

WALBERSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 14th April 2025 at 7pm.

Present (physically): Councillors Lewis (Chair), Bassinette, Dadswell and Watson. Only Councillors physically present can speak (except during the public forum or if standing orders are temporarily suspended) and vote.

Also in attendance (via Zoom) was Mark Knight the Parish Clerk.

184/24-25 Welcome by the Chair.

The Chair welcomed those present to the meeting.

185/24-25 To consider and approve any apologies for absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Richardson, Sutton and Whiting.

186/24-25 Declaration of Interest and Requests for Dispensation.

None.

187/24-25 Open Forum

No members of the public were present.

188/24-25 To receive a report from Suffolk County Councillor Richard Smith

C Cllr. Smith was not in attendance.

189/24-25 To receive a report from East Suffolk District Councillor David Beavan

Cllr Beavan was not in attendance.

190/24-25 To consider the minutes of the meetings of 10th March 2025

The minutes of the 10th March 2025 were **APPROVED** with the Chair to sign the minutes and to retain them until they can be handed to the Clerk in person.

191/24-25 Planning

191/24-25.1 To note responses made under delegated authority

191/24-25.1.1 Seacroft, Millfield Road DC/25/0481/DRC

It was **RESOLVED** to make contact with East Suffolk Council Planning to establish why the application was approved without the information detailed within the condition having been provided. The Parish Council **OBJECTS** until this explanation

Signed.....

Dated.....

is forthcoming.

191/24-25.1.2 4 Moorside, Walberswick DC/25/1043/FUL

It was **RESOLVED** to **SUPPORT** the application.

191/24-25.1.3 The Pink House, Seven Acres Lane DC/25/0978/VOC

It was **RESOLVED** to **OBJECT** to this application as it would fail to preserve or enhance the significance of a designated heritage asset.

191/24-25.2 Applications to consider

191/24-25.2.1 Millside, The Street DC/25/1353/VOC

It was **RESOLVED** to request that this application be withdrawn in order for East Suffolk Council Planning to assess it's status. This is due to the proposals detailed in the application already being built without any of the Parish Council's original concerns being addressed. Clarity should be sought over whether this is a Variation of Condition application or a retrospective application.

191/24-25.2.2 Saltmarshes, Lodge Road DC/25/1778/FUL

It was **RESOLVED** to **OBJECT** to this application and the application be **WITHDRAWN** due to the fact that work already seems to be taking place (specifically a concrete base being laid) and several trees falling within the application's boundary. At such time the application should be reconsidered appropriately.

192/24-25 Finance Matters

192/24-25.1 Approve items on the Authorisation to Pay Sheet

It was **AGREED** to pay all items on the sheet. Cllrs. Bassinette and Lewis were authorised to carry out the electronic payments.

193/24-25 To consider the quote for the Portaloo for the Annual Cricket Match

The quote for £186 was **AGREED**, with the Clerk to progress hire and payment arrangements with the RFO

194/24-25 Consideration of future Councillor numbers

It was **RESOLVED** that the members present were satisfied with the current 7 seats for the Parish Council and that no more or less were necessary.

Signed.....

Dated.....

195/24-25 Southwold Half Marathon – Feedback on 2025 event and possible 2026 date

Cllr Lewis reported that there had been no negative feedback received following the event; indeed most residents were very positive about the event. It was **AGREED** to support the running of the event again in 2026.

196/24-25 Feedback from Lion Link Drop In Session 15 March 2025

Cllr. Bassinette reported that the feedback was largely negative as most residents who attended left no more informed than they arrived. There were minimal additional details on why Walberswick was the preferred site and no clarity on why other sites were not chosen.

Conflicting answers were given over project completion time, traffic volumes and environmental impact – concerns were shared over the lack of any impact statements and surveys being completed and shared.

The most serious issue was the misinformation regarding the proposed site of the development. This was given as ‘south’ of the village when in reality it is at its heart. Additionally it was shocking to learn that the very construction of the landing and connecting infrastructure to the substation ran extremely close to current dwellings and conservation areas rather than a post-industrial alternative location.

It was also confirmed that arrangements to meet with the local MP had progressed well and final details should be known in time for the next meeting of the Parish Council.

197/24-25 Oral updates from Councillors on areas of responsibility if relevant:

197/2425.1 Energy Projects

Cllr. Bassinette reported on her recent attendance at the Sizewell C bi-annual forum where EDF spoke about donations to the community. It was confirmed that EDF was not an investor and the project was 100% funded by the UK Government and so any donations would logically be coming ultimately from taxpayers money. It was also agreed that mitigation was desperately needed.

197/24-25.2 Village News

The Councillors agreed on the items that should be submitted for the next edition.

198/24-25 Oral Committee Reports if relevant

None.

199/24-25 Clerk’s Report

The Clerk reported that the contract handing over control of the telephone box was now complete and that contact with BT Payphones would be made to remove the lock.

Signed.....

Dated.....

200/24-25 Matters Arising

It was **AGREED** that a meeting to discuss the allotment renewals would take place between the Responsible Financial Officer, Chair and Parish Clerk.

201/24-25 Date and Time of next meeting was confirmed as Monday 12th May 2025 at 7pm.

The time and date of the meeting was confirmed as above.

The meeting then closed at 7.40pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....