

Meeting Minutes of Horningtoft Parish Council
Wednesday 12th March at 7.30pm at St Edmunds Church, Horningtoft

Present: Parish Councillors: Andrew Hill (Chairperson), Tracey Hawke (Vice-Chairperson), and Cllr Chapman

Also, present: Donna Secker (Parish Clerk), 6 members of the public and County Councillor Kiddle-Morris

Cllr Hill welcomed everyone to the meeting

1. To consider accepting apologies for absence

Cllr Hibberd and Cllr Drew sent their apologies, these were accepted. District Cllr Hunter-Clare sent his apologies.

2. To consider any declarations of interest

No declaration of interest received

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 8th January 2025

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the last meeting as a true record, and it was signed by the Chairman.

4. To receive any brief updates from County and District Councillor

County Councillor Kiddle-Morris reported the Council tax has increased by the full 4.99% An update on the Local Plan which was halted due to the devolution deal. Norfolk is now required to build approximately 903 houses each year in Breckland which has increased dramatically. The timetable for the new Local Plan: the Cabinet have until December 2026 to agree on the new Plan or it will have to start again under the new regime.

Due to the Local devolution deal, the local election will be delayed for one year. In May 2026 a mayor will be elected for Norfolk and Suffolk for a combined authority. This will change the precept powers and the mayor will be responsible for housing, restructuring, police commission etc. The government wants a single-use council and all County and District councils will be abolished and form unitary authorities. Elections are potentially going to be held May 2027, for unitary authorities to take over in 2028. This is an approx timetable.

5. Open forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from members of the public

A parishioner raised concerns regarding speeding on the Brisley Road. The Council was able to have the SAM2 sign to gain speeding data but the data showed that speeding didn't meet the criteria to send to the police. The Council agreed to install the sign again and then the data can be compared.

A parishioner updated the Council on the flooding on Oxwick Road and it has been reported to highways and Anglian Water but the cause has still not been established. The Clerk will follow this up.

6. To report and update on highways

Cllr Hill reported that the gullies have been cleaned out but a manhole cover has not been put back in place, Cllr Kiddle-Morris will chase this up. The drain cover opposite the Church has been lowered which will help with the flooding.

7. To update the council on the progress of the speed reduction

The Parish Council will persist with the speed reduction and keep raising awareness on the B1146. County Cllr Kiddle-Morris is looking at installing village gates covering the cost within his budget as this might contribute to vehicles slowing down.

8. To update and approve the Council on the Asset Register and Asset Checks

The Council will carry out checks on the assets, listed on the asset register. The Clerk will circulate the asset register for the Council to approve.

9. To discuss the Annual Parish meeting for 2025

The Council agreed to hold the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 28th May at 7pm and the Annual Parish Council meeting will follow immediately afterwards.

10. To discuss the renovations to the Village Sign

Maintenance of the village sign was discussed. The gentleman who made and has generously maintained it in the past will be asked if he is happy to continue doing so. Meanwhile the Council is very grateful to the volunteer who has kindly refurbished the fingerposts.

11. To update the Council on the SAM2 results from two locations

The SAM2 sign was first located on Whissonsett road for a week as it was reported that cars were speeding when approaching the Church crossroads and putting pedestrians at risk. The results from the data showed cars were travelling at 29.4mph with a max speed of 45mph. The SAM2 sign was also located on Brisley Road for two weeks and the data reported an average speed of 37.9 max speed 65mph. The sign will be used again on Brisley road to have a comparison of the data. Meanwhile, the Council will make enquiries of the cost of having a solar-powered 30 flashing sign as a preventive measure.

12. Applications

12.1 To receive planning applications from Breckland District

12.2 To receive an update on application decisions taken by Breckland District Council

13. Finance

13.1 To approve the list of payments for March 2025

The Council agreed to the payments for March 2025 and approved the list of payments below

13.2 To discuss and confirm the internal auditor

The Council approved and agreed to use the auditor from the previous years and the cost will remain at £30.

13.3 The Council to agree on the Clerk's yearly expenses.

The Council approved the Clerk's yearly expenses and agreed to the payment

14. To receive items for the next meeting agenda Wednesday 28th May 2025

Update on the speed reduction.

Meeting Closed 20.26

Cheque number	Cheque payable to	Reason for Payment	Cheque amount
	D.K.Secker-Jan & Feb	Salary	£172.17
	HMRC	PAYE	£9.60
	D.K.Secker-Jan & Feb	Expenses	£206.21
	NPTS- Support Service	Membership	£57.50
	Total		£445.48

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