

WALBERSWICK PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 13th July 2026 at 7pm.

Present (physically): Councillors Whiting (Chair), Lewis (Vice-Chair), Bassinette, Dadswell and Watson. No members of the public attended in person. Only Councillors physically present can speak (except during the public forum or if standing orders are temporarily suspended) and vote.

Also in attendance (remotely via Zoom) were Mark Knight, Parish Clerk and two (2) members of the public.

047/26-27 Chair's welcome.

The Chair welcomed those present to the meeting and those attending by Zoom.

048/26-27 To consider and approve any apologies for absence.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Richardson and Sutton and from the Responsible Finance Officer.

049/26-27 Declaration of Interest and Requests for Dispensation.

None.

050/26-27 Open Forum

None.

051/26-27 To receive a report from County Councillor John Matthews

C Cllr. Matthews was not in attendance.

052/26-27 To receive a report from East Suffolk District Councillor David Beavan

D Cllr Beavan was not in attendance.

053/26-27 To consider the minutes of the meetings of 8th June 2026

The minutes of the 8th June 2026 meeting were **APPROVED** with the Chair to sign and to retain them until they can be handed to the Clerk in person.

054/26-27 Planning

054/26-27.1 To note responses made under delegated authority

054/26-27.1.1 Herons, Church Field DC/26/2003/FUL

It was **RESOLVED** to **OBJECT** to this application due to concerns over

conflicts with the Conservation Area Appraisal section 8, detrimental impacts on the character of the area, impacts on the type of smaller housing stock needed in the village, the lack of a preliminary ecological assessment, lack of a lighting plan, being an overdevelopment of the site and contravention of a number of Local Plan clauses concerning design quality and amenity.

055/26-27 Finance Matters 2026/7

055/26-27.1 Review of Receipts & Payments Budget Reports (30 June 2026)

It was **AGREED** to **ACCEPT** the figures as presented.

055/26-27.2 Review & Approval of Bank Reconciliation (30 June 2026)

It was **AGREED** to **APPROVE** the report as presented. Cllr. Dadswell was authorised to sign the document.

055/26-27.3 Review & Approval of Payments

It was **AGREED** to **APPROVE** all payments on the sheet and Cllrs. Bassinette and Lewis were authorised to make the electronic payments.

055/26-27.4 Review & Approval of HMRC Mileage Rates

It was **AGREED** to **ADOPT** the new rate of 55p per mile with effect from 1st April 2026 in line with HMRC guidance.

056/26-27 To approve the allotment prices, terms and conditions

It was **AGREED** not to make any changes to the prices or terms and conditions for the 2026/7 season, but to include the water charges for 2026/27 in the review of charges for 2027/8 season. This to be communicated to all plot holders when invoices are issued

057/26-27 Oral Updates from Councillors on areas of responsibility if relevant.

057/26-27.1 Lion Link G3

Cllr. Bassinette reported that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council would take place on 15th July 2026. It would be attended by representatives of Lion Link who would answer questions from the Parish Council which Cllr Bassinette would provide to them in advance. She said that she had been informed by LL that they were no longer planning to use Manor Field as the landfall site and instead were moving to "Track Field" (two fields down) on the expectation that this would lower the number of people who lived very close to landfall (and thus subject to 24/7 drilling noise and disturbance).

Unfortunately, moving it to the new proposed site, the third move within Walberswick, did not change most of the fundamental arguments against using Walberswick including disturbance of protected habitats, drilling very close to homes, lack of access via haul road, and constraining the use of the

only road by which people can enter/leave Walberswick. It was noted that Walberswick had a large number of older and vulnerable residents who would be particularly badly impacted.

Because LL was becoming a national issue, the Council discussed whether the media policy of the Council needed to be amended to allow Cllr Bassinette to respond to questions from the press which occasionally arise. This had happened as a result of LL's misleading Press Release saying that they were relocating "outside the village". It was therefore **RESOLVED** to grant delegated authority to Cllr. Bassinette to respond to the media on behalf of the Council on matters related to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects until the Annual Parish Council meeting in May 2027 where the matter will be reviewed along with the overall media policy. It was further **RESOLVED** that Cllr Lewis would review and amend the Responding to the Press and Media Policy.

058/26-27 Oral Committee reports if relevant.

None.

059/26-27 Clerk's report

The Clerk presented the report. Questions were asked on some of the items with further explanation given by the Clerk. It was also **AGREED** to engage with Historic England regarding the new survey of the village. Cllr. Whiting to make contact initially and report back as necessary.

060/26-27 Matters arising

None.

061/26-27 Date of next meeting was confirmed as an extraordinary meeting being held on Wednesday, 15th July 2026 at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.