

HEPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HEPWORTH PAVILION
THURSDAY 17 JULY 2025
7.30pm

PRESENT:

Councillor Garry Bloomfield (GB) (Chair)
Councillor Marjorie MacPherson (MM)
Councillor Perry Penn (PP)
Councillor Louise Robinson (LR)
Councillor Hollie Williams (HW)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Andy Osman (Parish Clerk) (AO)
District Cllr Carol Bull (CB)
Nine members of the public

25/74 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

25/75 APOLOGIES

Councillor Nick Bennett sent apologies which were accepted.

County Cllr Joanna Spicer (JS) arrived at 7.45pm

25/76 SHEPHERDS GROVE DRAFT MASTERPLAN

Jaynic (site developer), Community Communications Partnership (Jaynic's public engagement consultants) and Jaynic's planning consultant attended the meeting to answer questions on the draft Masterplan. GB highlighted that the draft Masterplan had been developed by Jaynic to outline how the policy requirements of the West Suffolk Council local plan for the identified development site at Shepherds Grove might be delivered prior to any detailed planning application. The draft Masterplan would ultimately be considered by West Suffolk Council for approval whereupon it would become supplementary planning guidance. It was confirmed by Jaynic that Copart are not part of any future site development. The meeting highlighted several areas that were not fully thought through or realistic in relation to potential number of jobs, bio diversity net gain, indicative development by the proposed new roundabout and the overall scale of development in relation to existing open space.

25/77 PUBLIC FORUM

'Stables' Field. The owners of this site indicated that a planning application for a change in use of the land had been submitted to West Suffolk Council.

25/78 REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS TO BOTH DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

County Cllr Spicer reported the following:

- Ditch Flooding. JS had received confirmation from County Farms that remediation works were planned to take place over the coming months. [Clerks Note: An email covering planned works was shared with Parish Council on 18 July].
- Bus Shelter Bid. The meeting noted the progress of the bus shelter bid that had been previously circulated, including the next step being undertaken by Suffolk County Council to determine the ownership of the land for the proposed new shelter.

During further discussion on Shepards Grove, the status of DC/23/1154/OUT, the original Equation planning application, was queried. **CB agreed to clarify the West Suffolk Council intent for determining this application.**

District Cllr Bull reported the following:

- DC/24/1622/FUL. CB confirmed that West Suffolk Council had requested further information from the owner on this application which had been declined. Hence it was likely that the application would be refused.
- 'Stables' Field. The meeting noted that West Suffolk Council had served a Planning Contravention Notice on the owners of this site on 16 July. **CB agreed to clarify the position of the indicated planning application** (Minute 25/77 refers).
- Clarkes Sign. **CB agreed to follow up with planning why the Clarkes sign is still present** after it had been refused retrospective planning permission on 22 May 25.

County Cllr Spicer left the meeting at 9pm.

25/79 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 19 June 2025 had been previously circulated and **it was resolved that these were an accurate record of the meetings.**

25/80 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Flood Investigation Template. The meeting reviewed the draft Storm Babet flood investigation template prepared by the Clerk which had included previously shared photos and information. It was agreed that any additional photos and information should be sent to the Clerk to allow a final document to be sent to Suffolk County Council by 31 July.

25/81 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Finance Report. The meeting noted the finance report (current account balance £7,867.37, savings account balance £7,000.00 and the projected outturn at the end of the FY of approx. £3,200 current account and £7,000 savings account). No payments required authorisation.

25/82 PLANNING MATTERS

a. 'Stables' field. Further to discussion at Minute 25/78, the meeting agreed to await the outcome of any enforcement activity before considering any further steps on this issue.

25/83 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

No matters discussed.

25/84 CORRESPONDENCE

None

25/85 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

Old Jaynic Sign. The Chair highlighted the old Jaynic Sign at the A143/Sumner Rd crossroads and **CB agreed to follow up why this was still there** with West Suffolk Council.

25/86 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The meeting **agreed to hold an extraordinary meeting** on Thursday 7 August 2025 at 7.30pm to resolve the Parish Council's response to the draft Shepherds Grove Masterplan. It was agreed that the next full Parish Council meeting will be on Thursday 25 September 2025 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.



Andy Osman
Parish Clerk
25 July 2025