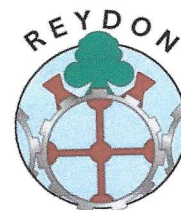


Reydon Parish Council

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Minutes of the Parish Meeting held in the Village Hall on 23rd January 2025.

1 Present and Opening

Present:

Chair, Cllr Pam Cyprien, Vice-Chair Cllr David Panther, Cllr Linda Coe, Cllr Dexter Kirk, Cllr Dominic Knight, Cllr Adele Coleman, Cllr Kim Harvey, Cllr Mike Medland, Cllr Mell Birch, Cllr Kalvyn Friend, Cllr Chris Dixon, ESC Councillor David Beavan, SCC Councillor Michael Ladd.

Clerk – Ann Dobson.

There was one member of the public present.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Sarah Jerman who was not feeling well, although she did attend for a short time to take the vote on the Playground Equipment for the Recreation Ground. Cllr Jerman's absence for the rest of the meeting was duly accepted by the other Councillors.

3 Public Forum and Councillor Reports

A local resident gave an update to the Councillors on the Traffic Calming measures for the Copperwheat Development. He had been in contact with Joe Blackmore at East Suffolk Council and there was to be a meeting between Joe and the Suffolk Highways Officer, but this meeting was postponed as the SCC Officer had moved on. He said that Joe and the new Officer would need to come up with a plan but he had no more information at the present time. Cllr David Panther thanked the resident for all his efforts and said this would be added to the next Reydon Parish Council Highways Committee Meeting for further discussion.

ACTION: Clerk to add to Highways Agenda.

Suffolk County Councillor Michael Ladd gave his report as follows:

“So far since October 24 Suffolk County Council have used 5807 tonnes of salt on the road network with around 900 individual gritting runs. The new gritting fleet is equipped with advanced digital planning software to support drivers to grit their routes efficiently and effectively. All gritters use hydrotreated vegetable oil which reduces carbon dioxide emissions by around 90%. During the previous winter season SCC used around 7822 tonnes of salt to treat a total distance of 123,400 miles of highway. SCC currently have a stock of around 21,000 tonnes salt across the County so is well prepared for what the next few months will bring.

SCC has a budget of around £752 million. Of every pound we spend, 77p is dedicated to supporting people directly. This includes vital services such as adult and children's care and public health. These services are a lifeline for many, providing essential support to some of our most vulnerable residents. The remaining 23% of the budget is used to fund other critical areas such as fire and rescue, maintaining roads and pavements, climate initiatives, managing waste, and bus services. It also supports the infrastructure, staffing and technology needed to keep the council and its services running. The proposal for Council Tax is 2.99% plus 2% Social Care Precept. The decision on CT and the Budget will be made at the mid-February Full Council Meeting.

SCC is joining with other local authorities in the region to challenge National Grid and the Government on energy projects, demanding fairness for their communities and environment. These are typically related to energy projects, including solar farms, wind turbines, pylons and the infrastructure associated with offshore wind farms, such as substations and cabling. Two of SCC's main concerns, shared with the other counties, are: The uncoordinated approach to NSIPs - this is creating significant challenges for Suffolk's rural communities under the current planning policy as applied by the Planning Inspectorate

and Secretary of State. The Government's 2030 target for decarbonising the electricity grid – this is too hasty, making it impossible to deliver alternative solutions to pylon projects like Norwich to Tilbury. SCC held an extraordinary meeting of Councillors, and a meeting of its Cabinet, to debate and then decide on whether or not to put Suffolk forward for the government's new devolution and reorganisation programme. The Government required that formal notice be given if Suffolk wishes to be part of the Devolution Priority Programme by 10 January 2025. Therefore, the full council meeting held on 9 January 2025 saw all 75 Councillors debate and vote on a proposal to recommend Suffolk is at the front of the queue. Following the full Council meeting, the Cabinet confirmed the Council decision to be put on the Devolution Priority Programme. This might mean that the May 25 SCC Elections will be cancelled but more details will emerge in the next few weeks."

East Suffolk Councillor David Beavan said that it was a critical time for the Southwold Harbour Project. He went on to say that Council Tax would be the 2.9% maximum allowed and that 6 million of ESC reserves had been needed to 'balance the books'. There was no progress on Potters Bridge at the present time. He said he thought that devolution would be a good thing and that hopefully the parish and town councils would be able to play more of a part as a result of it.

