



# Huntingfield Parish Council

## Minutes

### Minutes of the meeting of Huntingfield Parish Council held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2025 in the Hub

**Councillors attending: Cllr David Blackmore (Chair), Cllr Julie Collett, Cllr Carla Kruger, Cllr Sarah Kline, Cllr Edward Watson, Cllr Emma Ward and District Cllr Julia Ewart. Also attending were 5 residents and Clerk/RFO Carol Hume**

- 1.25 Apologies and approval of absences.** None received
- 2.25 To receive Declaration of Interest.** Cllr Collett declared a non-pecuniary interest in any item concerning the Hub.
- 3.25 To consider requests for dispensations.** None
- 4.25 To resolve that the minutes of the HPC meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024 and the minutes of the EGM held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024 are a true and correct record.**

The council agreed that the minutes of both meetings were correct, and they were duly signed by the Chairman

**5.25 To receive progress reports for information:**

- a. Emergency Plan – the final version was unanimously adopted. Copies will be displayed in the Hub foyer, in the Huntingfield Arms and on the noticeboard. A copy will also be on the website.
- b. Street furniture and new village sign – Cllr Collett will submit an application to SCC for all six locations for the street furniture on the three roads that service the village. The cost will come from CIL funds. A note about the new village sign will be put in the Hare asking for responses.
- c. SID battery purchase – Two batteries have been purchased and the clerk has sent an invoice to Heveningham Parish Council for 50% of the cost.
- d. MG wheeled strimmer and PPE purchase update – DC Ewart has made an application for a grant and is waiting to hear if it has been successful.
- e. Roadside verge opposite Malt Cottages – Cllr Blackmore has reported this on the Suffolk Highways portal. They are saying they will investigate and see what needs to be done. Matt Bostock said he met with Sam Fairs on site and it depends what action Highways propose to take whether they will take any further action. Cllr Watson will contact Suffolk Highways and ask what they propose to do.

**6.25 Public participation session (15 minutes) to include County Councillor and District Councillor reports.**

The chairman read out a message from Nick Pike which highlighted the damage done by various works traffic on Brick Kiln Lane. There is damage to verges, speeding and vehicles not giving way to pedestrians. Cllr Watson said he recently stopped a driver and asked him why he wasn't using the internal road rather than the highway. The driver replied that he had been told to use the road. Matt Bostock said that Wilderness are not the only users of Brick Kiln Lane but he will come and have a look, report back and see what action can be taken.

Another resident is concerned about the condition of the bridge. There has been no remedial action taken and as HGV's use the road, they are further damaging the bridge. Cllr Watson said an engineer from Suffolk Highways came out to look at the damage but no action was taken. DC Ewart will speak to the new Suffolk Highways liaison officer who has taken over from Wayne Saunders, Jo Kerridge, to see if weight testing can be done on the bridge. The same resident said that the number of local responses to the licensing application at Blyth Barn by Wilderness Reserve, showing on the agenda for the Licensing Sub-committee is incorrect and that she has made a complaint about this inaccuracy. The chairman said this has been noted.

DC Ewart then summarised her latest report. A further community Partnership meeting will be held at Yoxford on 21<sup>st</sup> January. Funding for coastal erosion in Norfolk – revenue should be kept for Suffolk. SCC elections in May will depend on the result of a meeting on Thursday concerning possible devolution. On Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January there is a Cake-off event for local councillors in the Hub. The leader of ESC will be present to meet people – hope to show-off and publicise the Hub. DC Ewart is now vice-chair of the ESC Planning Committee and next Tuesday the Valley Farm application will be on the agenda. She will report back after the meeting.

## **7.25 Finance**

- a. To review and approve the statement of accounts for the current financial year. Approved
- b. To review and approve the bank reconciliation. Approved
- c. To approve the authorisation to pay. Approved
- d. To approve the account receipts – Interest £33.82. Approved
- e. To adopt a draft budget for 2025/2026. Adopted
- f. To approve the 2025 Precept request. Approved
- g. To review and approve £500 support for the Hub. Approved. This will be paid to the Hub when the 2025 precept is received in April 2025.

## **8.25 To consider any planning applications – DC/24/4216/FUL – Erection of a building to house management services and ancillary temporary accommodation associated with the wider tourism business at Valley Farm, Laundry Lane, Huntingfield.**

Matt Bostock explained the aim of this application – what it is for and what exactly is being requested. Cllr Collett believes it to be a positive move but Cllrs Blackmore and Watson disagreed because they feel it is a retrospective application and will be to support the new wedding venue which has yet to have a planning application submitted. There was then much discussion between councillors, Mr Bostock and DC Ewart. Eventually it was agreed that Cllr Kline would put together a document showing a list of conditions requested by HPC if the application is approved. This document, once agreed by councillors, will be put on the ESC Planning portal as a consultee response, by the deadline date of 10<sup>th</sup> January.

## **9.25 To consider attendance at ESC Hearing on 15<sup>th</sup> January which will consider the Premises Licence application by Wilderness Reserve for Blyth Barn.**

Cllr Blackmore will attend the Hearing and present the HPC response to this application, as well as his own personal response. Cllr Kline will attend on behalf of Cllr Watson who is unable to attend. There will be several Huntingfield residents also attending including one journalist.

**10.25 Protective storage for the marquee.**

Cllr Collett said that this is all in hand and the clerk will receive an invoice in due course from Jim Wardale.

**11.25 Drainage/flooding issues in the village as reported to Suffolk Highways.**

Cllr Blackmore will arrange a site meeting with Les Cotton to discuss the situation on Brick Kiln Lane as well as the drainage from the Millenium Green down to Bridge Street. Cllr Collett said that Suffolk Highways have been out to clear and jet the gullies/drains but the problem is no better so it is important to keep reporting problems.

**12.25 To further discuss ways to spend CIL money received to date.**

Councillors agreed to postpone any decisions on future spending until the cost of the drainage improvements is known.

**13.25 To note correspondence already received and circulated.**

No correspondence received required further discussion.

**14.25 Date of the next meeting**

Confirmed as Wednesday **12th March 2025** at 7 pm at the Hub.

**Meeting closed at 8.50 pm.**

**Minutes agreed as correct.**

**Chairman** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Carol Hume**  
**Huntingfield Parish Clerk** [huntingfieldclerk@gmail.com](mailto:huntingfieldclerk@gmail.com)