

**Heacham Parish Council
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
THURSDAY 13th AUGUST 2026
AT THE OLD FRIENDS HALL**

MINUTES

PRESENT Cllrs S Bolt, D Lewis, I Morrison, R Pritchard (Vice Chair), and D Rawnsley (Ex Officio).

ALSO PRESENT Mrs L Liddington (minute taker)

1 APOLOGIES Cllr Hammond, Mr Brown and Mr Cooper

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

The meeting was chaired by Cllr Pritchard.

3 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the 9th July 2026 were agreed and signed as a true record.

4 ACTION POINTS FROM 9th JULY MEETING

None

5 CHALK PIT/MILLENNIUM WOOD

The grass cutting will be done by Cllr Hammond before the end of the month if his tractor is repaired in time.

Cllr Hammond will look to getting quotes for hedge trimming around the north and eastern edges of the chalk pit.

Cllr Pritchard said that there needs to be a count of the dead trees in the wood and Cllr Bolt said that he would meet him at the Chalk Pit at 1pm on the day of the Young Shots Event when there is a gap between sessions of shooting.

6 WILDFOWLERS

Young Hot Shots is happening this Saturday. All going full steam ahead, got a few spaces left for the afternoon but will hopefully fill up before Saturday.

7 BRAYS PIT

Cllr Bolt reported that Arborcraft were progressing well and had cleared almost all of the back bank. On the suggestion of Cllr Hammond there was a discussion regarding upping the cap from £6,000 to £10,000 (level with the dearest quote obtained) and it was hoped this would see most of the tree works completed.

Recommendation to Full Council to increase Arborcraft cap from £6,000 to £10,000 subject to additional estimate from the contractor.

Vote in favour unanimous.

There was a discussion regarding obtaining suitable wood to create a totem pole to put in Brays Pit and it was decided that this was project to be discussed in the future.

8 SALTINGS

Cllr Hammond would be cutting the grass sometime in September once his tractor is repaired.

There was a discussion about the scything sessions held by Mr Brown and it was hoped that an article could appear in the local paper. It was hoped that the new owners of Your Local could be persuaded to publish an article.

9 RECREATION GROUND

The inspection report carried out with very good results, need some remedial work done on some of the wooden edging but this is to be done after the summer holidays. Cllr Bolt reported that the foot rest had fallen off the seesaw and had been repaired and this prompted a discussion about it being best to replace all the pegs some time soon. A price would need to be obtained.

The Committee considered the quote obtained by Cllr Bolt from East Coast Signs for replacement signs and the new entrance sign. The Committee felt that the 4 x gate signs and the new sign for the adult equipment should be purchased now at a price of £184.16 + VAT and the entrance sign could wait until a later date.

10 DECLARATION BED

The PMO is doing an excellent job keeping it tidy. It was mentioned that he would also be asked to clear around the finger post as it is in need of refurbishment in conjunction with Community Activities Committee.

Cllr Hammond has removed the pipe that lay at the back of the bed.

11 FLOOD MEMORIAL

The Memorial is still looking tidy and in a good state.

12 HEAD OF COMMON

Nothing to report.

13 ALLOTMENTS

There was a general discussion about the allotments and Mrs Liddington told the Committee about current and future vacant plots. Even with a piece on a virtual monthly basis in the Newsletter we still have no waiting list.

Cllr Pritchard told the Committee that his wife (an allotment holder) had neither heard talk of nor seen evidence of a problem with rats.

Action points:

Obtain a price for Hedge trimming.

Ascertain the number and types of trees needing replacement in the Millennium Wood.

Obtain a price for replacing the hand and foot pegs on the seesaw.

14 NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be held on Thursday 10th September 2026, at 19.00hrs.

Meeting closed at 20.06hrs

..... Chairman

.....Date