

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HORSTEAD WITH STANNINGHALL PARISH COUNCIL
HELD IN THE TITHE BARN, RECTORY ROAD, ON WEDNESDAY 12th MARCH 2025 AT 6.30PM.**

Present: Cllrs, Mr M Stevenson (Chair), Mr A Browne (Vice Chair), Ms L Austrin, Ms C Fleming, Mr D Hales, Mr Oakes, Mr Tebble and Ms P Weightman.

In Attendance: Becky Furr (Parish Clerk) and three members of the public.

Public Participation

District Cllr Copplestone and County Cllr Whymark provided a report. Please see their summary reports at end of these minutes.

A parishioner introduced themselves and expressed an interest in the litter picking position.

A parishioner presented a thank you card to the parish council for the donation made to the Marlpit Village Magazine. The parishioner was thanked for locking and unlocking the portable toilet used by the Community Payback Scheme.

1. Apologies

Apologies from Cllr Boakes, Cllr Langberg and Cllr McMaster were received and ACCEPTED.

2. Notice of Casual Vacancy

No election request was received for the casual vacancy. Mr Robert Oakes applied to be co-opted onto the parish council. This was APPROVED unanimously and Robert ACCEPTED his Declaration of Office.

3. Declaration of interests and requests for dispensations

None.

4. Minutes of the Meeting of Wednesday 12th February 2025

The minutes of the last Parish Council Meeting were AGREED AND SIGNED as a true and accurate record.

5. Matters Arising

None.

6. Planning

None.

7. Finance

a. Payments Received and NOTED		
Heggatt Farm	Contribution towards trees removed along the riverbank footpath	£250.00
b. Payments APPROVED		
B.Furr	Clerks Expenses including x2 week toilet hire for Community Payback Scheme	£237.60
NALC	Gov.uk website and emails	£204.40
C.Jones	SAM2 Management	£38.00
NPTS	Subscription 2025/26	£363.96
D.Gillet	Tree Survey	£200.00
c. Payments for information only – previously agreed direct debits and standing orders		
Veolia	Horstead Mill Bin - January	£147.02
B.Furr	Salary for February 2025	£916.80
HMRC	Tax for February 2025 Payroll	£295.16

8. Highways & PROW matters

a. Extension of the 30mph speed limit on Buxton Road. The clerk reported that works to Public Highways was not eligible under Mick George's Community Fund. The clerk and County Councillor Whymark are exploring if there is any funding available for a Traffic Regulation Order. Cllr Whymark is going to arrange a site visit with Justin Le May – Local Highways Engineer and report back.

9. Tree and Pond matters

Cllr Stevenson reported that the Community Payback Scheme (CPS) had a general tidy up of the pond and removed overhanging branches on Norwich Road and cut back growth on the footpath. There is pollarding work outstanding at the Pond which CPS could carry out at a later date.

Cllr Fleming reported that the BA have cut the worst branches on the dangerous Ash Tree near the Car Park. The area has been cordoned off and the BA are liaising with NCC to deal with this.

10. Horstead Mill matters

- a. Community Payback Scheme work. The council AGREED this had been very successful and the crew worked well with the parish council and George Thacker. The clerk confirmed that over £1000 had been saved on labour for the Willow Spiling. It was AGREED to purchase reflectors for the new bollards installed in front of the car park. There is a hole at the bank, logs have been chucked down but a metal grid panel should be installed in front to avoid risk of slip, trip, falls. The clerk will ask Mr Moate to quote. Cllr Fleming advised there are 3 bags of post-mix concrete left. It was AGREED Mr Moate can collect them.
- b. Tree Survey Report. This was circulated to the parish council prior to the meeting. There is a lot of work required to the trees by the riverbank but it is unclear whose responsibility these are. The clerk will contact the BA and NCC to establish ownership.
- c. Renewing Horstead Mill Lease with the Broad's Authority. Cllr Stevenson proposed renewing the lease for 25 years with the current terms and conditions. This was APPROVED by full council unanimously. The Broad's Authority will be repairing the two canoe stations and have agreed to cut the grass owned by the Environmental Agency (pending EA approval).
- d. Replacing the Litter Picking Caddy. It was AGREED to replace the damaged caddy for £35.75. The clerk reported that five applications had been received for the litter picking contract. It was AGREED the clerk will ask all applicants to complete a brief application form.

