invoices already paid		
Amended Invoice for RVH Hire	£65.00	
b) Invoices to be paid		
E-On Electricity Jubilee Green (D/D)	£20.61	
Gillian Graham Litter Picking	£114.40	
Pantry Electricity August	£116.30	
Annual Insurance	£1,150.42	
Linda Coe Leadership Training	£80.00	
Linda Coe Keys for Pantry	£18.00	
Pantry Driving	£171.45	
Wills – Grass, vegetation, trees etc at		
Reydon Corner	£310.00	
Planning Mtg Refreshments – A Dobson	£8.70	
Keith Seaman – Jubilee Green and Rec	£180.00	
Reydon Village Hall – Hall Hire	£42.50	
Ann Dobson Clerk Salary (end of month)		
c) Bank Balances and Reconciliation as at 31 st July 2024 Starting Balances:		
Business Account as at 31 st July 2024	£90,535.98	
Treasurers Account as at 31 st July 2024	£601.00	
TOTAL	£91,136.98	
Receipts August 2024	£642.34	
Expenditure August 2024	£2,161.81	
TOTAL JULY PLUS AUG RECEIPTS		
MINUS AUG PAYMENTS	£89,617.51	
d) CIL Money		
CIL Balance as at end of Aug 2024	£30,178.28 (More allocations may be made	
retrospectively)		
e) Working Budget (circulated prior to mee	eting)	

Any Other Business

Delivery Lorries in Sea View Road (KF)

Cllr Friend said that there was a big problem with delivery lorries in Sea View Road and that this had been an issue for some time. Cllr Panther suggested this went on the Agenda for the next Highways Meeting to see if anything could be done. Cllr Friend said he would send some photos to illustrate the problem.

ACTION: Clerk to add to next Highways Agenda. Cllr Friend to send some photos to Clerk.

Reydon Village Hall Noticeboard (PC)

Cllr Cyprien said she had received an email saying that the noticeboard at the Village Hall which was managed by the Reydon Village Hall Management Committee was not being updated regularly and that old notices were not being removed. It was agreed that the photo would be passed on to the Village Hall Management Committee.

Suffolk Coastal Communities Research (PC)

Cllr Cyprien said that the email regarding this had been circulated and that she was to be interviewed by the Social Life Team shortly as Chair of the Parish Council. Cllr Coe said she too was being interviewed on behalf of The Pantry.

21 Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next Parish Council Meeting would be on Thursday 17th October at 6.30 pm in the Village Hall.

The Chair closed the Meeting at 8.00 pm.

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