

MINUTES OF MARTHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held at the Community Centre, Playing Field Lane, Martham
Wednesday 20 November 2024 at 7.30 pm

307/24: Public Participation

Norfolk County Council/Great Yarmouth Borough Council

A verbal report was received from County Councillor and District Councillor Andy Grant. He added how white lines and zig zags near the Village Hall will soon be painted and although unenforceable will hopefully help with the traffic issues. The streetlights need looking at and the drains on Black Street are to be jetted out which has never been done before. The Chair raised the flooding on White Street.

Norfolk County Council Budget has been swallowed up by the National Insurance increase decision made by the Chancellor. The local waste collection centres are operating a booking system which is now live. The Asda Roundabout development projected at a cost of 34 million has been stopped. Great Yarmouth Borough Council have a 2-million-pound shortfall. Cllr Andy Grant is stepping down as County Councillor in April 2025. He will still be attending meetings in his capacity as District Councillor.

SMEE Project - Steve gave his apologies but sent a written report. He gave thanks for contacting the Bure Valley Conservation Group. The volunteer group have been busy since the last meeting. The Smee has had its final cut and rake off and the Information board had its unveiling. Cllr Vick Smith undertook the unveiling job, and we had a good representation from the volunteers, Council, Boat Dyke Trust, and History group in attendance.

We are cutting the churchyard wildlife areas this week and will 'rake' it off on Saturday - weather permitting. Plans were in place to cut the two Martham Churchyard wild areas on Thursday 21st November. A raking session for Saturday 21st November to clear the cuttings and provide some bare patches to scatter some seed or put in some wildflower plugs to improve the stock for next year.

308/24: ATTENDANCE

Present: Cllrs Fossey, Starkings, Sayer, Bye, Hooper, Smith, Pallett and Coates.
The Parish Clerk was also in attendance. Cllr Terry Watson - absent

309/24: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

No new declarations were made. **NOTED**

310/24: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16 October 2024 were signed and **AGREED**.

311/24: MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Remembrance Sunday Service

The update on the 'Remembrance Sunday Service' held on Sunday 10 November 2024 held at St Mary Church in Martham was received. Cllrs Fossey, Bradford, Smith, and Coates were all in attendance to pay their respects. Cllr Fossey undertook a reading, and the event was very well attended.

Parish Council Owned Car Park (near the central Co-op - progress made for quotes for the Coop car park. Cllr Coates has been supporting the Parish Clerk with the ongoing quotes for the car park. A list of suitable contractors has been contacted for additional costs and timescales for any work agreed in line with available budget.

312/24: CORRESPONDENCE/CONSULTATIONS

Martham Substation UK Power Networks - An update was received from Cllr Fossey who is monitoring the situation on behalf of the council.

Norfolk County Councillor James Bensly - a written report was received. The council welcomed Cllr Bensly to the village and invited him to attend any future meetings of the council.

Police Matters - New Priorities for Rural Flegg were circulated which includes more visible policing.

313/24: PLANNING

Consideration was given to applications received from Great Yarmouth Borough Council, Broads Authority, and Norfolk County Council.

1 Great Yarmouth Borough Council - to consider applications and decisions received [GYBC](#)

Application No: 06/24/0718/HH: (Please quote on all correspondence)

Development: Proposed front extensions, involving demolition of existing conservatory, patio extension and installation of external steps and associated alterations.

Location: Grange Lodge, Grange Farm, Common Road off Repp's Road, Martham, NR29 4RP.

