

MARLINGFORD & COLTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Colton Village Hall, 11th March 2025 at 7pm

Minutes

John Morse	JM	Chairman
David Woods	DW	
Debbie Perfect	DP	
Mark Pfeiffer	MP	
Maria Hutson	MH	Parish Clerk

District and County Councillor, Margaret Dewsbury

1. To consider accepting apologies for absence
None
2. To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda and consider any requests for dispensations
None
3. To consider co-opting a Councillor
None
4. To agree the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14th January 2025
DP proposed and DW seconded that they were an accurate record, all in agreement
5. Open forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from the public
Margaret Dewsbury circulated a report prior to the meeting. The key points were regarding devolution and Local Government reform;
Norfolk County Council have set up a working group to consider the Government's Devolution Priority Programme and prepare the Interim Submission, on how Norfolk could move from the current two tier system to one or more unitary councils, which has to be submitted by 21st March. The final, more detailed, proposal has to be submitted in September.

A Working Group of councillors and officers has also been set up to work on a proposal of how many unitary councils would deliver the best and most sustainable services across the area. District Councils are also putting together their preferred options to send to Government which will make the final decision in September.
6. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting
None
7. Any time limited correspondence – for information only
Local government reform and devolution discussed in item 5
Nothing not already on the agenda.
8. To receive a highways update
Since the last meeting there was a full weekend closure of the A47. Due to the action of the Parish Council significant mitigation was put in place which resulted in a reduction of drivers diverting through the villages.
A revised schedule of activities on the A47 has been requested, still waiting for this to be sent. Potholes and the state of the roads was discussed, John Morse to contact highways again regarding this and copy in Margaret Dewsbury.

A large proportion of the work requested to be undertaken by the Highways Rangers is still outstanding, clerk to chase this.

9. To receive an update on tree works and proposed work by UK Power Network
James Noakes, Utility Arborist Surveyor working for UK Power Network has been in contact regarding the trees in the conservation area that are too close to power cables. They are able to undertake work on these trees free of charge as part of their work schedule. The Council are happy for this work to go ahead and agreed that the wood cut down to be sacked in the woodlands. Clerk to confirm this with James Noakes and put a hold on any work to be undertaken by tree surgeon Roger Norton as this is a duplicate of works.
10. To discuss correspondence in relation to a proposed new town in South Norfolk
An email was received from CPRE in relation to proposals for a new town to be built in South Norfolk. There is no clarification of where the site will be at present. Clerk to email CPRE to register objections to this as there is significant land already allocated for future developments.
11. Consideration of the decommissioning of the current website and mail boxes
It was agreed that Parish Online will decommission the old website and mailboxes and set up forwarding at an annual cost of £25 plus VAT.
12. To consider renewing membership with CPRE
All in agreement to renew membership at an annual cost of £60
13. Planning
 - a) Any received after the publication of the agenda
None
 - b) [2025/0473 | Single storey rear extension, raising of roof including dormer windows | Lynton Bawburgh Road Marlingford Norfolk NR9 5AG](#)
Parish Council to support, clerk to submit comments
 - c) [2025/0483 | Detached garage with home office and annexe above | The Oaks Barford Road Marlingford Norfolk NR9 5HU](#)
Parish Council to support, clerk to submit comments
 - d) To hear of any planning decisions made by South Norfolk Council
None
14. Financial matters
 - a) To authorise payments for March 2025

NPTS Subscription (for payment after 01/04/24)	£184.90
Clerk, March Salary and Expenses	£391.92
Norfolk Pension Fund, March	£106.76
HMRC, PAYE month 12	£2.40
Colton Village Hall Hire	£45.00
CPRE Membership	£60.00

MP proposed DP seconded, all in agreement. Clerk to circulate for authorisation
 - b) To note payments made since the last meeting

Norfolk Pension Fund, Jan 25	£106.76
Clerk Salary and expenses, Feb 25	£351.42
HMRC PAYE month 11	£2.60
Unity trust, service charge	£6.00

These were noted

c) To note receipts received
None

d) To receive the asset register 24/25
This was noted

15. To review the following policies;

- a. Data Protection Policy
- b. Risk Management Policy
- c. Complaints procedure
- d. Internal control

JM proposed and DW seconded to accept all policies, all in agreement

16. To note the litter picks being held as part of the Big South Norfolk Litter Pick 2025
Litter picks held in both villages for 29th March

17. To discuss the Colton Amenity Area lease and consider next steps in its extension.
It was agreed that the clerk would write to the land owner, Mr Scales, to request a meeting where the lease could be discussed. The Village Hall Chairman will also be invited to this meeting.

18. To invite submissions for any items for inclusion on the next agenda
Highways and possible road calming measures.
Fencing replacement of Marlingford conservation area/play area

19. To confirm that the Annual Council Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 13th May, 7pm, Colton Village Hall

Meeting closed at 20:24