



HENSTEAD WITH HULVER STREET  
PARISH COUNCIL



**Minutes of the ordinary Meeting of the Council**  
held at Hulver Village Hall on Wednesday 6th November 2024  
commencing at 7pm

**99/24 Present**

Cllr J Armstrong (Chair), Cllr J Doran, Cllr J Facer, Cllr P Block

**In attendance** Angela Colbridge (Clerk), SCC Cllr Ladd

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

**100/24 Apologies for absence.** ESC Cllr Ashton

**101/24 Declaration of interest personal or prejudicial to this agenda.** None

**102/24 To Consider requests for dispensations.** None

**103/24 Minutes of the Meeting of 2nd October 2024**

**It was Proposed by Cllr Armstrong, seconded by Cllr Facer that the minutes of 2nd October 2024 be accepted as a true record. This was agreed.** The minutes were signed by the Chair.

**104/24 Matters arising.**

None

**105/24 Reports**

**105/24/1 Suffolk County Council.** SCC Cllr Ladd reported the following:

Suffolk County Council have committed £2 million from their budget towards the Benacre and Kessingland Flood Risk Management Project. Sizewell C have also committed £25 million towards this project which has an overall cost of £59 million. The project aims to provide a sustainable flood risk solution for Kessingland Village and the Lothingland Valley. Coastal flood risks and erosion threaten the existing Environment agency Pumping Station, putting homes, businesses, farmland and vital infrastructure (A12) at risk. Work is due to start in the spring of 2025. SCC has raised concerns in its response to the government's proposed reforms for planning policies, in particular around infrastructure when new housing developments are approved. The Council has launched a pothole prevention programme to target areas of Suffolk's road network that could worsen when the winter weather hits. SCC have announced its intention to invest an extra £1.5 million to deliver works identified in initial flood investigation reports. A need for a further £20 million for further prevention works has been identified. A significant number of drains have been cleared and roads repaired following Storm Babet, however, drains will still not be able to cope with a similar amount of rainfall over such a short period of time. The Princess Royal will open the Gull Wing bridge in Lowestoft on 19th November. It was noted by a parish councillor that there is no apparent cycle path on the bridge.

**105/24/2 East Suffolk Council.** No report

**105/24/3 Police.** On the [police.uk](https://www.police.uk) website for the month of August there was 1 x reported crime on or near Marsh Lane under the category of Burglary and for the month of September there was 1 x reported crime on or near Toad Row under the category of Vehicle Crime

**106/24 Chair's Item.** None

Signed Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## 107/24 Correspondence.

**a) Citizens Advice East Suffolk.** The Clerk noted receipt of an email from Citizens Advice East Suffolk giving thanks for the donation from the Parish Council and forwarding a copy of their annual report. This has been circulated to councillors.

**b) East Suffolk Council - Fly tipping.** Following the most recent incidents of fly-tipping at Latymere Dam, ESC have confirmed that this has been forwarded to ESSL for removal with specialist removal of the possible asbestos sheeting being arranged. Possible proactive measures to prevent fly-tipping at this site are also being sought.

**c) Ecoverde Energy.** The Operations Director from Ecoverde Energy has been in contact in reply to the raised concerns from residents over Biomass tractors and trailers coming through Benacre Road and Henstead. Concerns have been forwarded to their agricultural contractor employed for the Ellough AD Plant and reassurance of the importance of maintaining a harmonious relationship with local parish councils has been communicated. It was noted that a recent occurrence of an incident in Henstead has also been reported to personnel at the AD Plant in Ellough and the concern raised seems to have been resolved.

**d) Jenny Riddell - Carpenter MP.** The office of the local MP have updated the Clerk that Open Reach have opened a case to look into the lack of Fibre Broadband reported in a certain area of the village.

## 108/24 Finance

**108/24/1 To review and approve the bank reconciliation and budget to actual.** Bank Reconciliation Approved.

### **108/24/2 Approval of outstanding invoices**

SALC Provision of payroll services for 6 months ending September 2024 £27

A Colbridge Clerks Expenses £20

**Proposed by Cllr Facer, Seconded by Cllr Block**

**108/24/3 Account Balances.** The Clerk noted the following rolling balances:

Current Account £ 19,891.75

Savings Account £ 837.24

### **108/24/4 To note any receipts**

East Suffolk Council CIL payment £634.64

The Clerk noted receipt of confirmation of payment from Zurich Insurance of the insurance renewal premium.

A discussion was held on moving some more of the council funds into the business saver account which led to a short discussion on the possibility of moving to online banking. This will be discussed further at the December meeting when the budget is discussed.

## 109/24 Planning

### **109/24/1 To consider any planning applications**

**DC/23/1983/FUL** Full planning permission for 1 No. Dwelling, to include access, parking and amenity land. Land south of Toad Row, Henstead, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 7LG.

**Amendments to the planning application, additional information relating to Ecology has been provided.** Councillors agreed that, having reviewed the most recent information provided, it would uphold its previous comments as published 29th January 2024.

### **109/24/2 To receive outcomes of Planning Applications from ESC**

**i) DC/23/1983/FUL** Full planning permission for 1 No. Dwelling, to include access, parking and amenity land. Land south of Toad Row, Henstead, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 7LG.

### **Awaiting decision**

**iii) DC/24/1779/CLE** Certificate of Lawful Existing Use in respect of the occupation of Pheasant Cottage, Sotterley Road, Hulver, Beccles, NR34 7UJ for a continuous period in excess of 10 years and in breach of the Agricultural Occupancy Condition applied as condition (2) of Planning Permission (Ref: DC/08/1151/FUL).

