

**MINUTES OF THE GRESSENHALL PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 1ST APRIL 2025 AT 7:00PM IN THE READING ROOM**

11253 Present: Councillor Beazley – Chair Councillor Radford
 Councillor Keidan Councillor Reader
 Councillor Melton Councillor Day
 District Councillor Atterwill

8 members of the public

11254 To receive and accept apologies for absence – Councillor Crisp, District Councillor Duffield, County Councillor Kiddle-Morris.

11255 Declarations of interest – All Councillors in attendance declared an interest in The Swan Public House (except Councillor Radford), Councillor Reader declared an interest in agenda item 10 - Gressenhall play park.

11256 To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4th March – The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4th March were agreed by all councillors present and signed by the Chairman.

11257 The survey fee for the Social Club has been slightly reduced to £1,500 plus VAT and disbursements. It was agreed that the survey was essential and all councillors present agreed to the reduced fee. It was also agreed that a structural survey would be needed should funding be obtained for solar panels. The Clerk confirmed all requested documents had been received. Clerk to scan and circulate.

A meeting has been with the social club manager, councillors and three youths following receipt of a request to start a football club.

11258 Open forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from members of the public. The meeting was opened to the public at 7:07pm.

A resident enquired where Common Drift is.

A resident reported tree clearance and constant maneuvering of vehicles and trailers and questioned why the resident was using The Drift and not Park Road. The Chairman explained that the resident attended the previous months meeting to introduce themselves and explain the work they were carrying out.

A resident stated that no speed awareness sessions had yet taken place due to having to attend hospital appointments. The resident was still willing to attend and it was agreed to call for more volunteers to get the scheme up and running.

That being all the meeting resumed at 7:13pm.

11259 Reporting of any Highways Matters including:

- To receive any highways defects to report
Some pot holes have been filled in although a pot hole on Dunfer Hill was reported. Clerk to report. It was agreed to add details of reporting pot holes to Norfolk County Council in the News and Views.
- To receive and consider SAM2 data
The average speed reported was 24mph with 6%/7% of speeders per day. The highest speed recorded was 60mph.
- To receive an update re Anglian Water leak on The Green

The Reinstatement Team are due to visit on Tuesday to assess the damage. Clerk to keep chasing. The water leak on Bittering Street has been reported but not repaired.

- 11260 Update on Affordable Housing scheme – Nothing to report.
- 11261 Update on the Gressenhall Community Car Scheme - The scheme has had a quieter month with 708 miles covered. One new driver has been recruited and DBS checks are due for all drivers. Breckland have confirmed the increase in funding to £1,750 for the forthcoming year.
- 11262 Update on the Elmham GP Surgery – The surgery advertising in village magazines is working well.
- 11263 To receive update from Play Park Project – Results of funding applications are due in May then phase 2 of the project can commence. The lines on the MUGA have been painted completing phase 1.
- 11264 To receive update on Speed Awareness volunteers – Clerk to advertise for more volunteers.
- 11265 To provide update on Church Lane hedge – The hedge has not been cut. Clerk to contact Highways.
- 11266 To provide update on moles on The Green and playing field – No signs of moles at this time.
- 11267 To discuss and consider the Surveyors Pit roadside trees – Norfolk Woods and Hedges have programmed this work.
- 11268 To discuss and consider update from Dereham Meeting Point – Norfolk County Council have extended the funding until June this year. They have reached £10,000 in donations so far. It was agreed that any donation from parish councils would go towards maintaining the minibus. Councillor Reader proposed a donation of £250 for this year. This was agreed by all present.
- 11269 To discuss and consider Clerk applicants – The one application has shown no further interest in the position. It was agreed to simplify the advert and include that training will be provided.
- 11270 To discuss and consider arranging Himalayan Balsam bash – The Nature Recover Officer has been contacted to arrange a Balsam Bash.
- 11271 To discuss and consider a response to the Devolution consultation – It was agreed not to submit a response to this consultation.
- 11272 To confirm date of RWE public information drop in at Necton Community Centre on 23.7.25 4pm-7pm – It was agreed to add a reminder for the June meeting.
- 11273 To confirm dates of confirmed events from the Fete Committee – The summer fete will take place on 31st May, Christmas Light Switch on 6th December and a small VE Day 80th anniversary event will take place on 8th May.
- 11274 To discuss and consider Norfolk ALC 2025/26 subscription – It was agreed by all present to subscribe to Norfolk ALC for the next year.
- 11275 To discuss and consider quotes for annual play area inspections – It was agreed by all present to contact Playsafety Limited for the annual play equipment inspection.
- 11276 To discuss and consider accepting bin emptying quote from Breckland – It was agreed by all to accept the quote of £239.78 to empty the bin near the MUGA.
- 11277 To confirm the date of the Annual Parish and Annual Council meeting – Tuesday 6th May

- 11278 To request volunteer to check defibrillator on a weekly basis – It was agreed to request a volunteer in the News and Views to check the defibrillator on a weekly basis.
- 11279 **To discuss and consider planning matters**
Planning Applications
- PL/2025/0255/HOU Tal-y-llyn, 18 Bittering Street, Gressenhall - Proposed Loft Conversion with Velux rooflights to side elevations, including vertical flue from new woodburning application, and internal alterations **Comments due by 26th March – No objections.**
 - 3PL/2021/1407/F Dunfor Hole, Barn Lane, Church Lane , Gressenhall - Discharge of conditions 5, 8, 9, 11, 12 & 13 on pp – **No objections to this application.**
- 11280 Report from County Councillor – County Councillor Kiddle-Morris will send an interim report with any update on the Local Government Review.
- 11281 Report from District Councillor – Provided an update on the Local Plan Review and also the Call for Sites which includes sites for travelers and wind/solar farms. The car park charging has been abandoned. Breckland Council have sold Barnham Broom. Funding is available through RWE grant scheme which could assist with the social club solar panels.
- 11282 To confirm payments for February: Clerk salary and expenses - £360.37, HMR&C - £84.20, Gressenhall Community Car scheme - £72.20, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme (Breckland) - £88.50, Wright Clear Pest Control - £150.00. – All councillors present agreed to payment of the accounts and the addition £250 to Dereham Meeting Point. It was agreed Councillors Beazley and Reader would authorise the payments online.
- 11283 To review and consider adopting Safeguarding Policy – All councillors present agreed to adopt the Safeguarding Policy.
- 11284 Reports from councillors (for information only) – Councillor Keidan requested that Safeguarding contact details are included in the News and Views.
- 11285 Correspondence (for information only)
- 11286 To confirm the date of the next Meeting of the Parish Council being the Annual Parish and Annual Council meeting – Tuesday 6th May 2025 at 7:00pm.

Signed:

Date: