

# **Reydon Parish Council**

**Ann Dobson – Clerk to the Council**

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## **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2025**

### **1 Present and Opening**

#### **Present:**

Chair, Cllr Linda Coe, Vice-Chair Cllr David Panther, Cllr Dominic Knight, Cllr Kalvyn Friend, Cllr Kim Harvey, Cllr Mike Medland, Cllr Chris Dixon, Cllr Sarah Jerman, Cllr Dale Goldsmith, Cllr David Eccles. ESC David Beavan  
Clerk – Ann Dobson.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **2 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies had been received from SCC Councillor Michael Ladd who was on holiday and Cllr Adele Coleman who was unwell, and these were duly accepted by all the Councillors.

### **3 Public Forum and Councillor Reports**

Councillor David Beavan was present and gave his report:

Cllr David Beavan started by saying that East Suffolk Council were in favour of three unitary councils as part of the new devolution and local government reorganisation. They felt this would best meet the needs of the local population. He went on to say that he thought a final decision would be taken next year.

He said that a recent housing stock survey had showed ESC housing fell short of acceptable standards in at least 50% of the housing for which they were responsible.

In answer to the Chair's question about housing density figures for Reydon he felt the Copperwheat scheme would satisfy the criteria and he was very much in favour of the amount of proposed affordable housing the scheme would provide.

He spoke about the current situation at the harbour and the caravan site which was only producing an annual income of £150,000. However, he believed this sum should increase to one million pounds after the planned upgrade to the area was completed in a couple of years. A survey of the harbour estimated it would require six million pounds to adequately protect it from serious flooding, which of course was unaffordable. ESC had suggested that if the LionLink cables were brought ashore on the northern side of the harbour then the works to bury these cables could form an additional sea wall defence.

Cllr Beavan went on to say he was disappointed with the lack of progress from various agencies in producing plans to avert the flooding at Potters bridge and as the current water level was already high, flooding was inevitable once autumn and winter came.

There was a member of the public present who was very much against the Copperwheat development going ahead. They were not happy that the construction management traffic applications reserved matters applications had recently gone through without listening to local residents. It was pointed out by the Chair that, although the Parish Council understood her concerns, the development would go ahead despite any local opposition – the original outline application had been approved several years ago -- and that the developers had, apparently, only consulted as a courtesy. It was also said that at least the developers had listened regarding not using Quay Lane or Mardle Road. Cllr Beavan was asked when he thought the building would start and he said he thought it would probably be in 2026.

SCC Councillor Michael Ladd had sent in the following report:

#### **“Suffolk's once-in-a-generation, state-of-the-art fire control room goes live:**

Delivered in just 18 months, a short timeframe for a project of this scale, the initiative involved building a brand-new contact centre from the ground up, recruiting and training an entirely new team, and implementing bespoke configurations tailored to all the communities in Suffolk. The new control room, powered by cutting-edge technology from Motorola Solutions, now serves as a future-ready, cloud-enabled hub for managing critical 999 emergency calls across the county. The decision to invest in a new control room for the county was made in 2023, following recognition that the previous system was no longer fit for purpose. The legacy system's increasing fragility meant the fire service could no longer depend on or guarantee the resilience that Suffolk's communities deserve.

**Council secures funding for sustainable libraries and schools:**

They will see low-carbon heat pumps installed, replacing aging fossil fuel boilers to reduce maintenance costs and significantly lower emissions. Suffolk County Council recently secured £675,000 from the Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme, delivered by Salix, for these improvements. The scheme is run by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero.

**Improving Suffolk's roads - an update on the summer surface dressing:**

As summer sets in, Suffolk Highways is pleased to announce the successful completion of the first phase of its 2025 surface dressing programme – a vital tool in maintaining and extending the life of our county's roads. Surface dressing is a cost-effective and efficient method of road maintenance that prolongs the life of existing road surfaces, helping to avoid more disruptive and costly repairs in the future. The process involves spraying a layer of hot bitumen onto the road, followed by a layer of stone chippings. These chippings are then rolled into the surface to create a new, textured layer that improves skid resistance and seals the road against water ingress – a major cause of potholes and structural damage over time. This method enables us to treat a large area quickly and economically.

**Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service acts early to manage hot weather:**

The plan aims to maintain an effective and efficient emergency response during the period of hotter weather and will remain in place until a decision is made - through ongoing multi-agency discussions - that the additional measures are no longer required. It includes safeguarding the welfare of wholetime and on-call crews and working collaboratively with other emergency services, Suffolk County Council, and Ipswich Borough Council to ensure a coordinated approach to planning and prevention. As part of its wider preparations, SFRS is also collaborating with farmers across the county who are trialling specialist couplings designed to enhance emergency access to on-farm water supplies during wildfires and other rural incidents. The trial aims to enhance firefighting capacity and reduce response times across Suffolk's countryside.

**Our Youth Justice Plan puts children at the heart of what we do:**

Last month Suffolk's Youth Justice Board presented its Youth Justice plan for 2025/26 to Suffolk County Council. I'm pleased to say that following a debate, which included the importance of considering the victims of crime as well as the need to help young people avoid a vicious cycle of criminality, was endorsed by the council. As with any good plan – children are at the heart of this strategy.

**Sea Link paperwork reveals plans for large solar farm near Friston:**

The information has come to light, as the applicant of the energy site, BL Solar 12 (Helios Energy Park) Limited, has submitted papers to the Planning Inspectorate as part of preparations to examine National Grid's Sea Link project. Suffolk County Council is currently preparing its reports for the Sea Link examination, as a statutory consultee. It will now carefully consider the potential cumulative implications of the new Helios solar farm project on local communities and the environment.

**Suffolk County Council wins government funding for autonomous vehicles:**

Suffolk County Council has secured £75,000 of government funding for a feasibility study exploring how to introduce self-driving shuttle vehicles into the county's transport network. The ADASTRA study is one of 14 initiatives across the UK selected for funding through the Connected and Automated Mobility (CAM) Pathfinder Feasibility Studies Competition in support of the government's ambition to establish a £40bn CAM sector by 2040. The council has been working with design experts Smart City Consultancy to assess the technical, operational, and regulatory requirements of incorporating autonomous shuttle services into a future network of mobility hubs across the county.

**All Suffolk food waste to be processed in the county:**

This will mean a more efficient, environmentally friendly and cheaper way to deal with Suffolk's food waste, with weekly household kerbside collections beginning in 2026. Suffolk County Council and Bio Capital have agreed a four-year contract to process food waste at the recently approved anaerobic digestion plant at the Adnams Distribution Centre, in Reydon near Southwold. Around 31,000 tonnes of household food waste could be sent to the new facility each year, which will be processed to generate green fuel (biomethane), and turned into soil fertiliser – meaning Suffolk's food waste is put to better use. The food waste has another life, being turned into renewable energy and nutrient-rich digestate that can be used to improve soil health. This will benefit our local farmers by helping to maintain productive, sustainable farmland right here in Suffolk."

