

**Heacham Parish Council
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 10th JULY 2025
AT THE OLD FRIENDS HALL**

MINUTES

PRESENT Cllrs R Pritchard (Chairman), S Bolt, J Dear (Ex Officio) E Hammond,
D Rawnsley (Ex Officio).

ALSO PRESENT Liz Liddington (minute taker)

1 APOLOGIES Mr Brown, email came in last night from Mr Taylor too late for meeting.

2 TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS BY COUNCILLORS IN ANY OF THE AGENDA ITEMS LISTED.

Please indicate if there are any interests, which should be declared. A declaration of interest should indicate the nature of the interest (if not already declared on the Register of Interests) and the agenda item to which it relates. If a disclosable pecuniary interest is declared, the member should withdraw from the room whilst the matter is discussed.

None

3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the 12th June 2025 were agreed and signed as a true record.

4 ACTION POINTS FROM 12th JUNE MEETING

None

5 CHALK PIT

Cllr Pritchard asked where we were at with the suicide prevention bench and Cllrs Bolt and Hammond said they were still working on it.

Cllr Bolt told the Committee that the gateway had been painted with yellow fluorescent paint as per Cllr Morrison's suggestion.

Cllr Pritchard told the Committee that he had put the 'take your litter home' plaques on the picnic tables including the one on the mound.

Cllr Rawnsley said that he had been approached by a gentleman that requested permission to use his air rifle at the chalkpit using his own target. He also said that he used environmentally friendly pellets. There was a long and thorough discussion and it was decided that it was not possible to give him permission as we would not only set a precedence by agreeing it could potentially cause problems and distress to others visiting with dogs or children who like to run around. Cllr Rawnsley will let the gentleman know their decision.

Cllr Pritchard had done a mock up of the information board to go on the lectern and a discussion took place and no final decision is to be taken just now. Cllr Hammond is going to draft something about the Chalk Pit – one long and a shorter version, possibly info on the Millennium Wood and would report back at a later meeting.

6 WILDFOWLERS

Cllr Hammond told the Committee that the scheduled shoot had to be cancelled due to bad weather and Cllr Hammond said that their last shoot was well attended, though last weekend the BBQ and

shoot was spoiled by rain. The 60th anniversary shoot cancelled previously due to increment weather was rescheduled to take place on 19th July.

7 BRAYS PIT

Cllr Rawnsley reported that the warning signs were up.

Cllr Hammond said that we have purchased 3 Cherry Trees which he will plant and ask Mr Johnson to water as he lives opposite the pond and Cllr Bolt said that he has a Walnut which will also go in at the same time.

The flagpole – Liz had two more quotes to discuss with the Committee and along with the one previously obtained these were discussed, they were: DH Digger hire - £1,350 + VAT, S&M builds - £1,150 + VAT and Norfolk Landscapes - £625.00 + VAT. They all appeared to be similar specification and so the Committee agreed to accept the Quote from Norfolk Landscapes.

Recommendation to Full Council: To ask Norfolk Landscapes to replace the flagpole at a cost of £625 + VAT

Proposed Cllr Hammond, seconded by Cllr Bolt – vote unanimous.

8 SALTINGS

Mr Brown could not attend the meeting but his report had been circulated prior to the meeting.

Cllr Rawnsley has drilled the danger signs and would be installing them sometime in the next few days.

Cllr Pritchard reported that he had been down doing some jobs one of which was putting the extra length of wire in the fence and putting the ‘take your litter home’ signs on the benches.

The previously arranged working party had built the cairns as planned.

Cllr Pritchard asked when the grass would be cut and Cllr Hammond said he would do it when requested by Mr Brown.

9 RECREATION GROUND

Cllr Pritchard asked about the next fitness instructor led session for the new equipment and Cllr Bolt said that he was quoted £70 for a one-hour session for up to 10 or £100 for more – this is to be taken to Community Activities as this then becomes an event.

A discussion took place about assembling the picnic benches and it was decided that they would be put together by Cllrs Bolt, Hammond and Pritchard at Station Road Garage on 22nd July at 6pm then taken to the Rec and the Chalk Pit.

10 FLOOD MEMORIAL

It had been reported to the office that children and some adults had been climbing on the upright memorial sleepers and so a discussion took place as to how to try to prevent this. Liz had obtained a quote from East Coast Signs plaques to put on each sleeper but it was felt that that would not be appropriate but to put larger ones (A3 size) on each of the rocks – one saying ‘Each of these sleepers represents a life lost in the Great Flood of 1953. Please show respect and keep off. Heacham Parish Council’. The second to be same as we have on the wall detailing the names and ages of those lost, with HPC on the bottom. Both in portrait, white lettering on black background. The committee agreed to order these as there is money left in the budget.

Proposed by Cllr Rawnsley and seconded by Cllr Bolt – vote unanimous.

11 HEAD OF COMMON

No updates.

13 ALLOTMENTS

Liz reported that an allotment holder had requested that a sign be put up at the entrance to the allotments stating that that is the entrance, in the hope more people passing will see it and slow down. The Committee thought that there was no harm in trying and Cllr Hammond asked Liz to ask permission from Ken Hill as it is their land. If permission is granted it will be discussed again at the next meeting.

Cllr Hammond reported that he had sorted out the entrance to the allotments as he had finally been able to sort the materials to do the job. Liz thanked him and the sentiment was echoed through the rest of the Committee.

14 NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held on Thursday 14th August 2025, at 19.00hrs.

Meeting closed at 20.40hrs

..... Chairman

.....Date