BEYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor Graham Jones
Clerk: Claire Usher
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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 6th October 2026

In The Vestry of All Saints Church, Beyton

Councillors Present: Graham Jones (GJ) (Chairman), Ann Alderton (AA), John Clark (JC), Helena Harris (HH), Helen Preston (HP) and Jonathan Wilson (JW)

Others in attendance: Claire Usher (Clerk) and 14 members of the public.

061026/01 **Apologies for absence:** Shelley Redbart (SB)

061026/02 **Declarations of Interest (DoI):** No interests were declared.

061026/03 **Dispensation:** Councillors noted no requests had been received and none were requested at the meeting.

061026/04 **Minutes of previous meeting:** All Councillors resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 1st September 2026 as a true reflection of the decisions made and authorised GJ to sign the minutes.

061026/05 **Beyton Village Highways/Safety/Speeding issues:** The Chairman welcomed Melanie Hall and Wayne Saunders from the Community Safety Team, Suffolk County Council Highways. The discussion began with concerns regarding safety at the junction of Cangles Lane and Church Road. Members noted that a large hedge on the corner was obstructing highway signage and reducing visibility at this narrow junction. It was also suggested that additional warning signs may be required to better alert drivers. Melanie agreed to investigate the site and identify any measures that could be implemented to improve safety.

With regard to the hedge, which is located on private property, Melanie advised that the preferred approach would be to contact the resident informally and request that the hedge be cut back. If this proved unsuccessful, the Parish Council could issue a formal letter. Should the work remain outstanding, Suffolk County Highways could then be asked to intervene and issue a further formal request. If there were similar issues in the village then the Parish Council should consult with the residents concerned and follow the procedure of sending letters.

The Community Safety Team confirmed that no traffic-calming measures requiring installation above ground level can be introduced without street lighting, which is not present within the parish. This restriction applies to measures such as speed humps, road narrowing schemes and raised junctions.

A member of the Speedwatch team asked what options were available to address speeding traffic in the village. Melanie explained that all incidents relating to speeding should be reported to Suffolk Police, as speeding enforcement is not a highways matter. The possibility of introducing a 20mph speed limit on some village roads was also raised. Wayne advised that this would first require a traffic survey, which would need to be commissioned and funded through the County Councillor. The survey, with input from the Police, would determine whether speeding is a significant issue within the parish and whether a reduction to a 20mph limit would be justified. The findings could also support the introduction of additional traffic-calming measures, such as road markings including dragon's teeth. The data produced from the cameras in the village would be used as additional evidence as part of the Traffic Survey.

The extension of the existing 30mph speed limit on Bury Road was also discussed. Melanie confirmed that an extension could be considered, but a legal process would need to be followed and supporting evidence provided. Particular concern was expressed about the section of Bury Road on leaving the village, where there is no footway and the speed limit changes to the national speed limit despite a public footpath joining the road beyond the existing 30mph limit.

Members also highlighted that the road markings at the junction of Church Road and Bury Road had deteriorated significantly and were now barely visible. Melanie agreed to investigate the matter. Wayne additionally explained the Community Self-Help Scheme, which enables residents to work together on maintenance projects around the village, including cleaning road signs.

The Chairman thanked Melanie and Wayne for attending and providing their advice and guidance.

It was agreed that the Clerk approach Matt Bentley the parish's County Councillor to ask if he would be willing to fund the traffic survey and assist with the Suffolk County Council Highways.

Public Forum:

061026/06 District Councillor Report – Harry Richardson (HR) had sent his apologises. His report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

County Councillor Report – Matt Bentley (MB) had sent his apologies. His report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

A member of the public raised concern regarding what looks like vegetation that has been dumped on the edge of Hoppers land close to Church Road. The Chairman will go and investigate.

Planning:

061026/07 a. Councillors had no planning applications to consider.

b. Councillors noted that no planning decisions that had been made by MSDC since the last meeting.

Finance:

061026/08 Bank Reconciliation: Councillors agreed that the reconciliation for the period ended 30th September 2026 as presented agrees to the bank statements with cash available of £73,051.84: £26,765.10 in the Community account and £46,286.74 in the Premium account.

061026/09 Receipts: Councillors noted that there had been a deposit of £120.85 into the Premium Account.

061026/10 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	£
061026/11	Claire Usher	Clerks Wages	601.93
061026/12	HMRC	PAYE	150.60
061026/13	Claire Usher	Expenses	19.49
062610/14	IT Services at CAS	Email	440.00
061026/15	Land Survey Solutions	Footpath 1	990.00

061026/16 Outstanding Actions: Councillors noted the updated report.

The Clerk updated Councillors regarding the email changes. The Clerk's and Chairman's email was now working correctly. If any Councillor was having a problem with their email to contact the Clerk and she will provide a number to contact to help load email onto their device.

061026/17 The Village Green – Citifibre and Openreach: No further information was available.

061026/18 The Village Green – Andy Rollett had looked into what material would be best to use to reinstate the road along the edge close to the new bollards. This would cost between £500 and £1000. All Councillors agreed that this work should be carried out. Andy was also looking at removing vegetation from the stream along the edge of the Green.

061026/19 Neighbourhood Plan Update – JW and GJ gave Councillors an update. The questionnaire was due to go out to the residents, but no date had been set.

061026/20 Footpath Behind All Saints Churchyard:

GJ declared a non pecuniary interest in this item and members agreed that GJ could remain in the meeting.

GJ confirmed that a site meeting had taken place and the boundary had now been pegged out. It was slightly different at each end and would need further discussion with the adjoining neighbour. GJ to contact Mr Miller.

061026/21 **Tree Survey:** All Councillors had received a copy of the tree survey. A quote had also been supplied with the works that needed to be carried out. All Councillors agreed that the works quoted that needed attention be supported. Clerk to contact Gadd Brothers.

061026/22 **Correspondence**: No additional correspondence had been received.

061026/23 **Any other Council business for information to be noted or for inclusion in a future agenda:** None

061026/24 All Councillors noted that the next meeting will be on Tuesday 3rd November 2026 at 7.30pm in the Vestry.

061026/25 **Exclusion of the Press and Public:** To resolve that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press to be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business.

061026/26 The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.20pm