**4****Declarations of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

- 5       **Minutes of Last Meeting**  
The Minutes of the Parish Council Annual Meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> July were unanimously agreed to be authorised by the Chair and duly signed.
- 6       **Matters Arising from the Minutes**  
There were no matters Arising from the Minutes that were not being discussed later in the Meeting.
- 7       **Clerk's Report**  
Crimes: May 2025: Reydon 7 – 2 Anti-social Behaviour, 2 Public Order Offences, 2 Violence and Sexual Offences, 1 All Other. Southwold 5 – 3 Violence and Sexual Offences, 1 Other Theft, 1 Public Order Offences.  
Cllr Medland Crime Report for June circulated.  
Local Government Pay Agreement reached for Parish and Town Clerks – 3.2% backdated to 1<sup>st</sup> April.  
The Clerk reported that she would be sending a precis of each meeting to Southwold Gazette and Reydon Society each month in future as Southwold Gazette did not always have the space for the full minutes.
- 8       **Proposed Parish Council Meeting Dates for 2026**  
These dates had been circulated in advance and were approved by all the Councillors.
- 9       **Highways Committee (DP)**  
Cllr David Panther gave an overview.  
With regard to Potters Bridge, he said that Suffolk Highways had not yet undertaken their survey, but he did feel a degree of trepidation with regard to the results when it did take place, if they discovered that it was in a state. Cllr Kalvyn Friend said that it was an important route for emergency vehicles so surely that would be a factor, but Cllr Panther said that if Natural England abandoned the marshes, the Environment Agency would no longer be duty bound to stop any flooding, which would make the situation even worse.  
With regard to Copperwheat, as previously reported, the CTMP had been approved, and the PC were still waiting to hear about the planned chicanes on the Wangford Road.  
The subject of the 40mph restriction on the A1095 from Wolsey Bridge to the 30mph speed limit at St Felix was still being pursued, especially with the increased traffic for the new Biodigester and the visitor numbers obtained from Old Hall/Maize Maze, but it had been suggested by Cllr Michael Ladd that the PC wait a little longer before submitting a new application, as there was currently a SCC review taking place.  
The ANPR had recently been deployed in Hill Road and the PC were waiting on the stats.  
**ACTION: Clerk to chase the stats and also ask when Reydon could next have the ANPR.**  
With regard to the trees on the Lowestoft Road, Cllr Panther said that a winter hard cut had been requested.  
With regard to parking for Reydon Primary School this was being followed up by the Clerk with a plea to the school to ask parents to park respectfully and not block resident's drives or carer access.  
Finally, with regard to the crossing on the Halesworth Road by the new St Felix Development, Cllr Panther said that the understanding had been that this would have the usual white lines etc, but all it did have was a dropped kerb and tactile paving. This had been discussed at the last Highways Meeting, and Cllr Michael Ladd had said he would raise it with the Road Safety Team to see if they could take a look and at least put up warning signs.
- 10      **Finance Working Group (DK)**  
Cllr Dominic Knight said, as head of the Finance Group, he wanted to see if the Councillors were in agreement with increasing the Clerk's hours by three each week in view of the extra work that was becoming necessary, including taking Minutes at the extra Committee Meetings, and various other current and expected projects. The Chair, Cllr Linda Coe, said that she would feel a lot happier if this was to happen. There was a show of hands and all Councillors were in favour. The Clerk thanked the Councillors for this decision.  
**Changing to Committee**  
It was proposed that the Finance Group should become a committee rather than a Working Group with Terms of Reference, and quarterly meetings at the end of each budget quarter. Councillor Dominic Knight was asked if he would Chair this and he said he would. All Councillors were in favour of the Committee status and Cllr Dominic Knight as Chair.  
**ACTION: Clerk to set up Terms of Reference and arrange a Meeting for early October.**  
**Quote for Chairman's Chain of Office**  
A quote had been obtained from a specialist company who had been used before, for adding two extra links with the new Chairman's name and repair to the chain itself, totalling £1,233.26 and the Councillors were asked by the Chair,

Cllr Linda Coe, if this was acceptable. Cllr Dominic Knight proposed the motion and Cllr Kim Harvey seconded. The other Councillors were in favour.

**ACTION: Chair to arrange the repair.**

**11 Green Spaces Working Group**

**Recent emails re vermin, skip and allotment meeting.**

The Clerk explained that there had been emails regarding the above and it was agreed that a Meeting with Allotment Holders should be arranged for early in October to discuss these subjects.

**ACTION: Clerk to arrange Meeting and put together an Agenda nearer the time.**

Before the Allotment Meeting it was thought that a Green Spaces Meeting should take place, to discuss the above and to also elect a Chair as Pam Cyprien had stepped down from the Council. It was thought that the end of September would be best for this.

**ACTION: Cllr David Panther to arrange this Meeting.**

The new tap was discussed and it was confirmed that this had now been fitted, so locks needed to be put on them both. Cllr Kalvyn Friend was asked if he would be able to arrange this and he said he would.

**ACTION: Cllr Friend to liaise with Redcap Services to fit locks on both taps and then to let the Clerk know the combination numbers.**

The Chair, Cllr Linda Coe, thanked Cllr Mike Medland and Cllr Sarah Jerman for dealing with the woodchip pile so effectively.

Finally, Cllr Mike Medland said that the new fencing looked very good and was proving effective.

