



**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting**

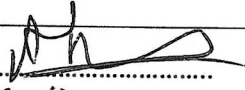
held on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 7.00pm in West Row Outdoor Bowls Club,  
Beeches Road, West Row IP28 8NY

**Present:** Cllr A Fisher, Cllr R Hamill, Cllr A Goodenough, Cllr M Connery, and Cllr L Baker

Also in attendance: Sharon Vale, Parish Clerk

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:00pm. A reminder to everyone that the meeting was being recorded for accurate writing of the minutes.

296	<b><u>Apologies and acceptance for absence</u></b>  Apologies received from Cllr M Peachey, D/Cllr C Noble, D/Cllr D Waldron, Cllr J Goodenough, Cllr T Gooch-Taylor Balls, Cllr S Knight, and Sqn Ldr Andy Bell.	
297	<b><u>To receive member's declaration of interest and dispensations relating to items in this agenda.</u></b>  None.	
298	<b><u>To resolve that the minutes of the meeting of the council held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2024 are a true and correct record.</u></b>  It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> October 2024 were a true and correct record. The minutes were signed by the Chair.	
299	<b><u>Public participation (10 minutes in total).</u></b>	
300	<b><u>External reports.</u></b>  a. <b>D/Cllr Colin Noble – Suffolk County Council</b>  Non attendance. Nothing to report.  b. <b>D/Cllr Don Waldron – West Suffolk Council</b>  Non attendance. Nothing to report.  c. <b>Squadron Leader Andy Bell – RAF Mildenhall</b>  Non attendance. Nothing to report.  d. <b>PC Andrew Green – Community Police Office</b>  Non attendance. Nothing to report.	

Signed by Chair of Meeting:   
Date Signed: 18-12-2024




301	<p><b><u>To consider planning applications.</u></b></p> <p>(a) <b>DC/24/1646/FUL</b> – Planning application – one dwelling, Beech Hedge Farm, Weston Ditch, West Row IP28 8RE. It was voted to support this planning application.</p>	Clerk
302	<p><b><u>Matters relating to governance.</u></b></p> <p>(a) Virtual attendance at council meetings. It was voted to proceed with the consultation.</p> <p>(b) Parish Council .gov.uk domain. Councillor email address format. It was voted to move forward with the .gov.uk domain name and clerk email address. All Councillors voted not to change over their own email addresses.</p> <p>(c) Parish Council Facebook page. It was agreed to keep posting our items on the West Row Facebook page. Close.</p>	AF AF
303	<p><b><u>Financial matters.</u></b></p> <p>a. Approval and Authorisation of Payments for November 2024. It was unanimously Resolved to Accept the payments.</p> <p>b. Approval of October 2024 Bank Reconciliation was received.</p> <p>c. Approval of October 2024 Deposit Account was received.</p> <p>d. Draft Budget Review/Precept 2025/26 was received.</p> <p>e. The note the local government service pay agreement 2024/25 backdated to April.</p>	
304	<p><b><u>Matters relating to street furniture/amenity provision</u></b></p> <p>a. Report on Speed Indicator Device Findings – Results remain consistent, although Hurdle Drove did show up one very high speed of 103 mph.</p> <p>b. Update on Footpath 30 (eroded riverbank) along river at bottom of the Gravel. Cllr M Peachey reported that SCC are still trying to find someone that has access to the specialist barge needed. Apparently a few years ago the Environmental Agency stopped maintaining riverbanks, presumably due to budget cuts, and as a result all the contractors they used sold or scrapped their barges because they could not make them pay, therefore there are now lots of riverbanks needing repair and no one with the equipment to do it. The repairs to the FP30 section further east between The Gravel and Judes Ferry, are much simpler, and the SCC contractor should do these works over the winter (by the end of the financial year), weather permitting</p> <p>c. SCC Development. The application was approved by WSC on the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2024. No doubt we will see some activity on the site in the coming months.</p> <p>d. Shop Drove Footpath. Ongoing.</p> <p>e. Building site at the entrance to Pott Hall Road. Ongoing. Cllr A Fisher will speak to SCC.</p> <p>f. New Cemetery. Cllr M Peachey reported that there was no significant update, apart from SCC saying they expect the land</p>	AF

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	<p>valuation to be ready by December, at which point we can review how best to proceed.</p> <p>g. Additional defibrillator at the end of Eldo Road. Cllr A Fisher to investigate further.</p> <p>h. Bridleway to Mildenhall – Wamil Hall path wording. Cllr R Hamill submitted a quote from the contractor for £750.00 for both signs. It was voted to approve this quotation and move forward.</p> <p>i. Hedge/Verge Cutting around the village.</p> <p>j. Phone Box Painting. Ongoing.</p> <p>k. The Ancient Parish of Mildenhall Charities. Footpath across allotments – Friday Street. See AOB.</p>	AF
305	<p><b><u>Other working party updates/reports</u></b></p> <p>a. Update on the Echo/Parish Magazine.</p> <p>b. Update on Neighbourhood Plan. Neither Cllr M Peachey or the Clerk have heard anything further from Ian Poole. No update at present.</p> <p>c. Warm Place Update – next fish and chip lunch arranged for Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024.</p> <p>d. 100 Club Update. Cllr L Baker will promote this at the Christmas tree lighting event.</p>	
306	<p><b><u>Allotment Matters</u></b></p>	
307	<p><b><u>Events</u></b></p> <p>a. Village Knitting – Poppies for Remembrance Sunday. Knitting poppies is all going to plan. Close.</p> <p>b. Remembrance Services on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> November 2024 meeting at 10:45 at the Church Green Memorial. Close.</p> <p>c. Christmas 2024. Dates and timings have been planned. It was voted and agreed to spend up to £250 on additional decorations for the sleigh.</p> <p>d. Easter Egg Hunt Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2025. Cllr L Baker and Cllr S Knight to produce a map along with a quiz. Cllr L Baker to source costing of an Easter bunny outfit.</p> <p>e. 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary End of WWII 2025. We will celebrate VJ Day to mark the end of World War II over the weekend of 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> August 2025. West Row Historical Society to take the lead on this event.</p> <p>f. Parish Council Surgeries. Next surgery to take place on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2024 from 10:00 to 12:00 – Cllr A Fisher and Cllr R Hamill to attend. Additional surgeries will be on every third Saturday of the month.</p> <p>g. Village Litter Pick.</p>	SK/LB
308	<p><b><u>Chair and Councillors' reports/suggestion (on the night)</u></b></p> <p>Footpath from Friday Street to Village Hall – Cllr M Peachey informed us that SCC have released their draft report recommending that the route is registered as a public right of way, which is very good news. The report</p>	

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	<p>should go to a meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> December 2024. There are still several stages to pass through, but this is a good step in the right direction.</p> <p>Historic footpath that linked The Gravel with the existing footpath between the Church and Ferry Lane. Cllr M Peachey said that as expected, SCC decided not to proceed with investigating this route which is very disappointing. It almost certainly was a public right of way. Cllr M Peachey said that we do have a right to appeal, which will cost us nothing, so Cllr M Peachey has requested this. Due to a backlog of cases, Cllr M Peachey does not expect to hear anything more on this case until September next year.</p>	
309	<b><u>Correspondence and exchange of additional information (at the discretion of the Chair)</u></b>	
310	<p><b><u>Date of the next meeting</u></b></p> <p>To confirm the date of the next meeting, scheduled for Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2024.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 21:10 hours.</p>	

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