

WALSINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Present:

Cllrs. Brian Landale (Chairman), Lee Acton, Elizabeth Meath Baker, Keith Tuck, Clare Williams, James Woodhouse (Vice-Chairman)

CC: District Councillor Tom FitzPatrick, County Councillor Michael Dalby; PC Jonathan Kentfield

**You are summoned to a Meeting of the Parish Council
on Wednesday 8 January 2025 at 7.15 for 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall**

Members of the public may raise matters of concern before the meeting

Signed:

Clerk to the Council

Date:

MINUTES

Welcome

1. **Apologies** from, Julia Marozzi, Nigel Morter, Vanessa Paige were accepted.
2. **Declarations of interest** by the Councillors in any of the agenda items listed below. None.
3. **Minutes of the Meeting** on 13 November were approved and signed.
4. **Matters arising** not otherwise on the agenda
 - a. It was noted that St Mary's, St Peter's, Heritage House and Norfolk Citizens Advice thank the Parish Council for the donations.
5. **Co-opting to fill the vacancy:** councillors would ask around for volunteers.
6. **Report from County Councillor:** circulated via email including information about the Government White Paper on new arrangements for local government – unitary and mayorial authorities with the possibility for Norfolk to join the 'fast track' which might mean that the county council elections this year are postponed.
7. **The District Councillor** reported that he was continuing to put pressure on the Leader and CEO that they should not cut the provision of public toilets. The Budget would be agreed in February.
8. **Police Matters.** It was noted that Norfolk Constabulary are the best in the country.
9. **Public Payphones**
 - a. BT is planning to remove a small number of public payphones in North Norfolk including the one in Friday Market Place as they believe that they are no longer required due to low levels of use in the last 12 months. Notices advising of the removal and inviting comments have been put in the kiosks.
 - b. The deadline for the District Council to respond is 19 February and they request comments to be sent to them by **24 January**.
 - c. As part of the process, the District Council has consulted with the Conservation and Design Team who have provided their comments. In respect of the one in **Friday Market** the comments are: 'No C&D objection to the removal of the telephony equipment. This is not original to the box and does not form part of the listing. Hence, listed building consent is not required to take it out.'
 - d. BT propose to remove the telephony and lock the kiosk.
 - e. Town and Parish Councils also have the opportunity to adopt their phone boxes – more details can be found by on the website bt.com/adopt .

It was decided that there was no objection to the removal of the telephony equipment from the kiosk in Friday Market.

It was suggested that in future the kiosk could be adopted perhaps to house a defibrillator or reglaze with stained glass as an interesting feature.
10. **Highways**
 - a. **Potholes and other highway faults** should be reported via the website:
<https://apps.norfolk.gov.uk/HighwaysDefect/default.aspx>
 - i. Potholes
 1. St Peter's Road
 2. Westgate from the Ford up to Scarborough Road

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3. Holt Road – sunken infill across the road
- ii. Damaged sign post at Edgar Road / Wells Road.

11. SAM2

- a. To investigate the possible locations for SAM2 on Egmore Road
- b. Currently on Wells Road
- c. Possible fault with the machine. James will take it back to Westcotec to see if it can be repaired.

12. Finances

- a. **Statement of Accounts** was circulated and signed
- b. **The following payments were approved:**

Playscape Palygrounds Ltd	repairs to skate ramp	101631	3264	20/11/2024
Norfolk Copiers	service charge Nov	101632	£67.23	30/11/2024
Clare Williams	Santa costume	101633	£69.98	30/11/2024
V Paige	verges & hedge Nov	101634	£100.00	04/12/2024
Streetmaster	bench, plaque, date plates & fittings	101635	£1,239.60	16/12/2024
J Otte	expenses	101636	£181.18	
Norfolk Copiers	service charge Dec	101637	£42.68	
Nurture Landscapes Ltd	grounds maintenance extra cut	101638	£85.14	

- c. **To arrange online banking with Barclays**
- d. **CCLA deposit account**

13. Report from Village Hall Working Group.

- a. At the meeting on the 19 November, the Group decided to gather information from previous (and potential new) regular users of the Village Hall about their bookings and requirements. This would assist the Parish Council in knowing what is needed for the new Village Hall and to plan for future management as well as providing evidence of consultation and financial sustainability for grant applications.
- b. **Damaged manhole cover** at the car park on the Recreation Ground has been repaired by Anglian Water.

14. Playground Equipment

- a. Awaiting quote for maintenance repairs from Fenland Leisure Products.

15. Public Toilets

- a. The CEO and the Leader of the District Council came to a meeting in November to discuss their proposal to withdraw from the provision of public toilets in Walsingham. The meeting was attended by members of the parish council and representatives from local organisations and businesses. Prior to the meeting, the Clerk had circulated a short questionnaire about toilet provision (for staff, customers and other members of the public) to businesses and organisations in the village. The responses were collated and circulated at the meeting. The shops and cafes on the High Street and on Guild Street either had no toilets, or only for staff, or with limited access. All regularly directed their customers and visitors to the public toilets on the High Street as did the larger businesses such as the pubs and the Anglican Shrine. The District Council CEO explained that the model for financing public toilets was through cross-subsidising from public car parking fees. However, it was pointed out that the village of Walsingham was unique in the huge number of visitors (pilgrims, passengers enjoying the train trip from Wells and many others) and they needed and used the public toilets. All respondents to the questionnaire and those present at the meeting agreed that

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the public toilets were a vital facility for Walsingham and the local economy should continue to be the responsibility of the District Council.

16. **Street Lighting:** nothing to report/

17. **Defibrillator**

- a. The replacement defibrillator has been in the cabinet at the Parish Hall since the beginning of December and The Circuit website has been updated.

18. **Planning**

a. **Applications received since the last meeting**

- i. DP/24/2466: Application to determine if prior approval is required for the proposed demolition of four timber framed redundant poultry buildings at **Brick Kiln Farm, Edgar Road**. Link circulated.
- ii. LA/24/2551: Construction of lightweight fire resistant partition in ground floor at **Mill House 5 Scarborough Road**. Link circulated.
- iii. PF/24/2612: Erection of a two storey detached dwelling within rear garden area of 18 Bridewell Street at **St James Cottage 18 Bridewell Street**. Link circulated. Concern was raised about the loss of green space, the narrow access and limited parking, and that the new house was not really large enough for a family home.
- iv. PU/24/2675: Change of use of agricultural building to 3 dwellinghouses (Class C3) and building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion at **Brick Kiln Farm Edgar Road**. Link circulated 2 Jan.

b. **Decisions made by NNDC**

- i. PF/24/2115 & LA/24/2215: Change of use of 9 Common Place from dwelling (Class C3) to provide extension to existing Estate Office (No.10) Common Place at **9 - 10 Common Place**. APPROVED.
- ii. **DP/24/2466**: Application to determine if prior approval is required for the proposed demolition of four timber framed redundant poultry buildings at **Brick Kiln Farm, Edgar Road**. PRIOR APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED.

c. **Withdrawn**

- i. PF/24/2158: Erection of single storey detached outbuilding at **Hilltop Barn Hindringham Road**. WITHDRAWN.
- ii. **PF/24/2321**: Demolition of retaining wall and erection of two storey side and rear extension at **31 Scarborough Road**. WITHDRAWN.

19. **Correspondence:** circulated as usual.

20. **Items for report or future agenda**

21. Next meeting **Wednesday 12 March 2025** at 7:15 for 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall.

Meeting closed at 8:15 pm

Joanna Otte, Clerk to Walsingham Parish Council, e-mail: walsinghampc@googlemail.com Tel. 01328 822366
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