



East Rudham Parish Council

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 7TH January 2025 from 7.15pm at the Village Hall

Parish Councillors present: Malcolm Pearson (Chairman), Tony Elburn (Vice Chairman), Richard Spencer, Terry Hibbert, John Dawson, Mark Tizard, Trevor Davis, and Sue Jones
Parish Clerk and County Councillor Micheal Chenery

There were no members of the public present.

1. Welcome and to receive apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed all those present.

Apologies were received from Cllrs Weeks and Morley. Apologies accepted.

Cllr Elburn raised the 6 month time for missing meetings relating to Cllr Weeks and it was agreed and approved by all to grant dispensation on the grounds of illness. Cllr Weeks maintains regular contact and involvement in the Parish Council.

2. To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda and consider any requests for dispensations

There were none.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd of December 2024

The minutes were approved without amendment, proposed Cllr Dawson, seconded Cllr Pearson and signed by the Chairman as a correct record. All in favour who were present at the meeting.

4. To hear from Borough Councillor and County Councillor

Cllr Morley report as emailed:

I am attending a seminar net Thursday on the latest Government financial settlement for Local Councils 25/26 and proposals for 26/27 and beyond. The Minister, Jim McMahon will be presenting amongst others. I hope to learn more about the settlement proposals fit with Devolution.

It has been a quiet period at the Borough Council apart from trying to agree a balanced budget and reduce costs. We hope to get full recovery for the additional NI payments, but the staff pay settlement has yet to be agreed. We will not be dropping any services but some of our charges will have to increase. This includes our parking areas, services at the crematorium and taxi licences. We are also looking at the costs for replacing the St James pool in King's Lynn and the Oasis at Hunstanton which are both too costly to keep running. We are however, determined to ensure we retain swimming and all health and wellbeing facilities.

The plans to upgrade King's Lynn town centre to make it more attractive for residents and visitors remain unchanged, although, as usual costing more money than originally planned. We have now received funding for helping those who may become or who are homeless. The Government are looking to local Districts to reorganise as part of devolution for Norfolk. West, North and Breckland are having preliminary talks about amalgamation but not sure if this will satisfy the Government expectations.

Cllr Chenery advised that he was attending an extraordinary County Council meeting on Thursday to vote on the Government devolution proposals. It is thought that this will be passed, and the May elections would be put back for at least 2 years as the devolution would take 2-3 years to be implemented.

We have 8 Borough/District Councils in Norfolk including Norfolk City and Norfolk County. Suffolk has 2-3. The Mayor would be elected.

New Highways Engineer is now in situ and Micheal is arranging to meet him with a number of issues. Clerk to confirm that the £1,000 agreed from Cllr Chenery members fund to be used for the work required on the car park. ACTION: Clerk

5. Open forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from members of the public – None

6. To receive updates from council members

- 6.1 Jack's Lane Windfarm community fund – Cllr Davis advised that the “pot amount” could be increased. 2 emergency applications have been approved. Next meeting still due March 2025.
- 6.2 SAM2 & Speeding report – Cllr Elburn gave a report from the Vets, westbound. 40mph location for December 24: 85th percentile was 42.4mph, maximum speed was 90mph on 18.12.24, at 02.00 hrs. Total vehicles 127,945 and the average speed was 35.3mph.
- 6.3 Helping the elderly that fall in the community project – Cllr Tizard advised that the soonest we would hear from the Lottery fund would be end January/early February.
- 6.4 Clerks report – The website has been updated to include information on booking at the recycling centres, the Borough Council home insulation scheme, the Police Crime prevention handbook and Winter Health from the County Council. The online training for cemetery administration should have taken place this afternoon but let down by NALC. Will look at other training. The new bank account for the cemetery is now open.
- 6.5 Communications: New Bus Shelter on the A148 near Eye Lane – an email has been received from Highways regarding the location of the shelter as and when the work starts on the new homes. It was agreed to wait to discuss with the developer.

7. Open Spaces & Highways Issues

- 7.1 Kerbing Project – awaiting confirmation of funding due March 25.
- 7.2 The vehicle speed sensor at Hillington on the A148 has been followed up by Cllr Morley with Network Safety at Norfolk County Council who advised such a sensor would not be possible for the Rudhams. They advised the Safety Camera Team will be asked to consider enhanced mobile camera enforcement on a community concern basis. Cllr Elburn gave an update on the missing reactive traffic sign which was removed and deemed beyond repair. He has chased NCC for a replacement and was passed onto the relevant department
- 7.3 Cllrs Pearson and Elburn have put up a temporary “fencing” to prevent vehicles leaving the pub by the green. To consider flower tubs etc.

8. East Rudham Cemetery & Churchyard

Church – Cllr Pearson has had a meeting with the Diocese building inspector regarding the tower etc., and they left with a list of minor repairs, including guttering, and grants may be available. It was agreed that the old shed can be cleared out and replaced with a storage container which can be used to store old documents. It was mentioned that West Rudham Church is also in line for some assistance.

The house by the deli has requested access to the property via the churchyard to do some maintenance on the property.

9. Newsletter and Facebook page

Cllr Weeks had requested any articles for the next newsletter to be sent by the 10th of February. Clerk to send recycling information to Cllr Spencer for inclusion on the Facebook page.

ACTION: Clerk

10. Financial Matters

10.1 To approve the bank reconciliation and payments/receipts for December – approved. Proposed Cllr Tizard, seconded Cllr Pearson and all in favour.

10.2 The Council RESOLVED to approve the following:

Payments for January to date

Clerk	Salary	£253.31
HMRC		£ 63.20
Clerk	December Expenses	£ 26.00
K&M Lighting	Street Light Maintenance	£ 39.73
Community Car Scheme	Donation	£300.00
M Pearson	Chain for green parking	£ 14.99

10.3 Budget/Precept for 25/26 (2nd draft) – as sent out by the clerk was proposed Cllr Pearson and all in favour.

10.4 CIL funding application – it was decided not to make an application this time.

11. Planning Matters

11.1 Applications:

23/02026/NMA_1 – non material amendment 6 Fakenham Road – no observations

24/02172/F – variation of condition 8 at plot 1, 22 Bagthorpe Road – no observations

11.2 Decisions - none.

12. To receive and consider any correspondence

12.1 Clerk had received an email from a local farmer regarding the planting of 2 new woodland parcels on their land in conjunction with the forestry commission.

12.2 Clerk advised that there had been no response to the email sent to Freebridge regarding blocked ditch and sight of rats and Cllr Morley to help.

ACTION: CM

12.3 Wi-Fi at the village hall was discussed and Cllr Morley advised that there was a small grants fund due soon which would be ideal for this. Village Hall Committee to be contacted – Cllr Dawson.

ACTION: JD

14. Receive items for next agenda and note the date of the next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be the 4th of February 2025

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.05pm.

Signed by Chairman:

Date: