

# Chairman's Report for Corton Parish Council – May 2026

Presented by Stephen Pavey, Chairman

## Introduction

Over the past year, Corton Parish Council has worked diligently to represent and address the interests of our parishioners. The following report outlines the key matters and activities undertaken during this period.

## Community Engagement and Meetings

In May 2025, Jess Asato, our local MP, convened a meeting at the playing field meeting rooms to discuss various concerns raised by parishioners. Topics included issues affecting the community such as public safety, local infrastructure, and amenities.

## Beach and Public Safety

The matter of inappropriate behaviour at the Naturist beach was discussed, with the police in attendance. It was agreed that the police would adopt a more proactive approach to reported incidents. Over the year, individuals have been spoken to regarding their conduct and warned that formal reports may be made if necessary.

Jess Asato also organised beach walks during the summer of 2025 under the theme "Take back control of the beach", supporting community efforts to maintain a safe and welcoming environment.

## Traffic and Speed Concerns

The issue of speeding along Corton Long Lane was raised, with a request for the installation of a speed monitoring device between the bridge and the junction with The Street. Installation required unanimous consent from homeowners in the affected area; however, due to one objection, the device could not be installed.

## Footpath Improvements

Discussions centred on creating a footpath from the village to the church, linked to the proposal for the King's Coastal Footpath. The Parish Council advocated for the path to run alongside the road due to safety concerns for pedestrians, as the road is unlit and features blind bends. The path was initially installed along the cliff, which has since eroded into the sea. Talks continue regarding the possibility of placing the footpath beside the road.

## Environmental and Infrastructure Matters

Throughout the year, reports concerning odours from the sewerage works were submitted to the Parish Clerk and logged. These records will be considered when a planning application is received for proposed developments near the works.

Several hedges in the village have become overgrown, obstructing public footpaths. Parishioners are reminded to maintain hedges within their property boundary. Those unable to manage their hedges are encouraged to contact the Parish Council for assistance.

## Road Safety and Initiatives

Requests were made for the installation of convex mirrors in the woods near Azure Seas holiday park, but Highways rejected this proposal. The re-establishment of a speed watch team was considered, but only two volunteers came forward, insufficient for operation, and so the initiative was discontinued.

## Support for Local Institutions

The Parish Council continues to support St Bartholomew's Church, contributing to its maintenance fund for the upkeep of hedges and grass cutting.

Road works along the coast road necessitated temporary bus routes throughout the year. The Parish Council extends thanks to First Bus and its drivers for their adaptability and service.

## Development and Planning

Concertus, involved in planning the proposed garden village, held a meeting at the playing field hall to update parishioners. Questions were raised, but no planning application has yet been received.

The upkeep of "The Cut" was discussed, and the Parish Council requested East Suffolk Council to ensure the area remains safe and accessible.

## Flooding Solutions

Persistent flooding at Tramps Alley was addressed after East Suffolk Council was unable to resolve the issue. Councillor David Farmer, with the assistance of Joan Pinter's divining skills and other local residents, successfully cleared the drains and remedied the flooding.

## Community Initiatives

The establishment of a Men's Shed facility is in early planning stages as the Parish Council assesses its feasibility for the village.

## Acknowledgements

It has been my privilege to serve as Chairman of Corton Parish Council. I wish to thank all councillors for their involvement and support over the past year, as well as our district and county councillors, Paul Ashdown and James Reeder, for their contributions and locality funding. I wish them well in the upcoming elections.

Special thanks are extended to the Playing Field committee for their dedication in managing and funding the playing field, to Timothy Cave for conducting the annual audit, and to Lynne, our Clerk, whose attention to detail is evident in the flawless internal audit results.

## Conclusion

Thank you to everyone for your continued support and commitment to our village.

Stephen Pavey

Chairman

Corton Parish Council