

DRAFT UNTIL SIGNED

**Minutes of the Beck Row, Holywell Row & Kenny Hill Parish Council Meeting held on
Tuesday 11th February 2025 at 7.30pm**

Attendance:

Councillor Gary Peachey	Chair
Councillor Alan Vickerage	Vice Chair
Ms Jane Spenser	Clerk
Councillor James Bailey	
Councillor Jamie Howard	
Councillor Steve Murrow	
Councillor Philip Haylock	
Councillor Sue French	
Councillor Gary Harrison	
Councillor Paul Stannard	

Members of the electorate and other attendees:

3 members of the electorate
West Suffolk District Councillor Don Waldron

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:30pm.

A reminder to everyone that the meeting was being recorded for accurate writing of the minutes.

6139	<u>Apologies and consent to acceptance for absence</u> No apologies received requiring consent. Apologies received from Squadron Leader Andy Bell, PC Andy Green and Suffolk County Councillor Colin Noble.	
6140	<u>To receive member's declaration of interest and dispensations relating to items in this agenda.</u> None were received.	
6141	<u>To resolve that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 14th January 2025 are a true and correct record.</u> It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting on Tuesday 14th January 2025 were a true and correct record. The minutes were signed by the Chair.	
6142	<u>Public participation session (15 minutes) to include Police, District and County Councillors' Reports.</u> A member of the public wished to raise a concern over the procedure for dealing with a planning application at the January meeting; an application received after the issue of the meeting	

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a.	<p>agenda, followed by an amendment to the planning. The concern is noted. The Clerk advised that the adopted Planning Policy is available to view. The relevant extract of that Policy relating to the receiving of planning applications is noted below:</p> <p><i>'In the event of them being received after the closure of the agenda, the Chair will be asked whether they are happy to allow the application to be considered at the meeting. As the Council is only offering comments, not making substantive decisions, it is considered appropriate that the application is not withheld from the meeting unnecessarily.'</i></p> <p>Squadron Leader Andy Bell – RAF Mildenhall Apologies received. Report received as follows:</p> <p><i>Future Exercises</i></p> <p>You should expect increased air activity over the following dates: Mon 31 March - Fri 11 April 2025. Weds 7 May - Sat 17 May. We are actively working to limit out of hours disruption and apologise in advance for any extra noise.</p> <p><i>West Row Gate</i></p> <p>Gate closes again from 11 May - 30 Jun inc. West Suffolk District Council, Suffolk County Council Highways, Suffolk Police and Suffolk Resiliency planners are aware. We have contingencies should congestion be caused by unscheduled utilities work.</p> <p><i>Pedestrian Crossing</i></p> <p>As per December brief, we are actively discussing the feasibility of a pedestrian crossing being installed (at our expense) just to the East of Tolly Cobbold entrance to enable our staff (and others) to cross the A1101 safely: DIO are talking to Highways and WSDC. Plans have been emailed to the Parish Council.</p> <p><i>Infrastructure</i></p> <p>As previously reported, there are no firm plans for the ex-Bird-in-Hand land: permanent fencing will be installed at some point this year but dates keep changing. We're unaware of any further issues with trespassing since the Police spoke to the people concerned (thank you).</p> <p><i>Road Safety</i></p> <p>Work continues to see an improvement in road markings and we are talking to Suffolk Police about targeted on-base road-worthiness education.</p>	
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	<p><i>Joan Mann Sports Day</i></p> <p>This year's event will be held on 5th June.</p> <p><i>Change of Command</i></p> <p>Colonel Garlow moves on this summer; his replacement is Colonel Steven Byrum who currently arrives c21 July 25.</p> <p>I also move on this year. My retirement date is 13 September but last working day likely to be end of July. Adverts are out for my job and applications close 16 March.</p> <p>b. PC Andrew Green – Community Policing Apologies received.</p> <p>c. Councillor Colin Noble – Suffolk County Council Apologies received.</p> <p>d. Councillor Don Waldron – West Suffolk Council Considering the news that Suffolk will be included in the devolution plans, West Suffolk Council will be wanting to work with its Parishes throughout the process, helping where they can. The solar panel and battery scheme will still go ahead but a potential delay whilst funding options are reassessed.</p>	
6143	<p><u>Progress reports for information</u></p> <p>a. Chair's report Nothing to report currently.</p> <p>b. Clerk's report APPENDIX G circulated to council members ahead of the meeting. Additionally, there is a persistent problem with splash from the road hitting the bus stop on Holmsey Green and having discussed this with the Clerk, the suggestion is to try a Perspex splash guard as a barrier in front of one half of the bus stop allowing users to sit down without the worry of getting wet from passing traffic hitting the surface water. Council members agreed to go ahead with this plan. There will be minimal cost involved (under £200) and well under the original agreed budget for the repairs to the bus stop. The Clerk will notify the Parish Keeper to proceed with this.</p> <p>The Parish Keeper requires help in removing the village sign from the frame. It is a two-man job. Cllr Peachey will help the Parish Keeper so that the sign can be delivered to Neil Horne for painting.</p> <p>c. The Beacon, Councillor French Cllr French will discuss the Beacon further down the agenda on this occasion.</p>	

