

**Minutes of the Meeting of Lessingham Parish Council held on Tuesday 12th
November 2024 at 7.30pm at Lessingham Village Hall**

Present: Peter Peruzzi (Chairman)
Jennifer Boardman
Georgina Dunn
James Holden
Emma Hallums
Helen Twining
Catherine Moore, Parish Clerk

Also present: County Councillor Richard Price and one member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Sue Allen.

2. Declaration of Interest for items on the agenda

None.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10th September 2024

The minutes of the last meeting were **agreed**, proposed by Jeni Boardman, seconded by Emma Hallums, all in favour.

ACTION: Clerk

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

a) Enlargement of Little Tern area

Peter Peruzzi reported that a newsletter had been received stating that the Parish Council would be consulted before anything was done.

b) Installation of Bin at Duffields Gap

Peter Peruzzi reported that the bin had been installed and was being emptied weekly. The Clerk was asked to check whether it had been emptied weekly as requested.

ACTION: Clerk

c) Abandoned Vehicle, East Ruston Road

It was noted that the vehicle had been removed.

5. Public Forum

a) Public

A member of the public addressed their concerns about the Little Tern area, although the necessary permissions had already been granted. The member of the public noted their concerns about the proposed works, and gave some history about the colony. Councillors agreed with the concerns, noting that the sand had built up due to drift, and that this was a developing ecology that could be lost. There had been another meeting which had not been well advertised, concerns had been expressed at that meeting but no feedback had been received. It was **agreed** that Peter Peruzzi and Jeni Boardman would work together to follow up to find out where they were with the project and consultation, and copy in the relevant parties.

ACTION: PP / JB

It was suggested that Coastal Partnership East should be engaged with this, and Richard Price asked to be copied into all correspondence.

b) County Councillor

Richard Price reported that it was busy at the County Council. There had been several meetings about flooding on a local and regional level. The water level on the

Broads was at the lowest level for a long time, however there was work to be done regarding erosion in a particular place blocking water from coming out of the Bure and into the Yare, to then drain out with the tide.

The County Council was trying to balance the budget, the National Insurance rise would be an issue, and 70% of spending when on adult and children's social services. Funding had not been forthcoming from Central Government, the settlement would be notified at the end of December.

The devolution deal had been rejected by the government, who now wanted Norfolk and Suffolk to join forces. This was still being negotiated, as it would bring more funding in.

Lobbying was underway regarding unsightly pylons.

The SAM2 was working well, and the remote data download was effective.

Road gritting would be changing using GPS technology, which would use 15% less salt.

- c) District Councillor
Not present.

6. Planning

- a) New Applications
None.

- b) Applications considered between meetings
None.

- c) Decisions
PF/24/0979 4 School Road, Lessingham: Dormer to rear elevation of dwelling to facilitate loft conversion. **APPROVED**

7. Finance

- a) Finances 2024/25 To Date

The accounts were noted. Since the last meeting the following had been received:

- Precept - £2,553.00
- Interest - £60.28

- b) Bank Signatories

It was **agreed** to remove Andrew Cull and Alan Shields from the bank mandate, and to add Emma Hallums as a signatory alongside Peter Peruzzi, James Holden and Jeni Boardman, proposed by Peter Peruzzi, seconded by Jeni Boardman, all in favour. **ACTION: Clerk**

- c) Payments

It was **agreed** to pay the following, proposed by Jeni Boardman, seconded by Helen Twining, all in favour:-

C Moore	Salary & Expenses Sept – Oct 2024	£337.50
HMRC	PAYE Sept – Oct 2024	£82.00
Glasdon UK	Litter Bin	£262.54
Norfolk PTS	Councillor Training	£104.00

8. Correspondence

- a) General Correspondence

Emails regarding the Little Tern areas.

Orsted Community Fund – nothing to apply for.

Norfolk Minerals and Waste Plan – no comments to make.
Norfolk Coastal Forum – attended by Peter Peruzzi and Richard Price.

9. Other Matters

a) Dog Waste / Litter Bins

Peter Peruzzi noted that he has spoken to the Lessingham churchwarden, with a view to placing a bin near the entrance to the church car park. However this was not supported by the PCC. There was a place the other side of the church which could be possible, but it was a fair way from the footpath. Peter would forward the photos of the location.

ACTION: Clerk

b) Councillor Portfolios and Risk Assessments

Peter Peruzzi presented the first of the risk assessments. It was felt to be clear and understandable, and more time was requested to digest it. It was **agreed** that this would be on the next agenda.

ACTION: Clerk

c) Draft Budget 2025/26

The draft budget was considered. A litter bin at North Gap was suggested, however it was noted that this wasn't suitable due to sand drift, marram grass proximity, access for emptying, and the larger flood gates. Councillors were asked to consider any projects and to bring these to the next meeting.

ACTION: All

d) Meeting Dates 2025

The meeting dates were **agreed** as presented, proposed by Peter Peruzzi, seconded by Georgina Dunn, all in favour.

ACTION: Clerk

10. Reports from Councillors

The liaison link with the Village Hall was discussed, it was felt that this was important to be maintained. There had been changes on the Village Hall Committee, and new people in roles were still finding their feet. It was suggested that a representative of the Committee could be invited to attend a Parish Council meeting once they had settled in. James Holden agreed to take this forward.

ACTION: JH

James Holden spoke about the problem of anti-social behaviour from occupiers of holiday lets, and that people were reluctant to address it directly due to needing to keep neighbourly relations. It had been suggested that they could go through the letting management companies, however it was very difficult to deal with as the problem people moved on after a week. James noted that letters had been issued before regarding parking on grass, which had been effective. Peter Peruzzi agreed to speak to North Norfolk District Council for advice.

ACTION: PP

Peter Peruzzi reported that he had spoken to the local police officer about parking at the Bush Estate. Some signage of hazards was suggested, and it was confirmed it was an adopted BOAT. This would be discussed at the next meeting.

ACTION: Clerk

There had been two calls to the parish since June.

Peter Peruzzi reported that he had attended the Norfolk Coastal Forum. There was a CoastWise event 9am – 1pm at the Wenn Evans Centre on 23rd November. The repair between Duffields Gap and Seaside Lane was badly corroded.

Jeni Boardman reported that she had attended a Deaf Café recently, the new MP Steffan Aquarone had been there and was invited to attend a future Parish Council meeting.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place on **Tuesday 14th January 2025** at 7.30pm at Lessingham Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

CHAIRMAN