

**Minutes of the Neatishead Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 18th September 2025
at 7.30pm in the New Victory Hall, Neatishead**

Present:

Cllr Robert Ferrier-Hanger (Chair)

Cllr Michael Godfrey (Vice-Chair)

Cllr Daniel Moulton

Cllr Ben Mullard

Cllr Jane Rutter

Parish Clerk Laura Bateman

Also present: 1 member of the public

Meeting opened: 7.30pm

1. Apologies

Cllr Richard Price (Norfolk County Council, South Smallburgh Division)

Cllr Gerard Mancini-Boyle (North Norfolk District Council, Hoveton & Tunstead Ward)

PC Matt Pritty (Norfolk Constabulary)

2. Declarations of Interest and Applications for Dispensation

Cllr Ferrier-Hanger declared an interest as a trustee of The Poor's Trust in respect of item 7d.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th July 2025 were AGREED as an accurate record.

Proposed by Cllr Godfrey, seconded by Cllr Moulton, all in favour.

4. Public Speaking

a) County Councillor:

Cllr Price provided a report which was read out by the Clerk. He has arranged a meeting with senior officers and councillors at Norfolk County Council (NCC) to discuss how DEFRA will need to amend the Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Act 1988 in response to Devolution.

He has arranged a meeting with the Director of Highways and Westcotec to explore how AI may have positive implications for road safety in the future. AI could analyse SAM 2 data in considerably more detail than a person, considering vehicle numbers, speeds, location and timing, to help police target speed enforcement more effectively.

Remote download for SAM 2 devices (£1,624 each) would be important for this, allowing data access via laptop or phone without site visits. Some parishes have successfully implemented this and propose sharing costs through the Parish Partnership Scheme, reducing the cost to £406 per parish. The Clerk would reach out to Barton Turf Parish Council to ascertain it's views on this, however the Parish Council's initial reaction was that it would not be a good use of the precept.

CLlr Price hopes a TROD footpath in the car park will be eligible under the Parish Partnership Scheme (PPS).

b) District Councillor:

No report was received.

c) Police:

No report was received.

d) Public:

There was no participation from the public.

5. Planning

a) New Applications:

No applications received prior to the agenda being issued.

Additional Planning Matter: PF/25/1929 was received after the agenda had been issued. The Parish Council agreed that a request to extend the comment deadline was unnecessary, as no comments would be submitted due to the application being of a minor nature.

b) Planning Decisions Noted:

There were no new planning decisions received.

6. Matters Arising from the Last Meeting

a) The Clerk had received notification from NCC that the PPS funding would cover the cost of the permissive footpath to be extended across the parish council car park at the village hall, reducing the quote received by 50%. NCC confirmed that the Parish Council could use its own contractor. The Clerk would draft the application form for consideration at October's meeting.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

7. Maintenance and Risk Assessments

a) ABC Landscaping had offered to cut back some excess vegetation at the Staithe but the waste would need disposing of, the councillors agreed to help with this. A member of the public kindly offered to help with any tidying at the Staithe should a working group be needed. It was agreed the hoses would be fixed ready for next year.

b) The zip wire required re-tensioning. A quote of £270 from the inspection company was considered excessive for such a minor fix. The playground maintenance company confirmed that this could be carried out by a member of the Council and did not require a trained professional. A councillor will do this task prior to the annual inspection to ensure the zip wire is checked by a professional company after re-tensioning has been completed.

c) There were no issues to report at the recreation ground car park.

d) An update was provided on the oak tree in the recreation field that had broken over the summer. The Poor's Trust has resumed responsibility and arranged for a tree survey and for a land agent to determine which land the tree sits on. The Clerk will request an update on

progress regarding any further remedial work needed. A review of the Tree Care and Maintenance policy is due in November and management of the recreation ground trees could be incorporated to provide a clear procedure for similar incidents in the future.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

e) There were no issues to report at the allotments.

f) The bench on the green opposite the school would need replacing in the next couple of years but was deemed safe. Cllr Ferrier-Hanger stated he wanted to speak about this further at item 9a.

g) It was agreed that Cllr Godfrey and Cllr Moulton would secure the visibility mirror at the entrance of the car park as it had been reported as being loose, reducing its effectiveness.

ACTION: Cllr Godfrey & Cllr Moulton

8. Other Matters

a) Cllr Rutter provided data and an overview of the SAM2 device. The device would be returned on 1st October and it was agreed that it would be placed on Irstead Road.

b) Cllr Rutter reported that she had removed flyers from the Staithe a couple of weeks ago and that they had not yet reappeared. It was agreed that no contact would be made with the businesses at this stage, but if the flyers return, the Clerk would contact them to request that they stop placing their business flyers there.

c) The funding being offered by Anglian Water was considered and Cllr Ferrier-Hanger suggested enquiries be made into whether it would cover having the bench at the school green replaced with an eco, green roofed bus shelter. The Clerk would investigate this or any other possible funding for such a project and whether planning permission would be needed.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

d) It was agreed there would be no comments entered on the Broad's Authority Local Plan Consultation.

9. Correspondence

a) The Council noted the availability of the Neighbourhood Updates service from Norfolk Police. The Clerk had posted details on the website and Facebook.

b) The Council noted the contents of the latest Parish Report from Cllr Price.

c) The Council noted the latest Broadland Future Initiative's Progress (BFI) newsletter.

d) The Council noted the new Mayoral Roles and Powers document.

e) The Council noted Norfolk ALC's Local Government Reorganisation update.

f) The Council noted the New Victory Hall room rate hire for 2025/26 would remain unchanged but queried how the Parish Council's room hire rate was calculated. The Clerk would request this information.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

g) The Council noted the latest Broads Briefing.

10. Finance

- a) The Local Government Association annual pay agreement for the Clerk was agreed.
- b) The bank account balances were accepted. The payment for £750 to Jack Miller, tree surgeon was approved retrospectively. Proposed Cllr Ferrier-Hanger, seconded Cllr Godfrey, all in favour.
- c) The payments due were agreed to be paid. Proposed Cllr Ferrier-Hanger, seconded Cllr Mullard, all in favour.

11. Any Other Business

It was noted that the Sand Pit land registration process had not yet been completed. It was agreed that investigations would be made into how this land could be disposed of, should the Parish Council decide it wishes to do . The Clerk would investigate and report back.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

Cllr Rutter would arrange for stickers with the new email address to be fitted over the top of the signs in the village that were still displaying the old one.

ACTION: Cllr Rutter

The Clerk would request and update from NCC on the SLOW road markings that have faded on School Road.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

The clerk would contact NNDC planning department for an update on the enforcement action regarding the erection of the cart shed at the property on Church Road.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

12. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 16th October 2025 at 7.30pm in New Victory Hall, Neatishead

The meeting closed at 8.32pm.

CHAIR

Signed..... Dated.....