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6144	<p><u>To consider planning applications</u></p> <p>DC/24/1848/HH - a. side and rear single storey extension including relocation of front door b. extension of existing garage to form car port with replacement pitched roof. 13 Parkside, Beck Row, IP28 8BJ. SUPPORT</p> <p>DC/25/0158/HH - a. removal of door to front of dwelling and replacement window b. raise of roof height to create habitable space c. single storey rear extension d. installation of roof lights e. installation of solar panels to roof. 6 Wildmere Lane Holywell Row Suffolk IP28 8LX. SUPPORT</p> <p>DC/25/0088/HH – single storey rear extension, 51 Oak Drive, Beck Row, IP28 8UA. SUPPORT</p> <p>DC/25/0066/TPO – TPO 008 (1996) tree preservation order – one Scotts Pine (10 on plan, T9 on order) crown lift to four metres above ground level. Location, STREET RECORD Vickers Road, Beck Row, Suffolk. SUPPORT</p>	
6145	<p><u>Finance</u></p> <p>a. To receive and approve the bank reconciliations - Appendix A and Appendix B - Reconciliation of Parish Council and Parish Hub bank accounts, previously circulated to members ahead of meeting, for the month ending January 2025, were received and approved.</p> <p>b. To approve payments - i. Parish Council - Appendix C ii. Parish Hub - Appendix D</p> <p>Payments were approved and authorised for payment. Appendix items can be found in the minute folder with signed minutes relating to this meeting and on the website.</p>	
6146	<p><u>Statutory Business</u></p> <p>a. Annual review and adoption of circulated Asset Register APPENDIX E. It was resolved that the Asset Register is correct having been reviewed for the financial year ending April 2025.</p> <p>b. Annual review and adoption of circulated Standing Orders APPENDIX F. It was resolved to adopt the Standing Orders following a review. There were no changes made.</p>	

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6147	<p><u>To confirm plans for VE Day</u></p> <p>The option of a church service prior to the Beacon lighting was discussed and whether St John's Church Hall would like to open for refreshments. Beacons will be lit nationally at 9.30pm. Cllr Peachey will speak to the Church and Cllr Bailey will speak to St John's Church Hall. The Clerk will speak to The Hub Café about a potential VE Day afternoon tea at the Hub in May.</p>	<p>Cllr Peachey Cllr Bailey Clerk</p>
6148	<p><u>To consider and resolve a quote from R Smith regarding hedges and verge cutting in the Parish as previous year</u></p> <p>Mr Smith has indicated the charge will be much the same as it was last year and will cover the Toc-H land and areas of Wildmere Lane. It was agreed to proceed.</p>	
6149	<p><u>To discuss a Rose & Crown Reunion event</u></p> <p>Saturday 5th July 2025 was proposed and accepted. The Parish Hub is available on that date. Discussion followed regarding the theme or type of event. It was agreed to have a licensed bar, music and food. Cllr Peachey, Cllr French, Cllr Stannard, Cllr Harrison and Cllr Howard will work towards the event as a committee. Further updates will be given at full council meetings.</p>	<p>Cllr Peachey, French, Stannard, Harrison and Howard</p>
6150	<p><u>To discuss potential options for the Beacon magazine - printing/budget</u></p> <p>Cllr French and the Clerk have met to discuss potential options for the future budget planning and production of the Beacon magazine as printing costs continue to rise. We are looking for ways to maintain financial viability and best value for the community along with considering ecological impacts. Cllr French reports that options discussed included increasing the cost of adverts, reducing the number of pages of the magazine and reducing to quarterly editions. Cllr French discussed these options with the other members of the Beacon Magazine team prior to the meeting. They suggest raising the price of adverts and were not keen to move to quarterly editions.</p> <p>There is a reluctance to lose the quality print of the Beacon as this was previously tried and not popular.</p> <p>Currently the annual printing cost is £8100.00 and revenue from advertising approximately £2500.00. The intention was always ideally for advertising to cover 50% of the printing cost.</p> <p>Following discussion with council members, it was agreed firstly that advertising costs must go up as they haven't done in several years, certainly not in line with printing cost rises. Advertisers will be emailed regarding the proposed increase to their annual advert cost. If this doesn't close the gap sufficiently or advertisers are lost then the need to look at other options will be discussed further.</p>	

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	Budget is set for 2025/26 allowing for the Beacon printing as it currently is. The outcome of increasing advertising costs will be reviewed again before future budget setting.	
6151	<u>Matters for the next meeting</u> Update on Rose & Crown Reunion	
6152	<u>Date of the next meeting</u> The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 11 th March 2025	
6153	<u>Meeting closed</u> The meeting closed at 9.00pm.	

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