

MINUTES OF FULL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 15th SEPTEMBER 2025 @ 7pm IN THE COMMUNITY PAVILION ROOM

In attendance: Councillors, Louise Mundford, Andrew Lansdell, Kelly Lunness, Robin Ciorra, David Willis, Justin Harris, Florence Morimont, Helen Dickerson, Judith Baker and Fiona Lawrence

Town Clerk, Becky Buck and Molly Hallett, Town Council administrator.

County Councillor Alison Thomas and 3 Members of Public.

1. To receive apologies for absence

Apologies of absence was received from Councillors Smith, Pochin and Thompson, these were accepted by the Council.

2. To receive disclosures of interest and dispensations.

There were no disclosures of interest or dispensation received.

3. To allow district and county councillors to speak - max 10 minutes

County Councillor Thomas reported that Parkers Lane has taken longer than anticipated and should be now swopping the road closures on Wednesday 17th. There will be some access issues for a few residents however there will be a 3 way light system operating. The South compound will also be decreasing in size. The planting and landscaping will then be carried out on a 12 month rolling programme for landscapes and footpath access.

19:04 Councillor Mundford joined the meeting.

An official opening ceremony will be held which will be low key as the bypass is already open, which will be held on the footbridge and likely to be middle to the end of October.

Road closures at Swainsthorpe have been delayed suspected due to the incidents that have happened on the A11.

The work that Gigaclear undertook on Flowerpot Lane and is of poor quality and has caused a serious accident. This has been chased by the relevant authorities to come back and initially make safe before repairing the work to a good standard.

County is focusing on devolution and local government reorganisation; the models have been published and is now going through the scrutiny process. The 3 unitary model will see South Norfolk be split into 3 different areas. Norfolk County Council are working on a single unitary model and South Norfolk District Council are working on a 2 unitary council.



The proposals will go to Central Government, once this occurs they will go to public consultation in the Autumn. Devolution regarding a directly elected mayor is unable to move forward at this point due to personnel reorganisation at Central Government who was overseeing devolution.

4. To allow members of the public to speak

A member of the public asked if the Council would consider putting solar panels on the top of Swan Lane toilets. The Chairman have asked if we could put it on the next agenda.

A member of the public wanted to thank Councillors Thompson and Baker for attending the Christmas event meeting and asked if everyone can like the social media page.

Also, the speeding on The Street seems to have increased, could we have a SAM2 on The Street to record speeding, it would be beneficial to have either end and in the heart of the A140. The Clerk advised she will need to get permission from Highways department but once this is received, we can implement a SAM2.

Councillor Lansdell asked when the Western relief road will be built, this was unknown however the road has to be built before any properties are occupied.

A member of public said that when handing out Christmas leaflets, businesses have advised that they have been struggling with custom, are there any grants available? Long Stratton Enterprise Partnership was set up to assist businesses however engagement has been minimal, businesses need to engage to get support. The Town Council will have a think about how we can support local businesses.

A member of the public, through her work, has met with the bypass team, and it has come up in conversation about adopting the woodland on parkers lane into the community. Can a meeting be held with the Town Council when the time comes, the Chairman said we can organise that nearer the time.

There is a safety barrier that is loose on the Hall Lane barrier when leaving Long Stratton, can we ask for someone to have a look.

Leeders Mill lights are too bright, planning issue with South Norfolk District Council and is interfering with sight because they are so bright. Enforcement team – what lighting do they have permission for gantry lights on top.

5. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 21st July 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on 21st July 2025 were approved by the Council and signed by the Chairman as a true copy.



6. Finance and Governance

- a. To note and authorise income and expenditure through Unity Trust Bank since 21st July 2025

 The Council noted and authorised income and expenditure since 21st July 2025 and the Chairman signed the payment list as a true record.
- b. To note all credit card payments since 21st July 2025
 The Council noted all credit card payments since 21st July 2025 and the Chairman signed the payment list as a true record.
- 7. To discuss and decide on grant <u>funding</u> for a replacement <u>bus shelter</u>.

 Following a lengthy discussion; the Council asked the Clerk to put the next meeting.
- **8.** To discuss and decide on the parish partnership bid. Following a lengthy discussion, the Council approved the Clerk to look into village gateway signs.
- **9.** To discuss and decide on awarding a grant of £400 to the fire service for a defibrillator cabinet. Following a lengthy discussion, the Council agreed to provide a grant for £400 for a defibrillator cabinet.
- **10.** To discuss and decide on approving maximum expenditure based on <u>quote</u> for EICR certificate. Following a lengthy discussion, the Council has agreed that the quote provided is approved if another quote can not be sourced by the end of the week.
- 11. To discuss and decide on approving maximum expenditure based on <u>quote</u> for remembrance day road closure.

Following a lengthy discussion, the Council approved the quote for Remembrance Day

12. To note grant award for planters and plants.

The Council noted the grant award for planters and associated equipment.

13. To discuss and decide on the Council's maintenance van.

Following a lengthy discussion, the Council approved to purchase the Council Van for £17,150 plus VAT.

14. To discuss and decide on street lighting in phase 1 of the new development.

Following a lengthy discussion, the Council decided to ask for an additional light to placed in a cul de sac and move one light further down the road.

- 15. Future agenda items
 - a. Night Skies
 - b. Camera inside the public space area of the toilets at the Pavilion
 - c. Trestle tables
 - d. Volunteers for youth café
 - e. Blister packs
 - f. Board by St Michaels Church giving history on airplane crash.



- g. Tourist boards QR code.
- 16. To close the meeting to press and public under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the disclosure of confidential information (land, contracts, staffing matters)

The meeting was closed to members of the public and press.

17. Staffing matters

a. Salaries

The Council noted the statutory increase of 3.2% as agreed by the National Joint Council (NJC) and the unions which was backdated to April 1st 2025.

With there being no further business to discuss the Chairman closed the meeting at 20:56