

TROWSE WITH NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting, held on 17th February 2025 in The Manor Rooms, Trowse at 7.15pm.

Present: Cllr Bowers (Chair) Cllr Owen, Cllr Haynes, Cllr King, Cllr A. Greenizan, and Cllr P Greenizan.

093 (001) APOLOGIES

None received for this meeting.

094 (002) DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Cllrs on the Manor Rooms Management Committee, those with allotments, and Trowse School Governors.

095 (003) CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR

Mr Clive Cartner has expressed an interest in joining the council. A statement from him had been circulated prior to the meeting. **A vote was held. All in favour of Mr Cartner being co-opted. Cllr Cartner joined the Councillors table. Clerk to arrange document signing and Declaration of Interest forms.**

096 (004) MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 20th January 2025 were **agreed and signed**.

097 (005) PUBLIC FORUM

4.1 To receive a verbal report from District and County Councillors. In the absence of Cllr Neal the Clerk gave a verbal report.

Written District reports – At end of minutes and website

Written County report – At end of minutes and website

4.2. To receive matters from the public.

None for this meeting.

098 (006) MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Decisions/Actions	Responsible person
May Gurney trees	Clerk (actioned)
Sports groups on the Common	Clerk (actioned)
Planning application comments	Clerk (actioned)

The Clerk will chase again for information on the May Gurney trees.

099 (007) COMMITTEE UPDATES

6.1 Update from Personnel and Communications committee. Cllr Greenizan has been appointed the new chair of this committee. Discussions were held about the Villager and Newsletter articles.

6.2 Update from Finance Committee

Cllr Haynes gave an update from the Finance Committee. This committee had held discussions about earmarking CIL funds for projects. See item 9.3.

6.3 Update from Open Spaces Committee

Cllr Owen gave an update of the activities of this committee.

- Allotments are nearly at capacity on both sites. Only 1 plot available on the Dell.
- New Cemetery signage and compost bin

Signed:

Date:

- A discussion about lights on Russell Terrace being too bright had taken place. Clerk to investigate options.
- Discussions around the provision of a summer event.
- a) To discuss and approve the expenditure for wildflowers on the common. The sum of £45 was agreed.
- b) To discuss and approve expenditure for the moving of the railings on the Common. Details of the quote were explained and discussed by members. Proposed to accept quote – Cllr Haynes, seconded by Cllr P. Greenizan. **All in favour. Clerk to inform contractor.**

100 (008) MANOR ROOMS

8.1 Report from the Manor Rooms Management Committee. Cllr Greenizan gave a brief update.

- Manor Rooms had recently held 2 consultation events to discuss raising funds.
- Following the consultations a meeting of the trustees and the public is being held on the 28th February 6-8pm, where a vote will take place on any actions.
- The Trust's priorities are a new heating system and loft insulation.

Cllr Bowers asked about the estate agents for the Manor House, which is currently for sale, having referred to the sale of a piece of land. Cllr Greenizan advised that it is not definite that the land would be sold.

101 (009) FINANCIAL MATTERS

9.1 To agree payments for January 2025 as previously circulated by the Clerk. **Agreed**

9.2 To agree Bank Reconciliation for January 2025 as previously circulated by the Clerk. **Agreed.**

9.3 To discuss and approve the ear marking of CIL funds as recommended by the Finance Committee.

- To ear mark £25k for replacement play equipment as items go out of commission. **All in favour.**
- To ear mark £28k for the development of Council facilities. **All in favour.**

9.4 – Appointment of internal auditor. **Resolved to appoint Sonya Blythe as Internal Auditor for 24/25 financial year.**

102 (010) PLANNING

- a) Applications: For information only as Clerk had made comments under delegated authority.

2025/0088 – Whitlingham Hall. T2 reduce to ground level to allow for shrub growth. T2 Reduce Crown by 1.5 metres. No objection.

2025/0128 – 32 Russell Terrace. Replacement windows and door to front elevation. Supported application on the grounds that the new windows/door are more in keeping with the original design and that of other houses along the terrace.

