

## DRAFT UNTIL SIGNED

**Minutes of the Beck Row, Holywell Row & Kenny Hill Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 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

Members of the electorate and other attendees:

5 members of the electorate  
 West Suffolk District Councillor Don Waldron  
 Suffolk County Councillor Colin Noble

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:30pm.

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

6121	<b><u>Apologies and consent to acceptance for absence</u></b>  No apologies received requiring consent.  Apologies received from Squadron Leader Andy Bell and PC Andy Green.	
6122	<b><u>To receive member's declaration of interest and dispensations relating to items in this agenda.</u></b>  None were received.	
6123	<b><u>To resolve that the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024 are a true and correct record.</u></b>  It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting on Tuesday 10th December 2024 were a true and correct record. The minutes were signed by the Chair.	
6124	<b><u>Public participation session (15 minutes) to include Police, District and County Councillors' Reports.</u></b>  A member of the electorate wished to raise their objection to the planning application on this agenda <b>DC/24/1438/FUL</b> , one concern being that the road known as Skeltons Drove is not a public highway	

Signed by Chair of meeting: .....

Date signed: .....

	<p>but a private road that had to previously be applied for the use of. Who will be responsible for any accident that occurs there?</p> <p>a. <b>Squadron Leader Andy Bell – RAF Mildenhall</b> Apologies received.</p> <p>b. <b>PC Andrew Green – Community Policing</b>  Apologies received – Reported that the Road Policing Unit and I are engaging with the Base about road safety. This is an ongoing issue and we are looking at ways to educate offenders. Update will follow once we have a better understanding of how we are going to go forward. Putting together literature about safe drone flying and, once available, will be circulated for social media pages.</p> <p>c. <b>Councillor Colin Noble – Suffolk County Council</b>  In attendance - The Council Tax rise will be 5%. Adult social care provision is bought in and will have to be covered. Regarding Devolution and reorganisation, SCC has requested to be considered in the priority area of devolution. This would be more local decision making. The local government reorganisation will see the end of the county and district councils. Elections in May 2025 would be cancelled if Suffolk is chosen for devolution. Mayor elections 2027.</p> <p>d. <b>Councillor Don Waldron – West Suffolk Council</b>  In attendance – Councillor Waldron also discussed the topic of devolution from a district council perspective. Also asked if the Parish Council would be proceeding with the solar panel funding and the option for EV charging points at the Parish Hub. Councillor Waldron asked if the Parish Council would be willing to take on some of West Suffolk Council assets should this become an option due to the devolution process - Aspal Close for example.  Councillor Peachey expressed concern about what will happen to S106 funds if they are unspent.</p>	
6125	<p><b><u>Progress reports for information</u></b></p> <p>a. <b>Chair’s report</b>  Councillor Peachey mentioned the Christmas trees that went up including the extra one at Kenny Hill. Thank you to SARS for collecting the trees once they were taken down.</p> <p>b. <b>Clerk’s report</b>  Requested that Councillors please agree on a memorial bench so the Clerk can place an order.  No response yet from Parks at West Suffolk Council regarding the</p>	

Signed by Chair of meeting: .....

Date signed: .....

c.	<p>query raised about the moat being returned to a mowed area.</p> <p>Councillor Howard has completed his first session of Councillor Basic Training.</p> <p><b>The Beacon, Councillor French</b></p> <p>Items for inclusion in the next edition by 17.01.25. The Clerk and Councillor French will meet to discuss the Beacon and printing costs moving forward. Councillor Vickerage made the suggestion to consider quarterly editions to assist in bringing down the print cost without losing the quality print of the magazine.</p>	
6126	<p><b><u>To consider planning applications</u></b></p> <p><b>DC/24/1438/FUL</b> - Planning application - two dwellings with access Location: 68 The Street Beck Row Suffolk IP28 8DH. OBJECT, over development of constrained site. Not in keeping with neighbouring properties. Forward of building line and concern over highways issues.</p> <p><b>DC/25/0045/FUL</b> – Planning application – Installation of 11 solar panel canopies to provide 22 electric vehicle charging points. Beck Row Primary School, The Street, Beck Row. SUPPORT.</p>	
6127	<p><b><u>Finance</u></b></p> <p>a. <b>To receive and approve the bank reconciliations -</b> 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 December 2024, were received and approved.</p> <p>b. <b>To approve payments -</b> 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> <p>c. <b>To receive the budget comparison for Qtr 3 2024-25 Appendix E</b></p> <p>The budget comparison document was circulated to council members ahead of the meeting.</p>	
6128	<p><b><u>To receive an update from Cllr Bailey regarding the website</u></b></p> <p>The existing website has been transferred to the new domain name beckrowparish.gov.uk.</p>	

Signed by Chair of meeting: .....

