MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF REEPHAM TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 14TH OCTOBER 2026 AT 7:30PM AT STIMPSON'S PIECE

Present: H. Selwyn, L. Dreisin, N. Fielding, G. Kular, R. Goodyear (from 26/138).
Clerk: Kirsty Cotgrove
County Cllr Thomas
District Cllr Beadle
PC Denis Evans
8 members of the public

26/137. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Apologies were given and reasons for absence were **APPROVED** for F. MacGregor, S. Morgan & M. Steel.

26/138. TO CONSIDER CO-OPTION TO FILL VACANCIES
Three interested residents were in attendance. Votes were held, and it was unanimously **APPROVED** to co-opt Niamh Kelly (prop. Cllr Dreisin, sec. Cllr Kular), David Jackson (prop. Cllr Goodyear, Cllr Kular) and Ron McArthur (prop. Cllr Fielding, sec. Cllr Goodyear). Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms were signed and witnessed. Cllrs McArthur, Kelly and Jackson joined the meeting.

26/139. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS
None.

26/140. TO RECEIVE AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9TH SEPTEMBER 2026
Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 9th September 2026 had previously been circulated. The minutes were unanimously **AGREED** and signed.

26/141. INFORMATION ON MATTERS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS & TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT
None.

26/142. REPORTS FROM POLICE, DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS
PC Evans – PC Evans was in attendance. 20 calls to the area, with six in Reepham. PC Evans has been covering other areas as some officers have been moved. Shifts will be changing to later now the nights are getting darker. The recent issues of Ebikes misusing Marriotts Way was discussed.
PC Evans left the meeting at 19:38
County Cllr Thomas – County Cllr Thomas reported on the budget proposals. The consultation will open soon, with a proposed increase of 4.99%. Devolution is still timetabled, with elections planned for 2028. A County Council scam letter referring to council tax was discussed. The new Environmental Delivery Plan and Norfolk's inclusion in the trial was reported on. There is a consultation open for this, which County Cllr Thomas will forward via email.
District Cllr Beadle – District Cllr Beadle reported on Broomhill Lane roadworks, the pausing of Local Government Reorganisation, and the budget review for next year's Council Tax.

26/143. TO ADJOURN THE MEETING TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS
None.

26/144. FINANCE
(a) To approve list of payments made / to be made

The list of payments was circulated prior to the meeting. It was unanimously **APPROVED**.

(b) To receive the income & expenditure report to 30th September 2026

The Income & Expenditure report was received.

(c) To note the external auditor's report

The External Auditor report has come back, with no matters raised. Thanks were passed to Sally Gill, RFO for her hard work.

(d) To appoint an internal auditor for the 2026-27 accounts, and to consider their independence

Claudia Lowe can no longer carry out the internal audit, as it has evolved to become more about governance than accounting procedures. The RFO has obtained a quote from Desere Nichols, the Finance Officer at Norfolk Association of Local Councils. Following discussion, it was considered that Desere would be fully independent and qualified, therefore on a proposal by Cllr Selwyn, seconded by Cllr Goodyear, it was **AGREED** to appoint Desere Nicols as Internal Auditor for the 2026-27 Town Council accounts.

(e) To consider reinvestment in a one-year Nationwide Saver Account

The current savings account is maturing, and the one-year account has the same interest as the three year one. On a proposal by Cllr Selwyn, seconded by Cllr Fielding, it was **AGREED** to reinvest in the Nationwide one-year saver account.

26/145. ALLOTMENTS – To consider the allotment lease for Fiddlers Field allotment site

The executors of Richard Hendry will have provided a new lease, to include break clauses and to remove the need for written permission for notices. On a proposal by Cllr Fielding, seconded by Cllr Dreisin, it was **AGREED** to sign the new lease.

26/146. MARKET PLACE – to receive any updates

An update on the Town Map was provided.

26/147. OVERTON WAY PLAY AREA – to receive any updates

Nothing to report.

26/148. TOWN HALL – to receive any updates

A number of the strip lights in the main hall have stopped working, and they are the older fluorescent tubes. There are 18 in total. A number of these have stopped working, and the cases are filled with debris. As the ceiling is very high in the Town Hall, there will be a significant cost to scaffolding to get to the lights. The Clerk suggested obtaining quotes to change the lights to LED ones, and to seek grant funding to finance this. This was unanimously **AGREED**.

