

**Minutes of the Meeting of Lessingham Parish Council held on Tuesday 13th May
2025 at 7.30pm at Lessingham Village Hall**

Present: Peter Peruzzi (Chairman)
Georgina Dunn
Emma Hallums
James Holden
Helen Twining
Sara Burns, Parish Clerk

Also present: County Councillor Richard Price.

1. Election of Chair

Peter Peruzzi was elected as Chairman, all agreed. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.

2. Election of Vice-Chair

James Holden was elected as Vice-Chairman, all agreed. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.

3. Apologies for Absence

Sue Allen sent apologies which were accepted.

4. Declaration of Interest

None

5. Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 11th March 2025

The minutes of the last meeting were **agreed**, proposed by Emma Hallums, seconded by James Holden, all in favour and the minutes were signed by Peter Peruzzi.

6. Co-option of Parish Councillor

No applicants on this occasion.

7. Public Forum

a) Public

No members of the public present.

b) County Councillor

Richard Price reported:

Norfolk and Suffolk have been accepted onto the priority programme with an election in May 2026 for a mayor for the joint Norfolk and Suffolk mayoral authority. No County Council elections will be held this year. Following public consultation and liaison with district councils it was noted South Norfolk propose two unitary authorities for Norfolk with all other districts and Norwich city proposing a three unitary authority. County hasn't specified a preference yet and are consulting on the finances for each option. Final recommendations will be made to government by September.

Suffolk are going for 1 UA, an invitation has been made to attend a meeting at The Cedars NW on Friday 16th May, 5-7pm. Alternatively there is an online meeting being held on Tuesday 20th May, 6.30-8pm.

East Ruston is one of a few village schools with a nursery accepting children from age two. The academy chose the week after easter to write to parents to let them

know numbers were falling and they are considering closing it in September. Parents have held a demonstration with the local MP involved. During three weeks of the parents campaign the nursery has received enquiries from prospective parents. It was noted that if the school had engaged with local community, the campaign and demonstration would not have been needed. It was agreed to offer support that the nursery should remain open.

Attended the Upper Thurne working group, a report was received from the Environment Agency but there was no mention of the Bure/Yare junction.

c) District Councillor

No report.

8. Planning

a) New Applications

None

b) Applications considered between meetings

PF/25/0238 Mirabella, Bush Drive, Eccles-on-Sea: Demolition of existing 2-bed bungalow and erection of replacement single storey 2-bed dwelling (self-build). The council have no objections.

PF/25/0493 Lessingham Manor Cottage, Heath Road, Hempstead: Extension of existing residential property to provide enlarged accommodation. The council have no objections.

c) Decisions

PF/25/0097- Grange Farm: Change of use from a certified 5 pitches site to a private independent 10 caravan pitches site – Refused

RV/22/1100 Happidays, Beach Road, Eccles-on-sea. Removal of condition 4 (restricting period when dwelling can be occupied) of planning permission 01/84/0212/F (Proposed bungalow) to allow for habitation all year round. - Refused

9. Finance

a) End of Year Accounts 2024/25

End of year accounts for 2024/25 were noted.

Certificate of exemption for 2024/25 was approved.

Internal Audit Report for 2024/25 was noted.

Annual Governance Statement for 2024/25 was completed and approved.

Annual Accounting Statements for 2024/25 were approved.

b) Finances 2025/26 To Date

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

➤ None.

c) Insurance renewal

Zurich insurance renewal quote was noted and approved.

d) Bank signatories

It was agreed to remove Emma Hallums and Jennifer Boardman from the bank mandate.

It was agreed that Georgina Dunn would be added to the bank mandate as a signatory. Proposed by Helen Twining and seconded by Emma Hallums, all agreed.

ACTION: Clerk

e) Payments

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

S Burns	Salary & Expenses (£30.50) April 2025	£189.84
HMRC	PAYE April 2025	£38.58
ICO	Subscription (DD)	£47.00
Norfolk PTS	Initial Clerk Training (Mautby PC to reimburse 50%)	£80.00
Lessingham VH	Hire Charges	£38.25
Mrs K Wilton	Internal Audit	£100.00

f) North Norfolk Community Transport

NNCT have applied for a grant, after discussion it was agreed to make a donation of £100.

ACTION: Clerk

10. Correspondence

a) General Correspondence

Receipt was noted - Eccles to Winterton Groyne Refurbishment Fact Sheet
Receipt was noted – Information from NCC on Devolution/Local Government Reform
Receipt was noted – Norfolk and Suffolk Local Nature Recovery Strategies
Receipt was noted - Benjamin Court Film link.
Receipt was noted – NNDC consultation on Dog Orders in non-coastal areas.

11. Highways and Parish Assets

a) General Highway Issues

None.

b) General Parish Asset Issues

James Holden noted the bench on the corner of School Road and The Street is in disrepair. Clerk will look into whether the council have responsibility for the bench or not.

ACTION: Clerk

It was noted that the phone box has been previously painted by BT, but the plastic panels were replaced with plastic. James Holden and Peter Peruzzi have glass panels to replace the plastic ones, this should be completed by the end of June.

ACTION: PP & JH

12. Other Matters

a) Update on the Little Tern Area

Nothing further to report in this matter.

b) Additional Litter Bin at Bush Estate

Helen Twining looked into the need for a new litter bin at Bush Estate, however after discussion it was agreed not to provide a litter bin at this time.

c) Councillor Portfolios and Risk Assessments

Nothing new to report.

d) Tree and Hedge Planting

Topic was briefly discussed. Agreed to put on next agenda and Clerk to find out about project carried out at Ingham PC.

ACTION: Clerk

e) Happisburgh Coastwatch Donation

After discussion, it was agreed to make a donation of £100. All in favour.

ACTION: Clerk

13. Items for the Next Agenda

Tree and Hedge Planting

14. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on **Tuesday 8th July 2025** at 7.30pm at Lessingham Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

CHAIRMAN