11. Play area matters

Cllr Austrin reported that there is a lot of mole activity in the play area. It was AGREED the clerk will arrange for Platten Pest Control to treat the problem.

There is also some slight deterioration to the toddler slide and a piece of rubber missing near the roundabout.

12. Community VE Day Event

- a. £125.00 for an interactive military show performed by Twisted Reality Productions. This quote was APPROVED.
- b. £106.65 Disabled portable toilet hire. This quote was APPROVED. (Note the full cost is being split jointly with Coltishall Parish Council).

13. Working Parties

Cllr Stevenson reported that the Mill Working Party has worked very well. They have set up a What's App Group and successfully co-ordinated the work carried out by the Community Payback Scheme and proposed terms of the BA lease. It was AGREED to review at the next meeting what working parties' councillors (and clerk) want to be involved with, based on their skills and interests. The clerk AGREED to be involved with the Play Area and has completed training via Community Action Norfolk.

14. Items for the next agenda

Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation Consultation – Deadline 13th April 2025.

15. Next Meeting

Wednesday 9th April 2025 at 6.30pm in the main hall of the Tithe Barn followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm.

News from Broadland District Council

Many local residents joined the 'peaceful protest' in Coltishall High Street, organised by members of the B1150 Group at the end of February, which was widely reported on in the media. Protestors were highlighting the 'dangerous traffic situation' and the lack of appropriate infrastructure on the busiest B- road in Norfolk, which is only set to worsen when thousands more homes are built north of Coltishall.

Jeremy Wiggin, Head of Sustainable Transport & Infrastructure at Norfolk County Council joined members of the B1150 Group at their March meeting, to discuss the scope of further highway assessment work to improve road safety and find traffic mitigation solutions. The meeting was very positive, and members are hopeful progress is being made. I will be making a representation at the Planning Hearing in North Norfolk on 8th April, along with Jerome Mayhew MP on behalf of the B1150 Group, following my response to the latest Local Plan consultation for an additional 330 homes in North Walsham. I have asked for a further transport assessment to examine the wider highway network, with appropriate measures and funding to address traffic congestion in Coltishall.

Albert Bartlett Westwick, have applied for planning permission to increase their cold store from 1600 to 4000 pallets, an increase of 200%, and a significant increase in production which will inevitably result in more HGV movements. I have made an objection to this application on behalf of the B1150 Group, stating, 'whilst we welcome economic growth in Norfolk, until a traffic mitigation solution is found for the B1150 at Coltishall, we object to this application on the grounds of public safety'.

Cllr Whymark & I had a meeting with Broadland's Community Assets Manager, Petra Maryon and Crocus Homes to discuss the footpath link to the Bure Valley Path at Rectory Road Bridge. Petra has subsequently met Crocus Homes with their civil engineers 'Rossi Long', who are confident that a solution can be found, and Crocus Homes are determined in their intention to deliver this important footpath link.

Kind regards,
Cllr. Jo Copplestone
Cllr.jo.copplestone@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

News from Norfolk County Council

I have had confirmation that the double yellow lines on Wroxham Rd, Coltishall have been signed off and the work has been commissioned. As soon as I get a start date I'll let you know, but it should all be finished before the summer rush this year.

The big news is that the initial submissions for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) from County and the Districts will be submitted to ministers this month. NCC have made the case for a single unitary, based upon early indicative financial predictions and also continuity of services, particularly safeguarding adults, and children. I have not seen the official submission for Broadland (papers should be released later this week), but the leaked report to the EDP seems to indicate that the districts will be arguing that an extended Norwich and an East/West split would be best, even though this does not deliver any financial savings. When I have access to the full report I will give a Page 4 of 4 full update. To be clear this is only a first draft with a full business case to be presented to ministers in the Autumn, at that point the minister will make a decision.

Take care Fran
Cllr Fran Whymark
Proudly Representing the Wroxham Division Cabinet Member for Public Health and Wellbeing