

BEYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor Graham Jones

Clerk: Claire Usher

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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 4 February 2025

In The Vestry of All Saints Church, Beyton

Councillors Present: Ann Alderton (AA) (Vice Chairman), Jonathan Wilson (JW), John Clark (JC) and Kerry Mason (KM)

Others in attendance: Claire Usher (Clerk), Penny Otton (PO) County Councillor, Harry Richardson (HR) District Councillor and eight members of the public.

040225/01 **Apologies for absence:** Graham Jones (GJ) (Chairman) and Helena Harris (HH)

040225/02 All Councillors resolved to accept the apologies.

040225/03 **Declarations of Interest (DoI):** No interests were declared.

040225/04 **Dispensation:** Councillors noted no requests had been received and none were requested at the meeting.

040225/05 **Minutes of previous meeting:** All Councillors resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 7 January 2025 as a true reflection of the decisions made and authorised AA to sign the minutes.

Public Forum:

040225/06 PO advised that the Government would make an announcement this week whether Suffolk will be included in the devolution fast track process for reorganisation.

PO reported that she had contacted Suffolk County Council (SCC) Highways with regard to the introduction of a 20 mph speed limit through Beyton village. SCC had provided information regarding the procedure that would need to be taken, including a number of surveys and the costs involved, which could be around £20,000 and could take up to 2 years. This had been circulated to all Councillors.

AA advised the meeting that the Clerk had asked the village Speedwatch Team for their views and 4 members of the team were present tonight. The team had produced some data on the speed of vehicles through the village and considered the installation of radar speed signs to be more appropriate and more cost effective. Councillors were handed some information from Elan City who provide radar speed signs, at a cost of £2250 each. PO and HR would be happy to contribute monies from their locality budgets to help with these costs. AA asked the Speedwatch Team if they could report to the next meeting on which roads would be appropriate for the speed signs and thanked PO and HR for their support.

Regarding the outstanding CIL monies HR reported that MSDC's Legal Team had now produced the paperwork to be submitted to the Courts to request a hearing date.

Land on the South Side of Bury Road - JW asked HR about future development sites in Beyton of which HR confirmed that the sites highlighted in the Neighbourhood Plan would take precedence for future development.

Councillors had concerns that the plans submitted for the approval of outline planning permission at this site appeared to be different to those submitted for the approval of Reserved Matters that the Parish Council had been asked to comment at the previous meeting. These plans were showing a maintenance vehicle entrance to the west of the site. CU to contact the Planning Department at MSDC to seek clarification over the plans. Councillors had concerns that the field behind this proposed development did not come forward for future development. JW reported that back in January 2024 MSDC had written to Parish Councils inviting site submissions to be put forward for residential land use for consideration for future developments following adoption of the Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan Part 1 and asked the Parish Clerk to confirm if MSDC had notified the Parish Council of this process "Call For Sites" and the outcomes.

040225/07 PO report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

040225/08 HR report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

040225/09 **Planning:**

a. Councillors considered the following application made to the local District Authority relating to Beyton since the last Parish Council meeting:

DC/ DC/25/00256 - Application for works to trees in a Conservation Area – T1 1 Silver Birch: to remove several lower limbs to clear the roof of next doors garage and selectively reduce 2x or 3x long limbs over hanging the garden to improve the shape and reduce overhang. All cuts less than 3 inches, very minor work, at The Old Apple Store, Church Road – Councillors supported the application.

Planning Appeal - DC/24/01519 – Erection of a new field gate and upgraded field access (Retention of)- Land at Cangles Lane and West of Drinkstone Road – Councillors noted this had gone to appeal and supported the comments made when the application was originally considered.

b. Councillors to note the following planning decisions since the last meeting:
DC/24/04885 – Marl Cottage, Church Road – Conversion of and extension to existing residential outbuilding to form 1No self build dwellinghouse including creation of new vehicular access – Approved by MSDC.

Finance:

040225/10 All Councillors confirmed receipt of the finance report for the period ended 31 January 2025 prior to the meeting.

- 040225/11 **Bank Reconciliation:** Councillors agreed that the reconciliation for the period ended 31 January 2025 as presented agrees to the bank statements with cash available of £48,875.28; £18,282.04 in the Community account and £30,593.24 in the Premium account.
- 040225/12 **Budget to Actual:** All Councillors noted the actual spend to 31st January 2025 is £22,407.56 against a budget of £23,357.40.
- 040225/13 **Reserves:** Councillors noted the reserves report.
- 040225/14 **Receipts:** Councillors noted one receipt since the last meeting of £1000 from K Allchin towards the flooding works.
- 040225/15 **Payments:** All Councillors resolved to approve the following gross payments by internet banking confirming a full schedule, supported by invoices and receipts, had been received prior to the meeting:

	Payee	Details	£
040225/16	Claire Usher	Clerks Wages	553.20
040225/17	Claire Usher	Home Working Allowance	96.00
040225/18	HMRC	PAYE	138.40

- 040225/16 Councillors noted that the Precept for 2025/26 had been accepted by MSDC with 2 equal instalments to be made, in April and September 2025.
- 040225/17 The Clerk had received a quote from T C Forestry & Fencing for 2025 for grass cutting in the village. This item to be considered at the next meeting.
- To receive updates and reports from officers and take appropriate action:**
 JW requested if a report could be produced for each meeting highlighting the outstanding matters and by whom. CU to produce.
- 040225/18 **Road Safety:** Councillors noted that there was no update at this meeting.
- 040225/19 **The Village Green:** KM had undertaken a visual check of the play equipment and there was nothing to report.
- 040225/20 **Geese:** CU advised that the current hire period for the fencing was due for renewal on 11th February. It was agreed to renew the hire for a further 8 weeks. Councillors to give consideration to purchasing fencing, but the problem of storage was still to be considered. CU to obtain some prices for the cost of purchasing 10 Haras fencing panels.

- 040225/21 **Flooding:** It was believed that the stretch of ditch in question was owned by Suffolk County Council but it would be sometime before these works were carried out. Councillors to consider whether these works could be done by the Parish Council with a contractor. To be discussed at the next meeting.
- 040225/22 **Correspondence:** Correspondence received that hadn't been included in the meeting. JW reported that he had emailed the fish and chip van regarding their signage on the Green, but had not received a reply.
- 040225/23 **Any other Council business for information to be noted or for inclusion in a future agenda:** Geese Fencing, Flooding, Speed Radar Signs
- 040225/24 All Councillors noted the date of the next meeting as 4th March 2025
- 040225/25 The Vice Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25pm.