

**Minutes of the Neatishead Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 17th July 2025 at
7.30pm in the New Victory Hall, Neatishead**

Present:

Cllr Robert Ferrier-Hanger (Chair)

Cllr Michael Godfrey (Vice-Chair)

Cllr Daniel Moulton

Richard Price (Norfolk County Council, South Smallburgh Division)

Parish Clerk Laura Bateman

Also present: 0 members of the public

Meeting opened: 7.31pm

1. Apologies:

Cllr Ben Mullard

Cllr Jane Rutter

Cllr Gerard Mancini-Boyle (District Councillor, 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.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 19th June 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 reported the Norfolk Community Fund provided grants to local community groups to support small, local projects and that funds received through the scheme could also be boosted with crowd funding.

Cllr Price reported that Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance had noted DEFRA's current consultation on flooding funding lacks detail on asset maintenance.

He reported that the Mayoral elections are scheduled for May 2026 and the application process for candidates is now open. Discussions are ongoing about how communities can be more involved locally under the new devolution structure.

Cllr. Price is looking into whether the Parish Partnership Scheme funding can be used to extend the permissive footpath from where it ends at the parish council car park at the New Victory Hall, to the beginning of the entrance of the village hall car park.

b) District Councillor:

Cllr Mancini-Boyle submitted a report after the meeting stating that Anglian Water had

published its investment in North Norfolk at £103 million and that there was funding available for new bus shelters.

c) Police:

No report was received.

d) Public:

There was no participation from the public.

Claire Pentone-Smith from the Neatishead, Irstead and Barton Turf Community Heritage Group had forwarded an invite to all council members to the VJ Day celebrations being held on 17th August 2025, 2pm – 5pm at the New Victory Hall.

5. Planning

a) New Applications:

The Council had no objections to planning application PF/25/1293 The Rowans, School Road, Neatishead.

b) Planning Decisions Noted:

There were no new planning decisions received.

6. Matters Arising from the Last Meeting

a) The planning officer at North Norfolk District Council would be investigating the erected cart shed on Church Road in further detail on his return from annual leave.

b) Anglian Water had confirmed that the increase in the monthly direct debit was to only to cover the use of the water but also to pay off arrears on the account. Once the arrears were paid off then the direct debit could be adjusted appropriately.

c) The .gov.uk email had been set up, however there would be a transition period between the old email and the new to ensure that no communications were lost in the process. The Clerk would ensure that this was administered effectively.

d) Cllr. Godfrey and Cllr. Moulton had met with ABC Landscaping to discuss the potential continuation of the permissive footpath. However, it was agreed that the project would be paused until Cllr. Price could confirm whether Parish Partnership Scheme (PPS) funding could be used for this purpose.

The Clerk would update ABC Landscaping on the current status. Additionally, the Clerk would investigate whether, if PPS funding is granted, the work must be undertaken by Norfolk Highways or if the Parish Council may appoint a contractor.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

The Clerk would look into the responsibilities of a landowner regarding the maintenance of a permissive footpath, to ensure the Parish Council is fully informed of its obligations should the extension go ahead.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

e) The new visibility mirror had been successfully installed and the Council expressed its thanks to the resident who kindly permitted it to be placed on their property boundary.

It was agreed that the installation of a new road sign warning of a concealed entrance would be reconsidered once the issue of the permissive footpath extension had been resolved, as both projects relate to the same location.

f) Due to the income generated from the paper recycling bins being insufficient to cover the costs of providing the facility, the Council agreed that the free paper recycling bin currently in place would not be replaced once it is removed in the coming weeks.

7. Maintenance and Risk Assessments

a) The taps at the Staithe still need fixing, though it was not currently causing any noticeable issues for users. It was agreed that this would be fixed at the end of the season and a new holder for the hose would also be considered. The left-hand side of the Staithe boundary needs trimming back.

b) Cllr Ferrier-Hanger had installed the new picnic bench at the park. He would sort the pronounced flooring underneath the entrance gate to the play area as soon as he could. It had been noted that the zip wire seat looked low to the ground, this would be checked.

ACTION: Cllr Ferrier-Hanger

c-e) There were no issues to report at the recreation ground, field or allotments.

f) The bench on the green opposite the school would need replacing in the next couple of years and it was discussed that this could be advertised as a location for a memorial bench.

g) The small area of footpath next to the New Victory Hall car park entrance required weed killer to be put down.

8. Other Matter

a) The draft Reserves Policy was agreed to be adopted. Proposed Cllr Ferrier-Hanger, Seconded Cllr Moulton, all in favour.

b) The Clerk would find out if the Parish Partnership Scheme covered the creation of passing points as School Lane and Norwich Road offered very few passing places and the road edges were becoming eroded as a result and if not, whether this was something Highways would be responsible for.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

c) The Primary School had used the recreation field for its sports day which had been a success.

9. Correspondence

a) The Council noted the receipt of Cllr Price's County Report.

b) The Council noted the update on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) from Norfolk County Council.

c) The Council noted the update on LGR from North Norfolk District Council.

d) The date of the next Stalham Neighbourhood Police meeting was noted.

e) The Council were pleased to note the receipt of lottery funding by St Peters Church to help repair the bell tower.

f) The minutes of the New Victory Hall Management Committee meeting were noted.

10. Finance

a) The bank account balances were accepted.

b) The payments due were agreed to be paid. Proposed Cllr Ferrier-Hanger, seconded Cllr Mullard, all in favour.

c) The Q1 2025-2026 bank reconciliation was accepted. Proposed Cllr Godfrey, seconded Cllr Moulton, all in favour.

d) The Q1 2025-2026 budget report was accepted.

11. Any Other Business

Cllr Rutter had submitted the latest data from the SAM2 speed monitoring device on King Street, with the highest speed recorded at 45mph.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 18th September 2025 at 7.30pm in New Victory Hall, Neatishead

The meeting closed at 8.42pm.

CHAIR

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