103 (011) POLICIES AND OTHER ITEMS

None for this meeting

104 (012) DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING.

Monday 17th March 2025 @ 7.15pm.

Meeting closed at 7.39pm

Decisions/Actions	Responsible person
May Gurney trees	Clerk to chase again
Co-option documents for signing	Clerk
Common railing work	Clerk
Internal Auditor	Clerk

Signed:

Date:

DISTRICT/COUNTY REPORTS

Cllr Neal – February 2025

Town & Parish Forum - 4th Feb 2025:



T&P 4-2-25.pptx

37 attendees

Understanding Social Prescribing – Mark Deveney, Health Integration Manager, Communities & Help Hub (slides attached)

Reported that in the NHS, 1 in 10 patients see their GP for non-clinical matters. We have a Social Prescriber to assist with those matters, operating in every GP practice in South Norfolk.

Help Hub Social Prescribers are working in partnership and have a presence in every part of the district you live in. They will see anyone for anything. You can get in touch via calling your GP in the normal way, make an appointment with the Social Prescriber or contact the Help Hub and we will send your details to the GP, and they will contact you. Can also refer someone else, with their consent. Youth Social Prescribing is being run as a pilot project in certain areas. Mancroft Advice Project started in April, receiving referrals from schools and the Help Hub. They have a specific set of funding.

Enabling Communities and Groups to Support Individual Resilience – Dan Goodwin, Community Enablement Manager, Communities & Help Hub:

So many people are in need, but it is not necessarily medical but a need to engage, talk, get support locally, quite often those organisations they tap into are run by volunteers, not large organisations usually people within the Town or Parish doing this.

Part of Dan's team is to support those groups and organisations. This team help people get set up, then share incite, armed with ammunition when applying for funding, latest learning, etc.

A one-stop shop and if we do not know, we can find out for you. We offer funding small and medium grants up to £300 'Go Get Grant'. Keep It Going to support groups first months and years. Medium sized grant such as Community Grant Schemes. Good knowledge to find funding, linking in organisations that can provide funding, like charitable funds; that not many people know about. Another element is the ability to talk with each other, [Community Links Network](#). Meet in person, here in HC or go out to meet with you. Network is Free with quarterly newsletter, regular meetings.

The next Forum meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 4th March at 1pm.

Please find the recording of the event at <https://youtu.be/2ToqtRVT50c>

Homelessness and Rough Sleepers Strategy:

We received a Member update on homelessness.

More tailored support:

Early Prevention Officer Role: prevented 57 residents from needing statutory homeless intervention.

Housing Support for Care Leavers: Improved support to apply to the housing register from age 17.

Criminal Justice Housing Support Officer: supported individuals being released from prison.

Provided housing solutions for Ukrainian guests.

Better outreach for our residents:

Social Prescribing Services: Expanded services across every GP surgery across both districts.

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CeVAN has ensured community outreach for over 100 residents across both districts.

Rural TA: Introduced stock in rural areas to support vulnerable residents.

Better support for those fleeing domestic abuse:

Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation: Established 5 dwellings across both districts.

Norfolk Domestic Abuse Partnership Board: Active collaboration with various organisations .

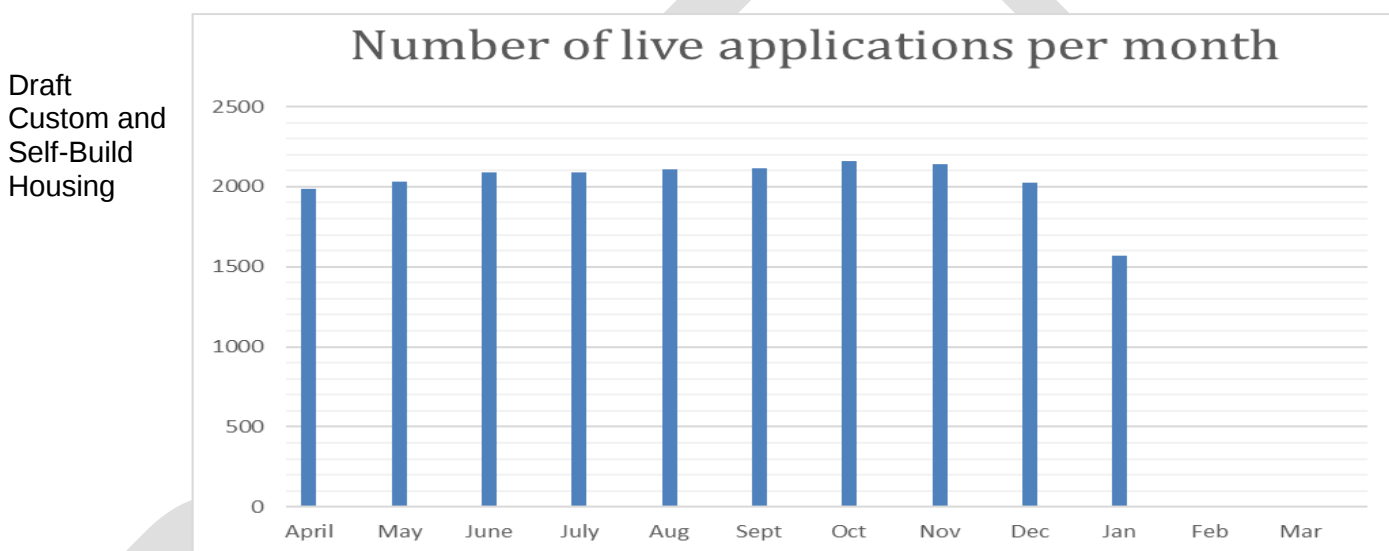
Sanctuary Scheme: provides targeted measures to properties of domestic abuse survivors.

Prioritised growth and affordability:

Affordable Housing Delivery: Enabled the delivery of more than 3000 affordable homes across both districts since 2018.

Economic Support Programs: Operated the Business Builder program and Carrowbreck Training Centre to support employability and business growth.

Current position:



Supplementary Planning Document Public Consultation:

Public consultation on the draft Custom and Self-Build Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) recently commenced and will run for 6 weeks until 5pm on Friday 21 March.

The draft SPD provides guidance and information for people wanting to submit planning applications for self and custom build, including detail regarding the interpretation and implementation of policies in the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP) which was adopted in March 2024.

The consultation can be found online here [Joint Supplementary Planning Documents for Broadland and South Norfolk Councils | Broadland and South Norfolk](#). Paper copies of the document and response forms are also available at local libraries in Broadland and South Norfolk, and at the Millenium Library in Norwich. The consultation has been sent to all Town and Parish Councils, as well as local agents and developers and those on both Council's self-build registers.

After the consultation closes all the responses received will be considered and amendments made to the SPD as appropriate. We hope to be able to adopt the final SPD in Summer 2025.

New Planning rules:

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Date:



At the last meeting I advised that there had been a new NPPF published by the Government and picked out some highlights that would affect SNC.

I have attached above a more detailed summary for your information, which is worth reading through.

Land use Consultation:

The Government has launched a consultation on a new approach to Land Use empowering decision makers with the toolkit to protect the most productive agricultural land and boost food security.

New sophisticated data on how land is used will underpin the Government's Plan for Change, supporting economic growth through building 1.5 million homes and delivering critical infrastructure, securing clean power, protecting farmland and restoring the natural world.

The consultation will seek views from farmers, landowners, businesses and nature groups across the length and breadth of the country.

[Government launches "national conversation" on land use - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-launches-national-conversation-on-land-use)

Cllr Fowler – Feb 25

It is Budget time at the Council, so the committees are scrutinising the proposals put forward. We will be reviewing this as a Council on Wednesday 19th.

The South Norfolk Working Party held its first meeting looking at Local Government Reform this afternoon. Looking at the remit forwarded by the government, with a specific view of what would be best for the residents of South Norfolk. As a District Council, South Norfolk is not entitled to a seat in the primary group, which is Norfolk County Council. But we can draw up our own plans and proposals which can be taken to the government for review and our intention is to protect the services and assets we provide whilst making sure the unitary authority regions reflect the best for Norfolk.

County Councillor – Vic Thomson – Feb 25

Budget

Norfolk County Council have presented their budget for 2025/26 in the face of severe financial headwinds.

The council's cabinet will consider proposals for a balanced budget, which will see council tax increase by 4.99%.

Councillor Andrew Jamieson, deputy leader and cabinet member for finance at Norfolk County Council said:

"I need to be straightforward with the people of Norfolk– funding from central government is inadequate to cover the future cost pressures that local councils will face."

"Norfolk County Council remains in a sound financial position for the forthcoming year thanks to the actions we have taken, and the extremely difficult decisions we've been forced to make.

"We continue to see significant growth in demand for our services, in particular in adult social care and SEND where there are systemic issues at a national level that haven't been addressed."

"We have also seen the abolition of Rural Services Delivery Grant, equivalent to 1% of council tax. We know how challenging it can be to deliver services in a large, rural county like Norfolk, so it is disappointing this hasn't been reflected in the government's plans."

"We need meaningful, sustainable reform to local government funding that provides local councils with the resources they need."

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The papers set out the details of a balanced Budget for 2025-26, based on a total of £45.347m of savings, and investment into services of £108.808m.

The budget will be considered at the council's cabinet meeting on 27 January. The proposals will then be considered by scrutiny committee on 12 February, and full council on 18 February.

Devolution

By now you will have seen that we have been accepted onto the Devolution Priority Programme. There are only 6 areas who have achieved this out of the 16 that applied.

Alongside DPP they will now postpone our elections this year for a period of 12 months, to enable us to set up the new Mayoral County Combined Authority for Norfolk and Suffolk. Any by-elections that have to be held will be on our current boundaries; the new boundary changes are also delayed until 2026.

Next week the government will be starting a consultation with the public and other stakeholders, we are a consultee in this, not doing the consultation. We do not know what the questions they will be asking are, but we are expected to help get the consultation out to the widest possible audience. The consultation will run for 8 weeks.

Governance proposals for the way an MCCA will work will be suggested to us by government. They have indicated that there will be two representatives each from the upper tier authorities in Norfolk and Suffolk. We can have our say on these proposals during the consultation process.

We will know in the summer, after the spending review, what monies we will get in our investment fund. I am told that this will be similar to other areas who have already had devolution (there is a formula) and am hopeful this may be at least as much as we were offered previously, although there is no guarantee (no matter what Steve Morphey says). We will get the full range of devolved powers, such as Adult Skills, strategic transport, regeneration etc., as per the White Paper published last December and after our mayor joins the Mayoral Council, there will be more powers devolved and more money too.

We will also receive some capacity funding for 2025/26 to help with the process. A letter will be sent to us outlining all of the above.

We are anticipating a separate letter from the minister on Local Government Reorganisation, which should arrive later today and will go to all councils, county and district in two tier areas.

We will be asked to consider how LGR should look in our area and come up with some initial proposals in March 2025, these should be firmed up by end September 2025.

It is disappointing that Norwich have gone off at speed working up a proposal for a unitary Norwich, without it seems much thought to what then happens to the rest of Norfolk. Districts have got together and appointed a consultant to work up their preferred proposals. We weren't invited to be part of this, helping chose the consultant or drafting the brief for the work to be done. I received a letter from Districts telling me what they were doing without us, and I have responded expressing my disappointment that this is not being done collectively, as the Minister wanted. I understand they will be willing to share their data, but I think that we will still have to work up our own proposals in any case, as their brief may be different to what we want looked at.

I have given several interviews today, as the press are very interested. My reaction has been that this is good news for Norfolk, as we have been trying to get this done for many years, so as to bring more economic prosperity to our residents. We still have a long way to go but we have always supported Devolution, and although this is not perhaps exactly how we would have designed it, it is an opportunity for our county not to be missed. I am ignoring the hysteria that is being generated in some quarters over our delayed elections, we had no real choice if we wanted DPP, it is standard procedure when there is major upheaval of this nature, we need the officer capacity to put a MCCA in place for next year and it would have been a huge waste of tax payers money on top. Rupert Lowe MP needs to aim his vitriol at the government, who are ultimately responsible for these decisions.

FYI, We have published a short video, which is on our website and explains both Devo and LGR. Please feel free to distribute it to your parishes and to anyone who is interested to know more. Here is the link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=24HJY4ggONY>

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Highways maintenance funding for Norfolk

Norfolk is set to receive more than £56 million for highways maintenance from central government funding.

On 20 December, the Government announced funding allocations for every local authority across England that can be used throughout 2025/6 on the roads in most need of repair, and to deliver immediate fixes for communities and raise living standards across every area of the country.

In a recent survey, people from across the county gave Norfolk the highest (above average) score in satisfaction with the condition of the highways.

Government proposals to reform legal challenges against infrastructure projects

The Government has announced that “nuclear plants, trainlines and windfarms will be built quicker thanks to changes to the rules to stop blockers getting in the way of the government’s Plan for Change”.

[The Government’s press release](#) cites examples of delays, including delays to East Anglia wind farms and to the A47 National Highway Project.

The Government’s proposals will reform how legal challenges are made against infrastructure projects. The measures will mean projects can only be challenged in court a single time rather than three.

The proposals mean scrapping the written stage of judicial reviews for major infrastructure projects. Campaigners would have to attend an oral hearing and plead their case in front of a judge.

Furthermore, under new legislation, challenges deemed “totally without merit” by a judge will be barred from being taken to the Court of Appeal. These measures will be underpinned by league tables of court delays which will aim to encourage faster decision making across the country.

Fix my street, reporting roads



There’s a new website for reporting damage or issues with roads, footpaths etc. It links with Norfolk County Council’s site but it arguably a bit easier to use. I’ve tried it a few times and shortly after submitting your report you’ll get an email from NCC confirming the report and providing a reference number. You can access it from their website on any device (phone, tablet, computer) and the instructions are intuitive.

Whether it gets the roads fixed any quicker is unlikely, but a pothole unreported will never get fixed, so please give it a go when you come across one.

Note: this is a national website and not limited to Norfolk so wherever you may be, give it a go.

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We've helped to create over 1,100 wraparound childcare places, offering term time childcare before and after school in local areas.

We're part of a Department for Education funded programme to support the development of new childcare places, that wrap around the school day - in either school breakfast and after school clubs or linked local childcare, helping parents and carers access work more easily.

Norfolk now has over 3,100 wraparound places for children and young people, with plans to continue expanding to meet the growing needs of Norfolk families.

We're proud to lead this work because we're ambitious for Norfolk's children and their families.

[#AmbitiousForNorfolk](#) [#NCCBeTheDifference](#)

Information Alert – Avian Influenza confirmed, and controls put in place at two further premises in Norfolk in the last week

News Alert - Avian Influenza Prevention Zone Mandatory Biosecurity and Housing Measures

UK Pandemic exercise planned

Local authorities will take part in the UK's [largest ever pandemic exercise](#) later this year. The 'national response exercise' is designed to test the country's ability to respond to a future major pandemic outbreak. It will involve local resilience forums working alongside all central government departments, devolved administrations, and – the government hopes – the 'most significant involvement ever' at a local level.

The exercise is being planned for the autumn, taking place on different days over a period of several months, and follows recommendations from the Covid 19 Inquiry's Module 1 report, which examined the resilience and preparedness of the UK prior to the pandemic.

There will also be a national test of the Emergency Alert System in 2025, in which every one of the 87 million phones in the country will receive a test message.

For more information [click here to visit our Consumer Alerts page](#)

Social workers in Norfolk had a busy Christmas and New Year supporting residents after receiving 441 calls coming in between 24 December and 1 January 2025. 112 of these were adult social care emergencies and 329 were children social care emergencies.

The council's Emergency Duty Team helps respond to out of hours social care emergencies and was available 24/7 over the holiday period. The team is a small, dedicated service intended to provide a

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service to both adults and children at risk of immediate harm or those with care needs that cannot safely wait until the next working day.

"Social care is under immense pressure, both financially and operationally. The volume of calls received over the festive period highlights the ever-growing demand for our services."

Adult social care emergencies involved providing urgent care packages for people at home, especially those recently discharged from hospital or without alternative support due to a carer's illness. The team also handled Mental Health Act assessments for individuals with acute mental health issues and working with partners such as police, mental health trusts, and health professionals for timely interventions.

Children's social care emergencies included urgent safeguarding cases for children at risk due to neglect, domestic abuse, or family conflict. Staff worked with families, professionals, and resources like residential crisis outreach colleagues and police to implement safety plans and protect vulnerable children and young people.

Roadside reserves

I am delighted to share with you the exciting progress of Norfolk County Council's (NCC) Transport Connectivity Corridor project, which includes the expansion and enhancement of Norfolk's Roadside Nature Reserves (RNRs).

Over the last three years we have achieved a remarkable milestone, increasing the number of RNRs from 111 to 300. We are thrilled to share that this ambitious target has been reached, marking a significant step forward in our efforts to manage Norfolk's wildlife-rich verges and green spaces. As part of this achievement, we have identified over 100 km of verge, covering approximately the area of 57 football pitches. This expansion not only benefits wildlife and enhances habitat connectivity but also provides valuable ecosystem services that contribute to a sustainable environment.

Since the establishment of RNRs in the 1990s, Norfolk has led the way in preserving natural habitats alongside our roads. Our RNR network functions as essential wildlife corridors, connecting diverse habitats across the county. These reserves protect remnants of our natural grasslands and serve as sanctuaries for rare and important species both locally and nationally. As part of our broader environmental and sustainability initiatives, this project reflects our commitment to protecting biodiversity and creating vital ecological networks.

Work will soon commence in your division to designate and install new markers for RNRs. As part of this process, letters will be sent to landowners and parish councils to provide them with details about the project and installation plans.

To learn more about this initiative please visit our [RNR webpage](#).

Reuse shop and items for sale

This site has a reuse shop where you can donate unwanted items or pick up preloved goods at bargain prices. You don't need to book to visit a reuse shop.

Visit [reuse shops](#) to find out more.

You can also buy these items directly from our recycling centres, subject to stock:

Bags of compost for £4.50 a bag, which contain approximately 40 litres of compost made from recycled garden waste

Compost bins are £15 for a 220 litre home compost bin and you can buy one and get one half price (limited to 2 per customer)

Winter gritting salt is £7 for a 26kg bag

Garden waste sacks are £4 each, for storage and transport of garden waste

Scams

Scam Alert - Letters claiming to be from the Chartered Trading Standards Institute

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Safety Alert - Product Recall for Morco Gas Water Heaters: Primo (MP) / EUP presenting a serious risk of fire

Scam Alert - Scam callers claiming to be Police Officers

Scam Alert - Text messages claiming to be from DWP

Scam Alert - Text messages claiming to be from Royal Mail

Scam Alert - Emails claiming to be from M&S

Cold Calling Alert - Doorstep Cold Callers offering exterior cleaning for properties

Information Alert - Emails claiming 'your pet's microchip registration has expired'

Cold Calling Alert - Doorstep Cold Callers offering driveway work

Scam Alert - 'Family member' scam text and WhatsApp messages

Scam Alert - Telephone cold calls claiming to be from BT

Scam Alert - Text messages claiming to be from HMRC

Cold Calling Alert - Cold calls regarding spray foam insulation removal

Scam Alert - Fake callers claiming to be from Klarna

Scam Alert - Letters claiming to be from the Chartered Trading Standards Institute

Safety Alert - Product Recall for Morco Gas Water Heaters: Primo (MP) / EUP presenting a serious risk of fire

Scam Alert - Scam callers claiming to be Police Officers

Scam Alert - Text messages claiming to be from DWP

Scam Alert - Text messages claiming to be from Royal Mail



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