Site address: Pheasant Cottage, Sotterley Road, Henstead, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 7UJ.

**Awaiting decision.**

**iv) DC/24/2106/ROC** Removal of condition No 2 of DC/08/1151/FUL - Construction of 1 no. house, double garage and cartshed - Agricultural dwellings. Pheasant Cottage, Sotterley Road, Henstead, Beccles, Suffolk, NR34 7UJ. **Awaiting decision.**

**v) DC/24/2893/FUL** Change of use for the existing annexe to a separate dwelling. Annexe At, Broome Cottage, Sotterley Road, Hulver Street, Beccles, Suffolk. **Application Permitted.**

**109/24/3 APPEALS**

**AP/23/0058/ENF** - Part Land East Of Mariawood, Hulver Street, Henstead, Suffolk NR34 7UE. Enforcement case reference ENF/22/0247/USE - **Appeal in progress**

It was again brought to the attention of the council that, as part of the works being carried out under the permitted Planning Application DC/24/1381/FUL, a hedge has been removed which was contrary to information provided in the application form dated 15/04/2024. The Clerk will look into this and report back to council.

**110/24 Parish Community Plan**

**110/24/1 Highways** - Following the Parish Councils report to Suffolk Highways regarding a request to add a 7.5t weight restriction to the existing ADS sign in Henstead, Highways have responded stating that there is not a budget available to fund upgrades to existing infrastructure unless it forms part of a planned maintenance project identified through their asset management approach. In addition, their road safety and traffic management team have assessed the current layout at this location and are content with the current advanced information signs advising drivers of the weight restriction. As the condition of the sign is faded they will arrange for it to be refreshed. A discussion was held and it was agreed that the Clerk would forward photographs of the current signage to SCC Cllr Ladd for further investigations, to include photographs of other signage in the village which is very faded. SCC Cllr Ladd noted that the new directional sign for the Church Crossroads has been ordered and should appear in situ soon. Thanks were offered to Cllr Ladd.

**110/24/2 Church Surround** - Cllr Facer has previously prepared extracts from historical minutes relating to the area known as the Church Surround (CS). With regards to an extract from Parish Council minutes dated 5th October 2009, which stated that the PC agree to take a transfer of the CS from the present trustee (Cllr C Hadingham), a discussion was held and the Parish Council agreed to write to Mr C Hadingham, last remaining trustee of the CS, to request acknowledgment that this is still the wish. If this is the case, it was agreed that the PC would take over the trusteeship of the CS. **Proposed by Cllr Doran, seconded by Cllr Block.** The Clerk will draft a letter to Mr C Hadingham.

**110/24/3 Communication including website** - No update

**110/24/4 Amenities** - No update

**110/24/5 Social Activities** - The Parish Council is planning a coffee morning style event for the Spring of 2025 which all residents will be welcome to attend. A date for this event will be discussed at the December meeting of the Parish Council and advertised to residents.

**111/24 Village Emergency Plan**

The Clerk provided councillors with information following attendance at an Emergency Planning Workshop held in October. The information obtained will be used to begin putting together a draft Emergency Plan for Henstead with Hulver Street. The 'Suffolk Prepared' website is a useful tool for residents to use, the Clerk will advertise this. 'Suffolk Prepared' have also produced a fridge magnet 'Emergency Preparedness Guide'. A discussion was held on whether the Parish Council could provide one of these guides for each household in the village. The Clerk will obtain costs for this.

Signed Chair \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**112/24 Speed Indicator Device.** Further information has been provided to councillors on SID's purchased and used by neighbouring parishes. It was agreed that the Westcotech product was most favoured. A discussion was held on possible locations of additional posts or usage of current posts in the village. The Clerk will invite a representative from both Suffolk County Council and Westcotech to visit the village with a view to deciding possible locations for the new SID. It was noted that the 30mph Speed Limit Roundel on Benacre Road was faded. Pictures will be forwarded to the Clerk.

**113/24 Keep the Heat - Thermal Imaging Project.** The Clerk provided information on this project for which equipment hire is available from 25th February to 11th March 2025. It was agreed that the Clerk would advertise this opportunity to residents in the village.

**114/24 Sexual Harassment Policy and Procedure.** The Clerk updated councillors on the new positive duty for Councils to prevent Sexual Harassment in the workplace which came into effect on 26th October 2024. A draft Sexual and General Harassment Policy and Procedure has been circulated to Councillors and this will be discussed at the December meeting with a view to approve an appropriate policy.

**115/24 Any other business**

i) The Clerk noted that an email has been received from the Festival Producer at FolkEast Festivals with regards to a possible move of FolkEast to Sotterley Park. If possible, a representative from the Parish Council will attend a parish council meeting of the Sotterley Parish where any questions and concerns can be addressed. The Clerk will obtain the dates of this meeting.

ii) It was noted that the village would benefit from a community litter pick. The Clerk will look into availability of equipment from ESSL and produce a draft Risk Assessment and Method Statement for the litter pick.

iii) It was noted that there are cars being parked on roads in the village not in line with the Highway Code. It was agreed that a notice would be put in a future issue of The Sheaf and also sent out on the residents email link that, as the nights are drawing in, for the safety of yourself and others, please ensure that vehicles parked on public highways are parked in accordance with the rules of the Highway Code.

**Questions from the Public**

None present

**116/24 Items for the agenda of the next meeting**

None

**117/24 Date and time of next meeting.**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Wednesday 4th December at 7pm

**The meeting closed at 9:27 pm**