4

St Felix School

Mrs Halcyon Meldrum was invited to the Parish Council Meeting to talk about St Felix and the local community and the Chair, Cllr Pam Cyprien welcomed her.

Mrs Meldrum began by saying that she was speaking on behalf of the School and that the Headteacher was very keen to work with the community. One of their recent initiatives was a 'Service Project'. The juniors were working with the Rotary Club and the Seniors were volunteering at the Old Hospital Site. She said that any other suggestions were very welcome. Another initiative was to work more closely with the local schools and invite them on a Sports Activity Day aimed at Year 5 children and bussing them in to the school. The longer term aim was to provide a leisure centre that was open to the public, with the sports hall, 2 squash courts, the gym and the swimming pool. She said that this was not ready yet though and there was still work to be done for it to be available to the public and school and the same time with the safeguarding issues this entailed.

Cllr Dexter Kirk said that, in his opinion, getting the pool sorted would greatly improve the school's PR. Mrs Meldrum went on to say that the football pitch itself was already in use but the changing rooms were waiting to be signed off.

In terms of other community involvement, Mrs Meldrum said that two pupils had been elected to take up their seats in East Suffolk Youth Council, one as the Chair.

Mrs Meldrum was questioned about the viability of the school and she said that a lot of investment was being put in to it and the new Headteacher, Mr Matthew Oakman had vision and very good ideas for the school to be individual rather than competing with other schools. This included a new curriculum and she felt the future was positive.

Cllr Pam Cyprien raised the matter of the County Wildlife Site and Mrs Meldrum said that Gareth Jones would be the best person to talk to about this.

Cllr David Panther mentioned the footpath at the back of St Felix that led across to Southwold and he said this was quite dangerous. He went on to say that some time ago (under the previous administration) the Parish Council had approached the school to see if they could put down some aggregate to make it safer. They were, at that time, threatened with a court injunction if they went ahead. Mrs Meldrum said that she had spoken with the Headteacher and Gareth Jones and they would welcome working with the Parish Council over this.

Mrs Meldrum was thanked by the Chair for coming to speak at the Meeting.

5

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

6

Minutes of Last Meeting

The Minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting on 12th December were unanimously agreed to be authorised by the Chair and duly signed.

7 Matters Arising from the Minutes

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

8 Clerk's Report

Crimes: Nov 24. Southwold – 6 (2 burglary, 1 drugs, 1 other theft, 2 all other). Reydon – 1 (violence and sexual offences).

There were no queries regarding the budget figures, bank rec etc that had been circulated but the Clerk said that if anything needed further explanation to contact her separately.

The Clerk said she had been working through the comments made on the External Audit last year ahead of this year's Audit later in the year.

Finally, the Clerk explained that as there were only two signatories for banking, payments etc, she had initiated Cllr Linda Coe being added so there were Cllr Cyprien, Cllr Coe and the Clerk/RFO to check and initiate everything banking wise now. It had been considered sensible to choose Cllr Coe in view of her involvement with the Reydon Pantry and the finances to do with this.

9 Highways Committee (DP)

The Minutes of the last Highways Meeting had been circulated to the Councillors since the last PC Meeting.

Cllr David Panther said that the most recent flooding in Quay Lane had not needed any outside intervention but had dissipated naturally. The Nightingale Avenue parking restrictions were still proceeding but at a slower pace than previously expected. An enquiry had been made with SCC about putting some Children Playing signs up at the Recreation Ground as new play equipment was being installed. It had been thought there was already a sign though, so it was agreed to have a look and see if it was still there as a first step and then add to the next Highways Meeting Agenda if it was not.

ACTION: Cllr Linda Coe said she would take a look and report back.

10 Finance Working Group (DK)

Cllr Dexter Kirk reported that the recent third quarter end budget figures had shown that 65% of the budget had been spent, so all was on track for the year end.

11 Green Spaces Working Group (PC)

The subject of the new playground equipment at Reydon Recreation Ground had been discussed at some length in previous meetings, so at this meeting the main aim was for the Councillors to vote for the company they thought offered the best value and standard of equipment. To begin with the Clerk read out the three quotes. These were as follows:

Playdale Playgrounds	£61,340.00 plus VAT
Elevate Play	£55,375.20 plus VAT
Wicksteed	£57,499.44 plus VAT

All twelve Councillors voted and the results were:

Playdale Playground	9
Elevate Play	0
Wicksteed	3

Playdale Playgrounds were therefore voted to be the winning Contractors.

