

MINUTES OF CORTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Held on Wednesday 1st July 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) Sue Groome (SG)

In Attendance: Lynne Pavey (Clerk) Cllr Paul Ashdown Cllr Paul Sutton

Members of the public – 5

1. Welcome

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 Bob 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 June meeting and Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd June 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

Update on handrail repair at the bottom of Tibbenham's Score – More fencing had been installed at the bottom of Tibbenham's Score to stop people entering the promenade to the north due to the possibility of cliff slippage. The Coastal Management Team regularly monitor the area with flying drones.

5. To receive reports from the County and District Councillors

Cllr Paul Ashdown

Cllr Ashdown had a meeting with the Coastal Management Team to discuss the coastal erosion and to find out what they are going to do. SP reported on what was said about the underscoring on Corton Cliffs where the promenade is closed.

Email received from Rob Hancock about the Garden Village planning applications which will be submitted shortly.

The signs for the beach in Tramps Alley haven't been installed but, there are some on Dip Farm Car Park. If nothing is done, Parish Council will consider putting up their own sign. Cllr Ashdown to check.

SG reported that there is a regular police presence on Dip Farm.

Cllr Paul Sutton

The pothole in The Street has been repaired. GA asked about a red line which has been painted outside number 30 The Street. Cllr Sutton to check and report back.

6. To receive reports from the Committee Representatives

a) Playing Field

The volunteers from the village have replaced the timber roadside fence on the play area with a

galvanized bow-top fence and moved it two metres further in. This will enable the ditch by the hedge to be moved back by one metre. The soil dug out will be used to support the roots and the hedge from falling over. A digger will be used to carry out this work. Eventually bow-top fencing will replace all the timber fencing. Once again, many thanks to all those who help with the playing field projects, we are really grateful.

Martha and Bill's party on Saturday, 6th June was a great success in the Marquee on the Playing Field. The Marquee was used the next day for a football trophy presentation.

The Car Boot Sales are doing well when the weather is good.

b) Speed Sign

SP had circulated the speed stats from the Speed Indicator Device (SID). A call-out to help with the SID that isn't working would cost £800. SP has spoken with the company who said that a batch of SIDs had been sent out with a faulty SIM card. SP set up the SID with help from the company and will see if it records correctly this month. PA said we could still use the SID as it does deter people from speeding. SP read out the figures for the recorded speeds for the cameras in Corton Long Lane and Blundeston Road.

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

Allotments all looking tidy, the final vacant plot has been cleared and is ready to let. Sturdy posts have been erected on all plots and numbers have been attached to make it easier to navigate around the allotments. The new residents have settled in well and are happy in their new homes. Most of the external work, on the bungalows, has been completed. Smoke alarms will be fitted in six properties, this week. A wild-flower meadow has been planted. The trustee meetings will be Face to Face this month, in order for everyone to meet with Rev Gledhill.

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

Sign on the corner of Stirrups Lane/Coast Road blocking the view. This has been reported to Broadland Sands and to the Planning Department.

Hedge at the bottom of Stirrups Lane/A47 still overgrown. Verges have been cut, but hedges weren't.

Tree overhanging at the Methodist Church – SG to report.

The Close – one side is looking nice but the other side hasn't been done.

Footpath from Corton Church to Broadland Sands – This was on the Broadland Sands Planning Application but nothing has been done. Cllr Ashdown confirmed that this has been reported to the Planning Enforcement Team.

20 Manor Park Road (address should be land next to 20 Manor Park Road) – the resident has submitted his objection to the planning application. Parish Council will support the objection.

Open Reach – Full fibre installation taking place in Manor Park Road.

8. Parish Clerk Report

a) Finance

Bank Account Balance

Community Account - £32,369.03

Business Premium Account - £4,638.45

b) Payments

5 payments awaiting authorisation:-

BT: Broadband - £59.14
Three: Mobile Phone - £10.80
HMRC: PAYE - £51.15
Barclaycard: Security Signs for The Pit - £391.82 (credit of £73.68 so amount paid = £318.14)
Clerk's Salary
GA proposed the accounts be paid, seconded by SG, all agreed.

c) Income

Corton Playing Field Committee: Monthly Contribution for Broadband - £23.00
True Network: Mobile Phone Discount - £2.00
Barclays Bank: Interest - £13.22
National Lottery Community Fund: Grant for The Pit Playground - £16,500

d) Correspondence

East Suffolk Council: Democratic Services – Legislative change Register of Interest information
House of Commons: Letter from Jess Asato thanking members of the council for the work they do on behalf of the community
East Suffolk Council: Planning and Building Control Newsletter
Suffolk County Council: Letter re: submission of Garden Village Planning Applications
East Suffolk: Local Plan Briefings and Consultation Link

9. To note Planning Applications received

DC/26/2063/FUL: To convert a bungalow to a chalet bungalow
Site address: 27 Mill Lane, Corton

DC/26/2050/FUL: Detached chalet style bungalow and detached garage.
Site address: 20 Manor Park Road, Corton (should read 'Land Next to 20 Manor Park Road').

10. To discuss condition of seat outside School Hall

The seat needs sanding down and painting as it doesn't look very good at the moment. GA proposed we ask Mr Smith to carry out the repairs, seconded by SG, all agreed.

11. To discuss whether a TV Licence is required in the Community Room

Playing Field Committee asked whether a TV Licence is needed. The Government website states that 'in a community hall, the responsibility for watching live channels or BBC channels on a phone would typically fall on the individual using the phone' and therefore a licence is not required.

12. To receive an update on improvements on The Pit

Tree on The Pit – waiting for a quote from East Suffolk
Hedge is overgrowing the path. This won't be cut until August when the birds have finished nesting.
SP reported on the funding he had received for more play equipment from the National Lottery. The play equipment will be installed in the Autumn.

13. To receive an update on setting up a Men's Shed in Corton

SG informed that meeting that BG had met with Warren Lowe and Rev Robert Soanes from the Methodist Church who have said they would be happy to accommodate the Men's Shed. BG had also seen someone from the Halesworth Men's Club for advice on how to set the Shed up.

14.To receive an update on repairs needed to Corton Methodist Church roof

An extraordinary meeting to discuss the roof was held. Three quotes had been obtained which varied from £78,000 to £150,000. £12,000 has already been raised which includes a couple of grants. An interest free loan has been made from the Methodist District which will need to be paid back promptly. A wedding is being held towards the end of September, and it is hoped the work on the roof will start after that. The Methodist Church will be closed whilst the work takes place. It is hoped the church will be open by Remembrance Sunday. SG informed the meeting they have a chiming clock which is thought to have belonged to the Colman Family - they would like to give back to the Parish. GA thought it would be good for the heritage events.

The Council discussed giving a donation to the Methodist Church. This was discussed but regulations will need to be checked to ensure the donation is permitted.

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

Guest Wi-fi in the Community Room

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

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday, 5th August 2026 at 7.00pm in Corton Community Room.
The meeting closed at 7.58pm.

Signed Chair Date