MINUTES OF CORTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on Wednesday 1st April 2026 at 7.00pm in the Community Room, Playing Field

Councillors Present:	Stephen Pavey (SP)	Maureen Boughton (MB)	Gill Armstrong (GA)
	Peter Armstrong (PA)	David Fermor (DF)	Bob Groome (BG)
	Sue Groome (SG)		
In Attendance:	Lynne Pavey (Clerk)	Cllr Paul Ashdown	
	Members of the public – 7		

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 Cllr Reeder.

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 4th March 2026 were recommended for approval, proposed by GA, seconded by PA, all agreed. They were duly signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

   Matters Arising
   None.

5. **To receive reports from the County and District Councillors**

   Cllr Paul Ashdown
   Cllr Ashdown will be attending a meeting with directors of Broadland Sands to discuss the details of their planning application. The new waste bins are being delivered. Elections will be taking place in May. It has been agreed to have three unitary authorities in Suffolk with the main office based in Lowestoft. The Coastal Team will be looking at coastal erosion and will be in contact to arrange a presentation to the Parish Council after the May elections.

6. **To receive reports from the Committee Representatives**
   a) **Playing Field**
      Ongoing maintenance and jobs around the field are taking place. Car Boot Sales start on 14th April.

   b) **Speed Sign**
      SP had been unable to get information from the new speed indicator device for the March figures. He will ask for a service call on the camera. Corton Long Lane average speed was 27.2mph with 2,000 vehicles a day. Figures showed that the busiest times were between midday and 1pm and 5pm to 6pm.
      20,000 vehicles travelled through The Street this month. The highest speed was recorded during the night. The average speed was 20.1mph. The busiest days are Friday and Monday.

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c) **Corton Poor's Land Trust and Corton Almshouse Charity**
Corton Poor's Land Trust - there are 2 allotments vacant, which are being advertised.

Corton Almshouse Charity - New fire doors are to be installed in six bungalows. The vacant bungalow is being advertised and application forms will be sent out.

7. **Public Forum – to receive questions or comments from Parishioners**
Resident asked if the meeting with Broadland Sands was to do with the lack of a footpath. Cllr Ashdown said it was to do with everything concerned with the planning application.
Can a sign be installed at Stirrups Lane/Coast Road warning vehicles to stop at the junction.
Any application for the new village – Cllr Ashdown hasn't heard any more.
Following a question about a car park in Lowestoft, a general discussion took place about parking.

8. **Parish Clerk Report**

a) **Finance**
Bank Account Balance
Community Account - £8,111.38 Business Premium Account - £4,638.45

b) **Payments**
Three payments awaiting authorisation:-
BT: Broadband - £55.10
Three: Mobile Phone - £10.20
Clerk's Salary
GA proposed the accounts be paid, seconded by PA, all agreed.

c) **Income**
Corton Playing Field Committee: Monthly Contribution for Broadband - £23.00
Corton Playing Field Committee: Peppercorn Rent - £0.05p
Corton Woods Project: Peppercorn Rent - £0.05p
East Suffolk Council: Grant for SID battery - £168.00
True Network: Mobile Phone Discount - £2.00

d) **Correspondence**
HMRC - The Clerk explained that she had received several letters from HMRC to say that the PAYE account was in credit by £264.05. Clerk to deduct the amount from this quarter's payment (£157.60) and the balance of £106.45 to be deducted from the next PAYE payment in July, proposed by PA, seconded by GA, all agreed.
Parishioner complaining about plants overhanging a property in The Street – Letter to be sent to resident.

9. **To note Planning Applications received**
DC/26/0738/FUL Proposal: Re-modelling of existing bungalow to form a two-storey house and double garage to the front.
Site address: 52 Corton Long Lane, Corton, Lowestoft
Object

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10.To confirm use of new government email addresses

Four email addresses still to be set up. Clerk is available to help Councillors, if needed.

11.To receive an update on improvements on The Pit

SP has been working on plans for additional play equipment and an application for funding had been submitted. He will be meeting with a company about more equipment on Thursday and will report back at the next meeting.

12. To discuss the feasibility of having a parking area on The Pit

This item will come under improvements to The Pit in future.

13.To discuss the possibility of setting up a Men's Shed in Corton

BG said that about 20 people had expressed an interest. SP explained what the Men's Shed was. Need to come up with premises where this could be held. The best place would be on The Pit or on the Playing Field and would need to be self-sufficient. Another idea for funding would be to ask local businesses.

14.To discuss the management of hedges in The Cut

Hedges should be maintained by East Suffolk. Clerk to contact East Suffolk to chase up.

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

Major Works at Methodist Church

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

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday, 6th May 2026 after the Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00pm in Corton Community Room.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Signed …… Chair …… Date

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