

MINUTES OF CORTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 3rd September 2025 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 James Reeder

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 Mr Groome. Mr Armstrong to arrive shortly.

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

None

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

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th August were recommended for approval, proposed by SG, seconded by GA, all agreed. They were duly signed by the Chair as a true and accurate record.

Matters Arising

Diseased tree outside 32 Fowlers Crescent – East Suffolk advised they will be sending someone round to inspect the tree.

5. To receive reports from the County and District Councillors

Cllr Paul Ashdown

The signs for the beach about behaviour are ready, a date and time to be arranged shortly.

East Suffolk recommendations for the Local Government Review will be to have three councils. The outcome will be announced in March.

Planning application for Manor Park Road – Cllr Ashdown has called in the application to go to referral and he will speak against it because of the problem with the drains. It would be useful if someone from the PC could go too.

Cllr Ashdown recommended reading the new guidelines for the Neighbourhood Plan circulated to Councillors recently.

Cllr James Reeder

Cllr Reeder had sent the latest Newsletter which had been circulated to Councillors.

Cllr Reeder reported on the problems on Gullwing Bridge, the problems at Lowestoft Library causing it to be closed earlier in the day and the upgrade of Lowestoft Recycling Centre.

Local Government Review – Suffolk County Council will be recommending a one council structure and a Business Case will be submitted by the end of this month.

Regarding hedges, Cllr Reeder explained that they are the responsibility of the landowner, even when the hedges/trees are behind their fence. Cllr Reeder said that the Clerk could send him information about the properties where the hedges need cutting and he would forward them on to the appropriate department.

6. To receive reports from the Committee Representatives

a) **Playing Field**

The new goals have been used and are much easier to manage. The McMillan Football match held recently successfully raised money for the charity.

The Thai Boxing event was a great success.

A new religious meeting took place on 30th August and meetings will take place every two weeks commencing on Saturday, 13th September from 5.30pm to 7.30pm.

Craft Fair to be held on 21st September.

The Bowls Group will be changing the day they use the hall from Friday to Thursdays, starting next week.

b) **Speed Sign**

No report for the new speed device due to ongoing problems.

SP read out the results from the small camera positioned in Corton Long Lane this month. As there is only one battery for this camera, the results weren't for a full month. He asked permission to purchase a new battery. Cllr Ashdown stated that this could be bought from his budget. SG proposed a new battery be purchased, seconded by GA, all agreed. SP to find out how much a battery costs and liaise with Cllr Ashdown.

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

No meeting held in August.

GA informed the meeting there is a vacancy for the Secretary/Treasurers position.

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

A member of the public asked if the speed camera records bicycles - SP replied that it does.

Resident asked how to report the speeding/noisy motorbikes that regularly go down Station Road in the early hours of the morning. He was advised to report it to our local police officer, Michelle Deal.

A resident had sent a query to Suffolk County Council about the Garden Village but, as yet, hadn't received a reply. SP talked about a request from a local resident where a Freedom of Information (FOI) request was refused.

Hedges still overgrown in Stirrups Lane – Cllr Reeder stated that cutting has now started again,

8. **Parish Clerk Report**

a) **Finance**

Three more signatories for the signing of payments each month to be added to the Bank Mandate, agreed by the councillors. Two signatories would continue to be needed to approve payments.

b) **Bank Account Balance**

Community Account - £12,351.09

Business Premium Account - £4,638.45

c) **Payments**

3 payments awaiting authorisation:-

BT: Broadband - £55.10

Information Commissioner's Office: Data Protection - £47.00

Clerk's Salary

GA proposed the accounts be paid, seconded by SG, all agreed.

d) Income

Corton Playing Field Committee: Monthly Contribution for Broadband - £23.00

e) Correspondence

Request for a road sign in Station Road warning of deers in road – to be added to next month’s Agenda.

Condition of Property at Stirrups Lane Junction with A47 – to be added to next month’s Agenda.

East Suffolk - Neighbourhood Plan Guidance Documents Consultation (circulated).

East Anglia One North Ltd – Upcoming Public Information Day – Windfarms (circulated).

East Suffolk - Work to improve coastal assets (circulated).

Cllr Reeder entered at this point and gave his report – see Page 1
PA entered the meeting.

9. To note Planning Applications received

DC/25/3049/FUL: Erection of a self-build two storey chalet style dwelling and all associated works.

Site address: Land Adjoining 20 Manor Park Road, Corton

Parish Council Response - Object

10.To receive an update on improvements on The Pit

Cllr Reeder said there is an opportunity to find other ways to obtain funding. He has made a request to Concertus for funding streams who should be able to help. Cllr Ashdown stated that if this was guaranteed, it would help with applying for next year’s CIL funding as an element of that is for play parks and is matched funding. Cllr Reeder and Cllr Ashdown to work together on this.

11.To receive an update on the proposed plans for the new Garden Village

As mentioned in the public forum about the FOI request that was refused – the resident concerned explained what had happened. Cllr Reeder said to send his request to the Parish Council who could forward it on to him. Cllr Reeder stated that the Garden Village is in the Local Plan and it will go through. Cllr Ashdown said that it is also in the Waveney Local Plan and the Council are now working on a new local plan for 2029 where it will also be included.

12.To discuss overgrown hedges/trees in The Cut

East Suffolk have advised that they are not responsible for any of the hedges/trees in The Cut
Cllr Reeder explained again about the boundary rules. Clerk to send Cllr Reeder the addresses of the houses in The Street whose gardens back onto The Cut and he will deal with it.

13.To discuss problems with drainage on Tramps Alley

Following last month’s meeting, PA and DF investigated the drainage. DF advised the meeting about what he had found. He had consulted with the Highways Engineer who will need to contact the landowner to get permission for any work to be carried out. Clerk to write to Cllr Reeder with details. It was suggested that a sign be installed to warn about the road being liable for flooding.

14.To receive an update on the condition of the area outside Warners

The vegetation has been cut back and cleared away, however, the area still needs further tidying. This will be monitored.

15.To discuss using a more secure email and website system

The Clerk explained the reasons why a more secure email and website was needed. The cost of this would be £60 plus £24 per email per year. PA proposed to use the secure system, seconded by GA, all agreed.

16.To receive an update about the decision on the King’s Path

Cllr Reeder advised that the King’s Path has been installed along the cliff. There are no plans to install a path near the edge of the road.

17.To receive an update on the Broadland Sands Planning Application

Cllr Ashdown agreed to find out further information about the pedestrian crossing, the path and the car park included in the original Planning Application.

18.To discuss the dip in the road at the Station Road/The Street junction

SG reported that one of the dips has been repaired but the one with the greater depth has been left. To be monitored by the Parish Council.

19.To receive Items for the next meeting’s Agenda

- Road sign warning of deer in Station Road
- Condition of property at end of Stirrups Lane/A47 junction
- Tramps Alley update
- The Cut hedge update
- Remembrance Day 2025

20.To agree the proposed date and time of the next Parish Council meeting in October

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday, 1st October 2025 at 7.00pm in Corton Community Room. The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

SignedChair Date