

MINUTES OF CORTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on Wednesday 2nd April 2025 at 7.30pm in the Community Room, Playing Field

Councillors Present: Stephen Pavey (SP) Maureen Boughton (MB) Gill Armstrong (GA)
David Fermor (DF) Bob Groome (BG)

In Attendance: Lynne Pavey (Clerk) Cllr Paul Ashdown Cllr James Reeder

Members of the public – 8

1. Welcome by Chair

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and went through the safety procedures.

2. To consider accepting apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Peter Armstrong and Sue Groome

3. To record declarations of interest and requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests or other interests

None declared

4. To approve the Minutes of the March meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 5th March were recommended for approval, proposed by MB, seconded by GA, all agreed. They were duly signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

Matters Arising

No matters raised.

5. To receive reports from the County and District Councillors

Cllr James Reeder

Suffolk County Council confirmed it is bringing the library services back under their control.

Two hundred new specialist places across the county are set to be considered by Suffolk County Council's Cabinet for SEND (children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities) A Plug in Suffolk Car Club is being set up – the nearest location is in Norwich Road, Lowestoft. This is where electric cars can be rented out and booked by drivers in the community by the minute, hour or day.

Large Solar Farms are being built in Suffolk.

SP asked about Suffolk taking back the library service - Cllr Reeder explained why this had happened and that a number of challenges still have to be overcome.

BG asked that the information about the SEND and the Plug in Car Club be made known to as many local people as possible.

Cllr Paul Ashdown

East Suffolk would like to create more than one unitary area to deliver more effective and efficient services.

East Suffolk have agreed to put signs up on the beach regarding the lewd behaviour discussed recently. The Portfolio Holder may attend the meeting being held next week to discuss the problems.

Car Park for the church for Broadland Sands – Cllr Ashdown informed that there is a meeting next week where it will be discussed.

6. To receive reports from the Committee Representatives

a) Playing Field

The Gentlemen's Club held in the Small Room has now finished.
Volunteers from Corton have been helping clear the edges of the playing field.
The Functional Fitness Club are moving their time slot from the morning to the afternoon.
The Craft Fayre held here on Sunday went well.
The temporary fence has been removed.
The No Waiting Cones put out over the weekend for the football seem to be working well.

b) Speed Sign

SP reported on the speed sign statistics for March. The traffic had increased and some of the speeds recorded were extremely high. SP had contacted the police about this. The speed camera will be replaced at some stage by an ANPR camera.

BG stated that some of the main roads had been closed and the diversion went along Corton Road which could be one of the reasons why the traffic increased.

c) Corton Poor's Land Trust and Corton Almshouse Charity

Corton Poor's Land Trust

A generous donation of chicken manure has been made for the benefit of allotment holders and deposited at the allotments. Two plots remain available. Furthermore, a notice regarding Rodents will be displayed on the notice board. The trust will fund the one-off cost for key safes for residents of Corton who have a personal alarm supplied by East Suffolk Council at the request of the Trust.

Corton Almshouse Charity

Reverend Nigel Lacey announced leaving the parish of Corton, stepping down from his role as trustee on the 3rd of May 2025. Plans are underway to host a garden party for the almshouse residents, though a specific date for the event is yet to be confirmed by the Warden.

BT has identified the entry point for the installation of a new digital line at 54 Fowlers Crescent. Meanwhile, year-end accounts are currently being prepared by the accountants.

A recent investigation revealed the primary cause of dampness affecting two Almshouse properties. Following this, a specialist company provided recommendations to address and help mitigate the issue.

In addition, assisted bin collection services by East Suffolk Services have been introduced for three residents of the Almshouses.

The next Trustee Meeting will be on Wednesday 9th April 2025
Denise West – Secretary 17th March 2025

7. Public Forum – to receive questions or comments from Parishioners

A resident reported about a loose manhole cover in Station Road. SP agreed to contact Anglian Water as several residents were being affected by the noise it created.

