



WORLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Worlingham Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 20th May 2025 at 6.30pm (following the Annual Parish Meeting) at Worlingham Primary School

Present; Cllrs; W Summerfield (Chair), D Anderson, Cllr Holman, Cllr Kersey, Cllr S Mather, Cllr J Mather, S Robbins, W Saunders,

Also, Present - Mrs L Beevor parish clerk. ESC Ward Cllr Plummer, 3 members of the public.

Minutes

1. To elect a Chair of the Parish Council for 2025.26

It was proposed and seconded that Cllr Summerfield be chair of the parish council for 2025.2026. There were no other nominations.

It was AGREED by all that Cllr Summerfield be Chair of Worlingham Parish Council for 2025.2026.

Declaration of Acceptance of Office signed by Cllr Summerfield.

2. a) To receive any apologies for absence. Apologies were received from ESC Cllr Topping and SCC Cllr Lever.
b) *To receive any Declarations of Non registrable interest* regarding the agenda – Nil
c) *To receive a Declaration of Other registrable interest.* Nil
d) *To receive any Declaration of Prejudicial Interest* regarding the agenda. Nil
e) *To receive any Requests for Dispensation on matters relating to the agenda* Nil
f) *To remind councillors to update the Register of Interests* online. Noted

3. To elect a Vice Chair of the Parish Council for 2025.26

It was proposed and seconded that Cllr Robbins be vice chair of the parish council for 2025.2026. There were no other nominations.

It was AGREED by all that Cllr Robbins be Vice Chair of Worlingham Parish Council for 2025.2026.

4.Meeting adjourned for public participation. During each meeting the council will adjourn for a period of 10 minutes for public questions. During this time, residents can put questions to the Chairman regarding matters on the agenda. Where possible, the Chairman will respond but the matter may have to be deferred and placed on a later month's agenda for discussion.

- a) *SCC and ESC Ward Cllrs – see Annual Parish meeting for the report.*
- b) *Public – Members of the public were attending to discuss the Marsh Lane – Forest school – planning application. They advised that they were representing a number of residents from Marsh Lane who had concerns about the application. They advised that the concerns included; The number of entrances, the location of the car parking being the furthest away, the volume of traffic that was occurring due to people attending the school as well as staff, the safety of others using the road, speeding traffic, noise arising from the site, lack of pedestrian footways. It was also mentioned that this is a retrospective application, and a query was raised as to why use of the land has previously also resulted in retrospective applications.*
Mention was made that the woods are used for other activities as well as the forest school.

5. Planning

- a) *To consider new planning applications including; Dc/25/1365/FUL – Forest School.*
Council considered the application and mentioned the following;
The application is not clear about how many people go to the school.
Staff numbers are not known.
Hygiene and welfare facilities are not mentioned – where are the toilet facilities etc.
SCC Highways have raised objections.
Two entrances for the site are not a reasonable request.
Noise from the site has been and will be an issue.
What is the boundary for the site – is it a fixed boundary to avoid potential of anti social /noise disruption to residents?
Previous planning conditions applications have not been adhered to within the site as a whole.
Why has this taken so long to come forward as a planning application?
Suffolk Wildlife Trust are not having any parking along Marsh Lane due to the nature of the lane and are not directing visitors that way.
Does the car park which is being used have planning permission?
There has been no enforcement of previous planning concerns/ lack of planning applications.
Should the school be opening if it does not have permission to operate on the land – is their insurance valid? Are the children being safe – guarded in a facility with no planning permission?
Environmental concerns about the use of the woods and the damage/ harm which is being caused.
What safety measures are in place when having a fire to cook on?
There is no compliant traffic survey with the application – ie no volumes have been measured.
What traffic monitoring has ESC/ SCC done – what was the baseline prior to the forest school?
Broads Authority land neighbours the site – have the Broads Auth been consulted?
What is the health effect of being so close to the sewage station?

It was proposed and agreed unanimously to recommend that ESC **refuse** the application for the reasons above and including; traffic, noise, previous breaches, insurance, safeguarding, anti-social behaviour concerns, SCC traffic concerns, residents' objections,
Also not appropriate to have access onto A146.

After discussion it was also agreed by all to request that ESC planning "call in" the application to the ESC CTEE should the ESC planning officer be minded to approve the application.

DC/25/1713/FUL – 68 Old Lowestoft Road – There were no objections to this application.

DC/24/4448/FUL – Manor Farm College Lane – it was felt that a precedent had been set with the neighbouring property. Council noted that they would want the application to be ancillary to the use of the house and not to be available for holiday use.

DC/25/1658/ FUL – 35 Marsh Lane – There were no objections to this application.

DC/25/1518/Ful – Ashtree Cottage – council commented that any planning approval would need to state that the property was to remain as holiday use and that it could not be lived in as a permanent residence.

b) To receive ESC decisions – DC/24/1058/ - Permission Noted

c) other planning matters;

- BWGN meeting – June 2025 at Beccles Town Hall – Cllrs encouraged to attend.
- Boasts site update – guidance to be sought about this enquiry.

6. Play area capital projects.

- Woodfield Park - future inspections. Council agreed to explore using Kompan as an option.
- Other play areas - including update on repairs required, and potential consolidation. The play inspections had been received, and the high priority works noted. Some parts of both All Saints green and Werels Loke had been cordoned off out of use. Other repairs of lower priority are required. The reports will need to be fully assessed, and repairs prioritised and costed. Council was advised that one of the play areas at All Saints Green might need to be consolidated into Werels Loke/ Cedar Drive. Discussions continued about use changes at All Saints Green.
- Request for bench in Cedar Drive open space – request had been received for a bench behind the goal furthest away from the play area. This to be considered as part of the overall play area review.
- Letter from neighbour to Cedar Drive play area. Discussion. Council agreed that reply would be sent responding that ‘to the best of our knowledge it is not our fence.’

7. **Finance Matters including:**

a) Authorisation of cheques/ Bacs for payment. A full financial summary of the Council balances, and the Bacs/cheques for payment, was provided for councillors as attached to the main copy of the minutes and cheques as detailed in the Receipts and Payments. These were read out to the Council meeting. **It was RESOLVED by all** that the payments as detailed could be made.

b) Barclays account/ signatures – Members were updated about the signatories to the Barclays account. This is still being actioned by the bank.

c) Quotes to consider.

ESS – Tree works All Saints Green/ Cedar Drive/ Pepys Ave – Total £1134. Agreed by all.

Waveney Oddjobs – bus shelter repairs Garden Lane and Kempton Cross – to be carried out in September. £1815.65 approved.

ESS – Seesaw Bluebell Way - £2194.30 – agreed by all.

d) Audit 2024 – 2025. Year end is 31st March. Internal audit will then be required followed by the external audit. All papers to be signed off by 30th June 2025.

8 Other matters

- Bin Rectory Road – resident has requested that the bin be moved as it has been placed within their curtilage. ESC has been advised, and bin has been moved to a location on ESC/ SCC land.
- Consultation - *Changes to services in Norfolk and Waveney - Norfolk & Waveney Integrated Care System (ICS)*. The meeting / consultation has been cancelled as the out of hours service is remaining.
- Meeting with MP – to be requested.
- SAIC 75th Anniversary – invitation to attend conference – Cllr Saunders and Cllr Summerfield would like to attend.
- Suffolk Water Supply Project – Introduction to landowners has been sent, setting out what they want to do.

9 Date of next meeting. All at 6.30pm unless otherwise required.

Meeting of parish council - Tuesday 10th June 2025 at 6.30pm