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

Councillor Coe's Report had been received as follows:

"There is very little to report this month. Nothing much has happened and we continue to open Tuesday afternoons and all day Friday. Our volunteers have been increased with Pam Cyprien joining us, which is lovely news. We have sadly said goodbye to one of our stalwarts, Penny, who is moving to Deal in Kent to be closer to her family. We shall miss her greatly. We are now getting into the season where we gratefully receive lots of extra fruit and vegetables grown by local allotment holders. Thanks as always to our team of drivers, led by Sarah Jerman and our volunteer shop keepers, organised by Kim Harvey."

Cllr Kim Harvey said that the Pantry had been really busy with people and lots of stock too. Cllr Sarah Jerman said that extra stock had come from Tesco and the allotment holders were also bringing in produce. More drivers were needed and Cllr Dominic Knight said he would put this in the next Robin.

Cllr Sarah Harvey said that the Reydon and Southwold Community Lunch held at the Stella Peskett Hall needed more volunteers and more customers and Cllr Dominic Knight said he would see about an article for the Reydon Robin.

**ACTION: Cllr Dominic Knight to add both to the next Reydon Robin.**

**13 WW1 Pillbox Working Group (CD) - Update**

Minutes circulated.

Cllr Chris Dixon said that the next meeting would be soon.

The Payback Team would be helping with the project and there was to be a press release.

Cllr Kalvyn Friend said there were three dead trees on the land now owned by the PC and all the Councillors agreed that these should be removed rather than cause an accident.

**ACTION: Cllr Kalvyn Friend to arrange for the trees to be removed.**

**14 Footpaths Working Group (CD)**

Minutes circulated.

Cllr Chris Dixon said that the Footpath Group had extended an invitation to Southwold TC and Walberswick PC for a combined meeting. There had been no word from Walberswick but Southwold had come back to say they would discuss this at their September Meeting. She went on to say that the 'Cyclists posters' had now been laminated and fixed to posts with cable ties to keep them in position and Cllr Dominic Knight said he would be including this in the next Robin.

**15 Reydon Robin (DomK)**

Cllr Dominic Knight said that the deadline for the next Robin was 26<sup>th</sup> September with publication on 10<sup>th</sup> October and that Laurence Vulliamy would be supporting him on this edition. The Bowls Club would be the sponsors. The next edition would be the Christmas one and then in 2026 the Robin would revert to three issues a year.

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**Website (DomK)**

Cllr Dominic Knight said that the main change this month had been the new email addresses. He also said that pictures were needed of several of the Councillors and he asked if they could send them to him.

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**Correspondence (Clerk)**

Emails received: Copperwheat, Posts at Rec, Allotments (discussed above), Dog Bin. Call re parking on Lowestoft Road.

The Clerk said that all the above had already been discussed apart from the dog bin, which had been referred to ESC and the parking on the grass verge on the Lowestoft Road which was causing difficulty for residents coming out of their drives in front of the bungalows. It was agreed to add this to the next Highways Agenda.

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**Planning Committee (DomK)**

Planning Committee Minutes already circulated.

**New Applications:**

DC/25/2796/VOC. Variation of Condition No.2 of DC/23/2725/VOC – Variation of Condition No 2 of DC/20/4538/FUL – Construction of 3 no detached houses and associated carsheds – Carports to be removed. The second floor on plot 2 is to be removed. Land to the west of 18 Halesworth Road, Reydon IP18 6NH.

No objections

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

**Response by 27<sup>th</sup> August – Suggested response circulated by Planning Committee and submitted following meeting, recommending refusal unless certain conditions were met.**

Councillor Dominic Knight reiterated what had been said in his suggested response and with one minor amendment it was agreed to submit it as the view of the whole Council. Cllr Knight also added that as this was a Class C Application there was no requirement for any affordable housing as part of the scheme.

**ACTION: Clerk to submit the response.**

**Planning Decisions:**

DC/25/2192/P3R. Prior Notification – Change of use of part of agricultural barn to indoor Padel court – Broadside Park Farm, Lowestoft Road, Reydon IP18 6SX

Prior Approval Granted

DC/24/3625. Discharge of condition 26 of DC/19/1141/OUT – Development of up to 220 dwellings with associated open space – Construction Management Plan – Land to the West of Copperwheat Avenue, Reydon.

