

HEPWORTH PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF A PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HEPWORTH PAVILION
THURSDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2025
7.30pm

PRESENT:

Councillor Garry Bloomfield (GB) (Chair)
Councillor Nicholas Bennett (NB) (Vice 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)
3 members of the public

25/92 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

25/93 APOLOGIES

None.

25/94 PUBLIC FORUM

- a. New Bus Stop. The need for a new bus stop was queried by members of the public. LR clarified that the new bus stop was required for young people safety reasons, as it would be accessible via footways, and to locate it more centrally in the village. The Chair confirmed that repairs to the existing bus stop had been delayed due to deterioration of the wooden frame around the missing window. The **Chair agreed to bring costings to the next meeting for approval to allow this work to be completed.**
- b. Stables Field. CB confirmed that the retrospective planning application, DC/25/1075/FUL, had been withdrawn and that enforcement action by West Suffolk Council had restarted.

25/95 REPORTS FROM AND QUESTIONS TO DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

- a. County Cllr Update. County Cllr Joanna Spicer was not present at the meeting, and her report had been pre-circulated.
- b. District Cllr Update. District Cllr Carol Bull provided the following update:
 - **Jaynic Sign**. It was indicated that this sign had planning permission. **CB agreed to confirm details.** [Clerks Note - DC/22/2191/ADV was submitted in January 2023]

for the erection of a non-illuminated sign and Hepworth Parish Council objected to the application. The application remains pending a decision on the West Suffolk Planning portal].

25/96 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meetings held on 17 July and 7 August 2025 had been previously circulated and **it was resolved that these were an accurate record of the meetings.**

25/97 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

No matters arising

25/98 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). The following payments were agreed:

Clerks Salary & Exps	£1073.91
Insurance (Gallagher)	£453.15
Hepworth Hall Hire	£72.00

NB agreed to authorise payments.

25/99 PLANNING MATTERS

- a. DC/25/1234/HH. The meeting agreed to support the application.
- b. Determination of DC/23/1154/OUT. The meeting noted the update provide by CB which indicated that an extension had been given until the end of September to allow consideration of draft Masterplan information. **CB agreed to provide a further update at the end of September for determination timeline of the application.**

25/100 HIGHWAYS MATTERS

- a. Ditches. A number of potential issues with blocked ditches were discussed. It was **agreed that the Chair would map these** to allow discussion with County Cllr Spicer at the October Parish Council meeting.
- b. Hepworth Pavillion Sign. MM highlight the poor state of the post with the Hepworth Pavillion sign at the junction with The Street/Church Lane. **It was agreed that the Clerk would obtain a cost to replace the post using Parish Council funds for the next meeting.**

25/101 CORRESPONDANCE RECEIVED

- a. West Suffolk Council Rest Centre Training. The meeting noted the offer of rest centre training. **It was agreed that NB would forward the current Hepworth Pavilion Rest**

Centre Plan to West Suffolk Council emergency planners to clarify whether any revision was required.

- b. Suffolk County Council Definitive Map. The definitive map for Hepworth was noted.

25/102 QUESTIONS TO THE CHAIRMAN

- a. Comments on Planning Applications. NB suggested that the Parish Council may wish to add contextual background to comments on planning application where these might be contrary to West Suffolk Council policies. The meeting agreed to adopt this approach.
- b. Barningham Traffic Survey. The meeting was minded to support the addition of HGVs to the planned traffic survey in conjunction with funding from County Cllr Spicer.
- c. Speed Indicator Device (SID) Location. The rationale behind the positioning of the SID at the northern end of The Street was queried. **It was agreed that the Clerk would investigate to see if any information was held.**

25/103 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the date of the next Parish Council meeting had been set for Thursday 16 October 2025 at 7.30 pm.

The meeting closed at 8.28 pm.



Andy Osman
Parish Clerk
1 October 2025