ACTION: Clerk to follow up with all companies, thanking the unsuccessful ones for their time and liaising with the successful company regarding booking in the work, and to place the winning bid on Contracts Finder.

Cllr David Panther said that Steven Westlake, who had already planted some daffodil and narcissi bulbs and also bluebells in The Drive area, on the corner where it joined the Halesworth Road, had also offered to start a wildflower patch behind the bus shelter. Steven had said he would kindly donate the seeds and his labour. This would mean hiring a heavy duty scarifier for a day or so though and the total amount would be in the region of £175. He asked the Councillors if they were in agreement with this

and all were in favour. Cllr Kim Harvey asked if the immediate residents had been consulted and Cllr Pam Cyprien said she had spoken with them and they were very happy about this happening.

ACTION: Cllr David Panther to follow up with Steven Westlake.

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

Cllr Linda Coe had circulated the report as follows:

“ A very cold start to the year has seen plenty of visitors to the Pantry, again with many new faces. We were saddened however, to lose two of the regular people who came to see us, David Woods and Micky Button. Both will be sorely missed by our volunteers.

We have been working on developing our Tuesday opening, which had to be moved from the morning to afternoon session, due to a clash with the regular Yoga class. It was felt we would be too noisy and disrupt the calm ambience of the yoga. We have been able to put together a rota which will cover every Tuesday, rather than every other Tuesday and this will begin in February. The building work which has been going ahead precluded the Pantry beginning the new opening in January.

Referencing the building work, the new opening windows are expected to be fitted within the next week and will help with lowering the temperature experienced in the Pantry during the summer months.

We were very grateful to Adnams giving us approximately 250 individual Christmas puddings and we are now receiving two days' worth of donations from the Cornish Bakery in Southwold on a weekly basis, along with our regular donations from Tesco's, the Co-Op, Bookers and KFC.

Thanks as always to Kim for sorting the rotas and Sarah for sorting her weekly drivers rota, to all our volunteers and drivers.”

In addition, it was reported that the Tuesday opening was now in operation and the Pantry was open every Tuesday from 12.30 pm until 3.00 pm. This was going out on social media too.

Cllr Pam Cyprien said she thought the Parish Council should send a letter of thanks to the suppliers who were doing such a good job of keeping the Pantry supplies going.

ACTION: Cllr Linda Coe to liaise with the Clerk and give her the list of suppliers so she could thank them.

13 RPC Vision and Strategy Document (PC)

Cllr Pam Cyprien said that this was coming up for its annual review and she asked the Councillors to read the document through and let her know of any ideas so these could be discussed at a future meeting.

14 Village Hall (KH)

Cllr Kim Harvey said that the decorating and electrical work etc had now been done and the bin situation had been sorted out, with the Pantry now having a big bin free of charge. She said that the Google diary had been shut down.

A bill had come to light for an architect's fees when some investigative work and the possibility of an extension on the back of the Village Hall was being considered back in 2022/23. Subsequently the building had been found have a limited lifespan so this was not pursued. It transpired that the bill had never been paid as the Architect had said there was no hurry for payment at the time. Cllr Mell Birch asked whether RPC should be paying it rather than RVH and Cllr Mike Medland said he couldn't find any Minutes authorising the bill to be paid. However, Cllr Dexter Kirk said that the Architect was owed that money and it would reflect badly on the Parish Council, who owned the Village Hall, not to pay it. Eventually all the Councillors agreed to this being paid with Cllr Mell Birch saying that in future bills should always be paid at the time they come in.

ACTION: Clerk to ask for the Invoice to be reissued to Reydon Parish Council with the current date on it.

15 Reydon Robin (DomK)

Cllr Dominic Knight said that the deadline for the next issue was 21st March with publication on Thursday 3rd April. He said that Laurence Vulliamy was kindly doing the editing. It was asked who was sponsoring this issue and Cllr Linda Coe said she would speak with the Rotary Club and the Bowls Club to see who was going to sponsor the Spring issue. Cllr David Panther asked if the December issue could be a little

earlier this year so that it was easier to find people to distribute the magazines as this got more difficult closer to Christmas.