Application Permitted

DC/25/2859/AME. Non-Material Amendment of DC/23/2401/FUL – Phased development including creation of a new outdoor bowling green, demolition of front part of bowls club building etc, etc, development of eight homes etc. First floor landing window slightly enlarged for Plot 3. First-floor study window slightly enlarged for Plot 3. Patio door removed from kitchen to allow more worktop space in Plot 3. The airing cupboard which previously opened to the hallway, is now a cupboard in the study in Plot 3. Changes to the colour of the roof tiles for Plots 1,2,3,4 and 8 – 50 Halesworth Road, Reydon IP18 6NR

Application Permitted

DC/25/2410/TPO. TPO/123/2022 – T1 1 No Monterey Pine – works proposed as detailed on Page 9 of the submitted Tree Survey Report – Gable House, 9 Heathlands, St Georges Lane, Reydon, IP18 6RW

Application Permitted

DC/19/1141/OUT. Outline Application – (Development of up to 220 dwellings with associated open space)

Application for the approval of reserved matters for siting, design, external appearance and landscaping for 220 dwellings and associated open space pursuant to conditions 1 and 2 of outline planning permission DC/19/1141/OUT – Land to the west of Copperwheat Avenue, Reydon

Application Permitted

DC/25/2353/FUL. Construction of ground floor extension and all associated works – 7 Bridge Road, Reydon IP18 6RR

Application Permitted

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

E-on Direct Debit- Elec Jubilee Green	£20.04
G Graham	£122.10
A Dobson Printer Ink	£23.79

**b) Invoices to be paid**

Hall Hire

Pantry Electricity	£118.02
Gillian Graham	£122.10
Nick Elvin Fencing for Rec	£2,420.40
RVH – CCTV (paid back apart from VAT)	£1,496.70
Pantry Driving	£168.30
Wills	£155.00
Refreshments for Planning Meeting	£9.90
SID Pole – SCC	£300.00
Ann Dobson – Back Pay Local Gov Pay Agreement	
From 1 <sup>st</sup> April 25- 4 months	£111.47
Reydon Village Hall Hire August/September	£51.25
Keith Seaman	£180.00
Wills (tubs and planters for Reydon Corner)	£618.00
CAS – Setting up New Emails etc	£348.00
Ann Dobson Salary and Expenses at end of Month	

**c) Bank Balances and Reconciliation as at 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025**

Commercial Instant Access Account as at 31st July 2025		£ 166,497.44
Treasurers Account as at 31st July 2025		£ 601.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£ 167,098.44</b>
<b>TOTAL JUNE PLUS JULY RECEIPTS</b>		<b>£ 167,098.44</b>
<b>MINUS JULY PAYMENTS</b>		

**d) CIL Money Remaining as at end July 25 – £117,955.36**

**e) Working Budget (circulated prior to meeting)**

**22 Reydon Village Hall/Reydon Sports and Community Centre (LC)**

This was an 'in camera' discussion with no minutes taken.

**23 Any Other Business**

**Volunteer Councillor to replace Cllr David Panther as PC Rep for Southwold Harbour Stakeholder Advisory Group**

It was decided to put this on the website/and or The Robin in case a member of the public was interested.

**ACTION:** Cllr Dominic Knight asked to arrange this.

**Interest in renting shed/garage**

The Clerk reported that a local resident was interested in renting this from the PC. It was agreed that the rent should be £50 a month and that the Clerk should first contact the resident to see what they were storing and how often access would be needed. It was also to be made clear that the insurance was down to them and not the Parish Council.

**ACTION:** Clerk to contact interested resident.

**VJ Day Celebrations**

The Chair, Councillor Linda Coe, thanked Cllr Kalvyn Friend and Cllr Kim Harvey for arranging for 'Tommy' to be erected and the flowers etc.

**24 Date of Next Meeting**

The next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 6.30 pm in the Village Hall.

The Meeting ended at 8.30 pm.