Council comment: no objection

2. Broads Authority

To consider applications and decisions received – **NONE.**

3. Norfolk County Council

To consider applications and decisions received – **NONE.**

4. Other Consultations: NOTED

Further Consultation: Proposed Changes to the North Norfolk Local Plan Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 & The Town & Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended). As part of the ongoing North Norfolk Local Plan Examination, the Council is inviting representations on additional material to address the planning inspectors' interim findings between **Thursday 7 November** and midday **Thursday 19 December 2024.**

Availability of Documents: The main consultation document, and all supporting documents, are available via www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/localplanconsultation. **Portal** at <https://consult.north-norfolk.gov.uk> **What happens to the responses:** All duly made representations will be considered

by the Council and then submitted to the appointed Planning Inspector for consideration as part of the ongoing examination. For further information or assistance please contact the Planning Policy Team: planningpolicy@north-norfolk.gov.uk 01263 513811 Planning Policy, NNDC, Holt Road, Cromer, Norfolk, NR27 9EN. www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/localplanexamination

314/24: PROJECTS

Defibrillator project

Cllr Fossey gave an update on the progress of the installation of two defibrillators. Cllr Andy Grant offered his support with donating scaffolding poles to the project. The Council gave thanks for this. Two more defibrillators are ready to be placed at the Village Hall and the Medical Centre. Cllrs Coates circulated a written update:

***New unit** - we have taken delivery of the defibrillator bought from the generous donation from the Martham Carnival and are waiting for an electrician to fit it to the Village Hall. We are just waiting for scaffold poles to set up the one near the medical centre. This will bring the total to six in the village plus 3 others funded from other village partners, (Flegg High school and 2 on Martham Riverbank).*

***Future fund raising** - a stall at the Christmas fair in the 8/12/24 in the village Hall, and discussions around having a sale coffee morning in the community centre in the new year, to ease the logistics of moving the books and jigsaws to another location for the event. Fund raising will continue each year to have funds to replace the batteries every 4 years at £290 each currently and defib pads at £50 to replace. Funds raised will be ringfenced and kept in 'The village fund' and the defibs the responsibility of the PC will be recorded as village assets.*

Cllr Pallett proposed the remaining funds raised as part of the Martham Parish Council Funday were allocated to the defibrillator project. **AGREED** **ACTION: Clerk**

Speed Awareness

Cllr Fossey raised the matter of road traffic accidents in the village and possibility of introducing signs for 30mph. Cllr Grant agreed to look at possibility of installing something like what is happening in Suffolk. **ACTION: NCC Cllr Grant**

315/24: VILLAGE MATTERS

Coop refurbishment - Cllr Fossey has been having ongoing conversations with the coop work. NO further updates currently.

Engagement

Cllrs to consider the purchase of a Parish Council Gazebo at a cost of £219.00 to support ongoing community engagement. It was **RESOLVED** to purchase a pop-up gazebo.

Quiz Night

Cllr Coates gave an update on how councillors had experienced a successful quiz evening on the 9/11/24 which raised another £445 which brings the current total to £1140, which leaves £350 to raise for the next unit. Verbal provisional) agreement for the next location. Nothing has been

planned for next year yet – dates to be confirmed as defibrillator batteries and pads required frequent replacement so this will help offset the costs.

Open Spaces Clean-Up

A discussion on open space improvements took place. Cllr Fossey raised the matter of tidying up the open spaces around the playing field area. on. Cllr Sayer agreed to remove the hedges and bushes along the fence from the area outside the Community Centre along the fence up to the Social Club. **ACTION: CLLR SAYER**

In relation to open spaces the Clerk added that Great Yarmouth Borough Council (GYBC) Officers had informed the council that they have hosted visits by HAGS, Sutcliffe Play and Wicksteed and will be having another visit with Playdale Play Equipment, to view Martham playing field play area imminently. They will be submitting the Capital BID to support funding for the improvements, but they will not know for sure if successful until April 2025.

Christmas Tree – a discussion took place regarding the purchase of this year’s tree which is due to be delivered at the end of November 2024. It was **RESOLVED** to progress with the purchase of the quoted Christmas Tree at a cost of £270. **ACTION: CLERK**

Speeding

Cllr Fossey gave an update on the recent incident in the village due to speeding on Repps Road. No one had reported any injury by the speeding car which crashed into a property on the road/junction opposite the DIY shop, however council reiterated how important speed reduction awareness is.