26/149. CEMETERY – to receive any updates

None.

26/150. STIMPSON'S PIECE – To update on flooring for the hall and if necessary to receive an additional quote

Following agreement of a quote for flooring last month, Cllr Selwyn has been looking into environmentally friendly flooring. A provider has been found, but we would need to find an installer. It was **AGREED** to pause appointing a contractor, and the Clerk will investigate whether the new flooring will work, and whether the agreed contractor can install for us.

26/151. HIGHWAYS MATTERS – (a) To update on Highways issues in the Town, and to consider any action necessary

Any highways problems can be reported directly at https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/article/39652/Report-a-highways-problem.

There have been issues with roadworks in the Town. An update of the bus shelter grant application was given.

(b) To consider applying for the Parish Partnership scheme

Councillors will consider and let the Clerk know.

26/152. PUBLIC TOILETS – to consider the offer from Broadland District Council to take on ownership of the public toilets

A financial offer of £45,000 has been received from Broadland District Council as a commuted sum for the running cost of the toilets for two years, and remedial repair work which is required. On a proposal by Cllr Fielding, seconded by Cllr Goodyear, it was **AGREED** to accept the District Council's offer.

26/153. PLANNING

(a) APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

2026/2403. 75 Station Road, Reepham. The Town Council has no objection to this application.

2026/2452. Land East of Nowhere Lane, Reepham. Concerns were raised regarding the potential width of the cable trench route. Following discussion, The Town Council **AGREED** that the Clerk will confirm with the agents what the width of the corridor will be, what the potential impact will be, and how long it will be for. The concerned resident will provide her contact information to the Clerk to obtain a response.

2026/2668. Holly House, 17 Stony Lane, Reepham. The Town Council has no objection to this application.

2026/0702. Smart Swim. Norwich Road, Reepham. The Town Council previously objected to this application. The Town Council maintains its objection that it is overdevelopment, and to request that the proposed property should be restrained to a single storey residence.

2026/2726. 15 The Dial, Reepham. The Town Council has no objection to this application.

(b) APPLICATIONS DETERMINED BY BROADLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

None.

(c) TO RATIFY PLANNING APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED BETWEEN MEETINGS

None

(d) TO CONSIDER LATE PLANNING APPLICATIONS

2026/3003. Green Pastures, 42 Cawston Road, Reepham. The Town Council has no objection to this application.

26/154. TO UPDATE ON WIND CABLING CORRIDORS AND APPLICATIONS

None. The community benefit funds were discussed, along with the possibility of re-applying for the skatepark. The possibility of Crowdfunding was discussed, and will be investigated further.

26/155. TO CONSIDER ASKING COMMUNITY ACTION NORFOLK TO CARRY OUT A HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY FOR REEPHAM

The Clerk recently spoke with Oliver Bryce, a Rural Housing enabler, who can carry out housing needs surveys. This can ascertain the need for particular housing needs, and help shape future development. It was **AGREED** that the Clerk will contact Community Action Norfolk to request this.

26/156. TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE, ITEMS OF INFORMATION & REFER TO FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

(a) Norfolk Police and Crime Plan consultation

Noted.

(b) Broadland District Council – review of Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Licensing Policy & Conditions

Noted.

(c) StorieD walking tour browser

It was **AGREED** to investigate this further.

(d) Resident request for a Letters to Heaven postbox

Possible locations for a potential postbox were discussed. The Clerk will ask planning if permission would be required, and ask the Bircham Centre if they have a location available. The responsibility for emptying would need to be agreed.

(e) Vehicle related PSPO consultation

Noted, and will respond to state that it would need to be better supported than the current one, due to shortages in police staff.

26/157. TO CONFIRM THE DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – 11TH NOVEMBER 2026

The next Council Meeting will take place on Wednesday 11th November 2026 at 7:30pm, followed by the

Stimpson’s Piece Trustee meeting.

26/158. TO CLOSE THE MEETING
There being no further business, the Chair closed the meeting at 20:43

Minutes Agreed…… 11th November 2026