ACTION: Cllr Linda Coe to check on sponsorship.

16 Website (DomK)

Cllr Dominic Knight had distributed some Google analytics data prior to the Meeting and these had shown some very interesting stats. The current logo was questioned as it was not thought to be very effective and it was agreed to add this to the next Agenda for further discussion.

17 Discussion on possible change to Gov.uk email addresses (PC)

Cllr Pam Cyprien had circulated the notes from a SALC webinar she had attended before Christmas about this giving the pros and cons of the Parish Council moving over to this. Basically, it could just be the Clerk's email address that changed, or everyone's and the website too. Cllr Dominic Knight was very much against taking a Gov.uk email address as he felt it differentiated the Parish Council from the people in the community and that a Gov.uk email address was more likely to attract hackers. Cllr Chris Dixon said she agreed. Cllr Kim Harvey and Cllr Mike Medland were in favour of adopting a Gov.uk email address. In the end it was decided not to pursue this at the present time.

18 Discussion on recording Parish Council Meetings (MM)

Cllr Mike Medland introduced this Agenda item by saying that in view of recent discussions and misunderstandings he felt it would be helpful to record meetings in the same way as some other Councils do. There were mixed feelings amongst the Councillors on this, especially regarding the acoustics in the Village Hall. In the end it was decided that a part of the next meeting would be recorded on a Smartphone and then a vote would be taken.

19 WW1 Pillbox (PC)

Cllr Pam Cyprien began by giving some background to this in that it is a very rare Pillbox and its future had been discussed by the Parish Council since 2018. It had been in private ownership but just two weeks ago the Parish Council had finally taken ownership of it legally along with a one metre area around it. In order to plan the restoration of the Pillbox a Working Group would be needed and Cllr Cyprien asked for some Parish Councillor volunteers to join other local volunteers to work on this project. Cllr Kim Harvey, Cllr Chris Dixon, Cllr Linda Coe and Cllr Pam Cyprien all said they would be interested.

20 Correspondence (Clerk)

The Clerk said she had received a few emails about footpaths, specifically the one between the Lowestoft Road and Easton Bavents. There was one dangerous patch on this footpath that had been reported to SCC and, in addition, it had been arranged for the Payback Team to cut back along the path and it was expected that this would be taking place within the next few weeks.

21 Planning (DomK)

The Minutes from the last Planning Meeting had been circulated.

Planning Decisions:

DC/24/3653 -Two storey rear extension and new porch – 25 Halesworth Road, Reydon IP18 6NJ
Application Permitted

DC/24/2507 – Convert single storey bungalow to two storey chalet bungalow – 1 Nicholas Drive, Reydon IP18 6RE
Application Permitted

DC/24/3393/DRC – Discharge of Condition 2, 7, 9a, 14 of DC/20/2917/FUL – Conversion of barn structure to 2 dwellinghouses comprising installation of sewage package treatment plants and associated landscaping. Erection of 2 no associated detached cartlodge garage structures – Materials/Finish, Ecology, Contamination, Landscaping – Easton Farm (Main Barn) Easton Lane, Easton Bavents, Southwold IP18 6ST
Application Permitted

DC/24/2955/FUL – Construction of a new 3 bedroom detached dwelling (Use Class C3) (Self Build) – 70 Wangford Road, Reydon IP18 6NX Application Permitted

DC/24/3833/CLE – Certificate of Lawful Use (Existing) – Conversion and use of former outbuildings for use of two dwellinghouses (use class C3) Redundant Outbuildings at High Wood Farm, Rissemere Lane, East Reydon. Application Permitted

DC/24/3978/FUL – For demolition of existing garage and front porch, new two storey side extension, single storey rear extension, single storey front extension and PV array to roof – 36 Kingfisher Crescent, Reydon, IP18 6XL Application Permitted

New Applications:

DC/24/4563/TPO, TPO/120/2022 – works to be carried out as per submitted schedule of works and plan. Oaklands House Residential Home, Lowestoft Road, Reydon IP18 6RY

Consultation:

Demolition of existing anaerobic digestion facility and the construction and operation of an anaerobic digestion facility and associated infrastructure. Reydon AD Plant, Adnams Eco Distribution Centre, Halesworth Road, IP18 6SG.