316/24: FINANCIAL MATTERS

Income and Bank Balance

An update on income was received £123.65, together with a bank balance and reconciliation to 31 October 2024: £103,294.87. Payments of £5938.35 for October/November 2024 were AGREED and it was noted to be circulated with additional agreed payments from the meeting. **ACTION: CLERK**

317/24: ADMINISTRATION

Vodafone upgrade at the Community Centre

The Clerk confirmed the upgrade had taken place this week. Improvements will be seen in the upcoming weeks. **NOTED**

Councillor updates

Cllr Fossey – SAM2 Sign has been moved as part of the ongoing permitted schedule.

Cllr Starkings – the new SMEE gate has now been fitted.

Cllr Bradford – Remembrance Service attendance, quiz night attendance.

Cllr Smith – Remembrance Service, all communication channels. Public Participation Group representation. There is a new phone system being installed in January 2025.

Cllr Bye – noticeboards updates.

Cllr Coates – reports on the bin next to the Churchyard continue.

Cllr Pallett – no new updates.

Cllr Sayer – allotment plot allocation is ongoing.

Training

Civility and Respect Summit Conference

The Clerk gave update on recent attendance at the Civility and Respect conference. This included finding Solutions to Bullying and Intimidation in the local council sector. Sir Julian Lewis, Conservative MP gave an update on his work so far with the intention of gaining support nationally for the resolution of the bullying and intimidation issues and to help with National pressure for the meeting requested of the Minister. He added this would take place as soon as possible to move the matter forward. He added that the more MP’s that support this issue, the more likely it will move on to a successful resolution. An independent body is required to enforce the code of conduct.

White Ribbon Day – 25 November 2024

White Ribbon Day is annually recognised as the day men show their year-long commitment to ending violence against women and girls. The day inspires individuals and organisations to take positive action to challenge harmful cultures and behaviours that lead to violence against women and girls. White Ribbon Accredited and Supporter Organisations and White Ribbon Ambassadors and Champions are vital in driving this culture change.

Every year, White Ribbon UK works around a theme to raise awareness about men’s violence against women and girls and the need for men to be part of the solution as active allies. More information: <https://www.whiteribbon.org.uk/white-ribbon-day>

Sexual Harassment Policy

Consideration was given to the adoption of the policy in line with legal changes. By law, all employers must take reasonable steps to prevent sexual harassment of their employees. The law is the Worker Protection (Amendment of Equality Act 2010) Act 2023. The law came into effect on 26 October 2024. It was **RESOVLED** to adopt the policy with amendments to include members as well as staff and contractors as other/third parties, whilst linking the policy to Standing Orders.

318/24: NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING

The date of the next Full Council meeting was noted as Wednesday 18 December 2024 – 7.30pm

319/24: The meeting closed at 8.48 pm

Chairman..... Date.....

Payments List Nov 2024

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Wescotec	SAM2 Sign Clamps	258.6
Martham DIY	PARISH COUNCIL	32.8
Norse Eastern Ltd	CC Bin Empty	6
B. Fossey	Defib supplies	48.96
PKF	Audit Fees	378
CC phone	Plan	57
Phone	BT	70.42
LC Services	Admin Oct/Nov	540
HMRC/SLA/PENS	Nov-24	3501.79
Paston Chase	Administration - PC	180
Ring Doorbell	CC Expenses	45.99
Unity Bank	Bank standing charge	5.8
Plan	Mobile phone	57
Open Spaces	Heavy Duty Gazebo	219.99
R Scott	Litter Picking	266
Wrentham Trees	Xmas Tree	270
Total		<u>5938.35</u>

Income

Community Centre	Electric Charging Point	22.85
Outside spaces	Recycling	19
Community Centre	Hire	25
Nationwide	Interest	56.8
Total		<u>123.65</u>

Balance

Santander Savings	1,660.01
Santander Current	2,058.50
Nationwide Savings	31,524.71
Unity Trust Current	70,697.12
Lloyds	354.53
Total	<u>106,294.87</u>