BG asked if the Parish Council would support Gladstone Road in holding a street party to celebrate VE Day. Parish Council agreed, subject to neighbour's agreement.

8. Parish Clerk Report

a) Finance

Bank Account Balance

Community Account - £3,046.67

Business Premium Account - £4,638.45

Community Account balance includes the £1,000 legacy from Mr Soanes and £749.17 CIL money leaving a balance of £1,297.50.

b) Payments

4 payments awaiting authorisation:-

BT: Broadband - £51.78

HMRC: PAYE – £153.00

East Suffolk Council – Garden Waste Renewal - £52.50

Clerk's Salary

DF proposed the accounts be paid, seconded by BG, all agreed.

c) Income

Corton Playing Field Committee: Monthly Contribution for Broadband - £18.00

d) Correspondence (circulated)

East Suffolk Council: Community Governance Review (CGR)

Sizewell C – Community Newsletter

East Suffolk Planning Policy Team: Housing Position Statement and Local Development Scheme updates, and addendum to the Waveney Local Plan 5 year Review Assessment

East Suffolk Communities Energy Partnership (ESCEP) – Meeting and Workshop

East Suffolk Council: Briefing regarding the design for a new hospital.

9. To note Planning Applications received

DC/25/1341/TPO : TPO/048/2021 - W1 1 No. Holm Oak (Located at Caravan AZ21) - Pollard to 4-5m from ground level

Site address: Azure Seas Caravan Park, The Street, Corton

Discussion took place about the number of trees that have been pollarded and Councillors were advised to inform the Clerk of their views to enable her to complete feedback to the Planning Department.

10. To receive an update on improvements on The Pit

SP reported that he had spoken to a contractor who agreed the football pitch can be levelled. Meeting to be arranged with the Contractor and members of the Parish Council. He did note that the football pitch would probably be out of use for about a year.

11. To discuss land promised to the Church by Broadland Sands

Clerk's email has been forwarded on to the Broadland Sands Property Team at their Central Office and we are awaiting a response. GA stated that it was a car park that had been promised, not the land.

12. To receive an update on traffic and footpath infrastructure in Corton

CLlr Reeder and SP had looked at a list of areas where parking is causing a problem in Corton. CLlr Reeder stated that to install yellow lines would be very expensive and it would be better if another

solution could be found. The police are not keen on the suggestion to put notices on the cars that park dangerously. It would be better to contact the police about any problems as it would be recorded. BG asked about the legal implications of the Council ignoring the request and a short discussion took place about this. Cllr Reeder agreed to monitor the situation.

There are no warning signs about the very sharp bends at Church Lane and Coast Road near the Church – Cllr Reeder to report.

Other problems generally round Corton include the narrow part of The Street, near the flint wall and the very small space between 15 and 17 The Street.

Stirrups Lane – no footpath can be installed along the main road. SCC cannot put a footpath sign but they can produce a roundel to indicate a permissive path for people to walk along, with the owner's permission.

Corton Long Lane – the No Waiting Cones are working well during football matches.

13.To discuss a possible sinkhole in The Street/junction of Station Road

Cllr Reeder stated that Suffolk County Council are regularly monitoring the area.

14.To receive an update on installing a footpath between Corton and Church

The sign that said the footpath is closed has been taken down. The King's footpath is along the cliff but work is still going on for the footpath to be moved to the other side of the land, nearest the road. Cllr Reeder should be able to let the Parish Council know the result at the next meeting.

15.To discuss ideas for a Sensory Garden at Corton Methodist Church

As SG not here, to be put on the Agenda next time.

16.To discuss installing CCTV Cameras at Azure Seas

SP asked if the Parish Council are happy to give permission for their camera to be installed at Azure Seas, all agreed.

17.To receive Items for the next meeting's Agenda

No additions

18.To agree the proposed date and time of the next Parish Council meeting in May

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday, 7th May 2025 after the Annual Parish Meeting which starts at 7.00pm in Corton Community Room.

The meeting closed at 20.40pm.

SignedChair Date