Appeal:

DC/23/4736/FUL - Site at Larks Rising, Easton Lane, Reydon IP18 6SS. Appeal against the decision by ESC to refuse planning permission for 4 residential properties to be built to replace 3 cottages already lost to erosion and 1 house due to be lost in the next 20 years.

The Councillors approved the Planning Committee decisions.

22

Finance (RFO)

a) Invoices already paid

E-on D/D	£27.98
Wave Water (Reydon Corner)	£181.07
Gillian Graham Litter Picking	£114.40 (Nov/Dec)
Credit from Wave re Allotments	£87.70 CR

b) Invoices to be paid

Dorcas Rogers Warm Mornings (sundries)	£41.24
Pantry Electricity December	£98.62
Gillian Graham Litter Picking	£114.40 (Dec)
Pearce & Kemp RVH Lighting (RVH)	£3,815.77 plus VAT (VAT to be reclaimed and part paid by RVH)
Hall Hire 23.1.25	£20.00
Paper bags for Pantry (Linda Coe)	£15.98
Pantry Driving	£161.10

Ann Dobson Salary and Expenses at end of Month

c) Bank Balances and Reconciliation as at 31st December 2024

Starting Balances:	
Business Account as at 30 th Nov 24	£172,743.98
Treasurers Account as at 30 th Nov 24	£601.00
TOTAL	£173,344.98
Business Account as at 31 st Dec 24	£173,206.33
Treasurers Account as at 31 st Dec 24	£601.00
TOTAL	£173,807.33
TOTAL OCT PLUS NOV RECEIPTS	
MINUS NOV PAYMENTS	£173,807.33

- d) CIL Money Remaining as at end December 24 £111,424.41
(Mostly set aside for Play Equipment and Village Hall Repairs)
e) Working Budget (circulated prior to meeting)

23

Any Other Business

Update on dog bin at Harrison Green (KF)

Cllr Kalvyn Friend said he had been to look at this with Nick and four people they spoke to whilst they were there said they didn't want it moved, but that another bin might be useful. A discussion ensued and, in the end, it was decided to move the dog bin just across the road so it was further away from where the children played but not to add a further bin at this time. Cllr Mike Medland confirmed that the Council had approved the new siting of the current dog bin.

ACTION: Cllr Kalvyn Friend and Nick to get the dog bin moved to its new position.

Possible public meeting with Charlotte Fox to talk about Sealink and other energy projects.(PC)

Cllr Pam Cyprien explained that there had been a meeting at Westleton Village Hall where the various energy projects had been discussed and it had been thought it would be useful to have another public meeting at Reydon Village Hall. Charlotte Fox of SAND had agreed to talk at this and Cllr Cyprien thought that probably SEAS could be represented too. It was unanimously agreed that this would be a good thing to set up.

ACTION: Clerk to see about feasibility of arranging this for end Feb/beginning of March.

Memorial Bench (PC)

A local resident, David Woods, had recently died and, as he had been responsible for instigating the planters and the bulbs etc on Reydon Corner as well as being much loved by the residents of Reydon, it was thought a bench in his memory, sited on Reydon Corner, would be an appropriate gesture. The family had been asked and were very happy about this happening. All the Councillors agreed with this going ahead and it was to be paid for with CIL money.

ACTION: Clerk to look into a suitable recycled bench.

Footpath Working Group

Cllr Mell Birch, Cllr Kalvyn Friend, Cllr David Panther and Cllr Chris Dixon all said they would be willing to form this Group and it was agreed that they would set up a first meeting as soon as possible.

Possible Meeting with Anglian Water (PC)

Cllr Pam Cyprien asked the other Councillors whether they thought a further meeting with Anglian Water should be arranged now that the Copperwheat development was happening but it was not thought that this would be particularly beneficial at the present time.

Allotment Holders Meeting

Cllr Pam Cyprien asked Cllr Mell Birch if she thought the Allotment Holders would like to have another Allotment Holder's Meeting this Spring and Cllr Birch said she thought they would. It was agreed to set this up for April or May.

Parish Map

Cllr Dexter Kirk asked if the Parish Map was going to be revisited and it was agreed to add this to the February Agenda.

24

Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next Parish Council Meeting would be on Thursday 20th February 2025 at 6.30 pm in the Village Hall.

The Chair closed the Meeting at 8.37 pm.