Date signed: .....

	<p>An announcement will need to go in the Beacon and on social media to let residents know about the change.</p> <p>The company being used are very reasonably priced and provide mailboxes for all Councillors and the Clerk.</p> <p>Councillor Bailey and the Clerk are meeting to finalise changes this week.</p>	
6129	<p><b><u>To resolve the decision regarding the solar panels and battery provision at Beck Row Parish Hub</u></b></p> <p>It was resolved to proceed with Option A on the grant award letter dated 02.12.24 regarding the Decarbonisation Initiative Fund, phase 2. The Clerk will email West Suffolk Council regarding acceptance of this funding offer.</p> <p>This will see the installation of solar panels to the Beck Row Parish Hub under a lease agreement of the roof space to West Suffolk Council. Additionally, the installation of a battery appropriate to the scale of the solar installation will take place under the same funding but would be owned outright by the Parish Council.</p> <p>Councillor Bailey raised the question over what would happen if the Parish Council were to sell the building within the lease period. Further questions will be asked once the next phase of the documents are received. The Clerk will inform West Suffolk Council that the Parish Council would like to accept the grant so the lease documents can be produced for viewing.</p>	
6130	<p><b><u>To discuss the initiative available for fully funded electric vehicle (EV) charging points from Plug in Suffolk at the Beck Row Parish Hub</u></b></p> <p>It was discussed and all agreed to proceed with an application for this fully funded initiative.</p>	
6131	<p><b><u>To discuss fencing and clearing access to the Holywell Row land</u></b></p> <p>The Parish Council is still waiting for SCC to move the street light column to allow full access.</p> <p>The current taped boundary has been moved due to the stormy weather; it blew down but has been tied back in the wrong place. This is not a problem as the Land Registry documents clearly show the boundary measurements so these will be re-established when a permanent boundary is installed.</p> <p>The land access has rubbish and debris on that needs clearing still. Councillor Haylock has suggested that perhaps the Parish Keeper</p>	

Signed by Chair of meeting: .....

Date signed: .....

	<p>could do the clearance. There is a fence panel to be removed and some brick work and bushes to be cut.</p> <p>Councillors suggested a Contractor is brought in to erect the boundary.</p> <p>Various fencing quotes need to be obtained for the approximate 85 metre stretch.</p>	
6132	<p><b><u>To discuss progress on Speedwatch</u></b></p> <p>Some residents have come forward to volunteer but not enough to date. There must be 6 volunteers in total. 3 volunteers each time would attend a site.</p> <p>Councillor Haylock wished to minute that he does not agree with the Speed Watch initiative and sees it as a vigilante exercise.</p> <p>Councillor Peachey mentioned the reason Speed Watch is being explored is due to the number of residents who have complained about speeding and Speed Watch is an initiative provided by Suffolk Constabulary to allow communities to help manage the speeding in their local area.</p> <p>Another advert will go in the next Beacon edition with more information and asking for volunteers.</p>	<p>Cllr Murrow left the meeting for an emergency response call out at 9pm</p>
6133	<p><b><u>Easter Egg Hunt 2025</u></b></p> <p>It was agreed to proceed with the annual Easter event and the date agreed was Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2025. Councillor Peachey asked for any ideas or suggestions. There weren't any suggestions made. The Clerk will speak to the volunteers who helped put the event together with the Clerk last year, to see if they are willing to be involved this year.</p>	
6134	<p><b><u>To discuss potential plans for VE Day celebrations</u></b></p> <p>There is a designated website to VE Day, <a href="http://www.veday80.org.uk">www.veday80.org.uk</a>.</p> <p>Beacons will be lit nationally at 9.30pm.</p> <p>The Parish Council resolved to mark the occasion with the purchase of a commemorative bench to replace the bench currently by the War Memorial on Lamble Close. Beck Row village sign will also be restored/repainted and that area planted up in memory.</p> <p>The Clerk awaits a decision on a bench by the Councillors.</p>	

Signed by Chair of meeting: .....

Date signed: .....

6135	<p><b><u>To discuss contracting R Smith to cut the hedges and verges in the Parish</u></b></p> <p>Councillor Peachey will speak to Mr Smith regarding a price to cut the hedges and verges as he did previously along with areas on the Toc-H land.</p>	
6136	<p><b><u>Matters for the next meeting</u></b></p> <p>Beacon Magazine Rose &amp; Crown reunion</p>	
6137	<p><b><u>Date of the next meeting</u></b></p> <p>The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025</p>	
6138	<p><b><u>Meeting closed</u></b></p> <p>The meeting closed at 9.30pm.</p>	

Signed by Chair of meeting: .....

Date signed: .....