

**Minutes of the Meeting of Lessingham Parish Council held on Tuesday 14th July 2026 at
7.30pm at Lessingham Village Hall**

Present: Peter Peruzzi, Chair
James Holden, Vice Chair
Gina Dunn
Helen Twining
Sara Burns, Parish Clerk

Also present: RSPB representative, Cty Cllr Matthew Taylor

1. Apologies for absence

Sue Allen sent apologies, these were accepted. Dst Cllr Luke Pateson also sent apologies.

2. Declaration of Interest for items on the agenda

None

3. Public Forum

a. Public

No members of the public present

b. County/District Councillors

No Dst Cllr report.

Cty Cllr Matthew Taylor reported the following:

- Reform minority administration has been formed at County Council.
- Local member fund has been scrapped - £11,000 for highway and £20,000 community fund scrapped. This has been reallocated to general pot hole fund. Now no real ability to bring projects to life. Liberal Democrats have put a motion in to reinstate the local members highways fund, which Cty Cllr Matthew Taylor will be voting in favour of.
- LGR is 10 months away from when elections should be for unitary authority. His term will end in two years' time, unless re-elected. No work has been started of dividing up services between the new authorities.
- The Chief Executive of Norfolk County Council has resigned, he was incredibly experienced and the only Chief Executive in Norfolk who has previously gone through an LGR in another part of the country, there will be difficulty in trying to recruit for this position for just 2 years.
- Cllr Gina Dunn noted she has been trying to access statistics of how many people visit the coastal path within the Parish. Matthew Taylor has offered to assist with this.
- Cllr James Holden asked how much has been spent on the LGR so far. Matthew Taylor reported that approximately 5 million has already been spent on the process.

c. Police

None present. Chair Peter Peruzzi thanked the beat officer for all he has done for the area.

4. Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12th May 2026

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 12th May 2026, were approved following an agreed amended of item 8.b Chair Report. Proposed by James Holden, seconded by Helen Tiwning.

5. Applications for co-option of Parish Councillor (2 Vacancies)

None on this occasion.

6. Chair Report

Peter Peruzzi reported the following:

- Attended the recent RSPB meeting
- The SAM2 is back up and running
- There has been a period of constant use of jet skis, parking on Bush Estate along with vehicles speeding on Bush Estate. The speeding is not limited to delivery drives, cars too possibly visitors on holiday. The roads are very dry and the speeding is causing dust to be kicked up. Thinking of placing 10mph speed limit signs around the estate, item to be added to the next agenda, it was noted that you can purchase speed limit stickers which can be placed on bins.

7. Finance

a. Cllrs previously received information on income and expenditure to the 30th of June and bank balances of:

£3765.86 – Current Account

£9389.76 – Savings Account

b. To consider payment of the following.

It was agreed to pay the following. Proposed by Peter Peruzzi, seconded by Gina Dunn, all agreed:

i.	Sara-Louise Burns	Salary May & June 2026	£334.52
ii.	HMRC	PAYE May & June 2026	£81.20

c. To confirm payments made, proposed by Helen Twining, seconded by James Holden, all approved:

i.	Sara-Louise Burns	WIX 3 yearly hosting fee	£259.20
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d. To consider a donation to Happisburgh Coastwatch

After discussion, it was agreed to find out further information on what projects Happisburgh are facing and their estimated cost, before deciding on an amount to donate. Clerk to find out further information for the next meeting and add to the next agenda.

8. Correspondence and Consultations

- a. Norfolk Local Access Forum, noted.
- b. RSBP Local Residents Briefing, noted.
- c. Broads IBD – Upper Thurne Project Update, noted.

9. Planning

a. New Applications

None

b. Applications considered between meetings

None

c. Decisions

Orig. Ref: PF/25/2595, Appeal Ref: AP/26/0003 – Erection of Boundary Fence – 1.65 meters high – retrospective – The Shack, Church Lane, Bush Estate, Eccles – **Appeal Allowed.**

d. Other Planning Matters

NNDC New Local Plan and call for site's consultation – read and noted.

10. Highways and Parish Assets

a. To report general highway issues

Peter Peruzzi noted the vegetation is growing along the 40mph stretch of road coming into Lessingham from Ingham, it was noted he would be happy to pass by and clear the vegetation around the speed limit sign.

b. To report any issues within the Parish and general Parish Council assets

i. To discuss fires in sand dunes, beach safety and agree actions.

The Parish Council received a letter from a member of the public regarding the recent sand dune fire close to Eccles. The local resident raised concerns and asked the Parish Council to assist in preventative methods.

After discussion, it was agreed that Peter Peruzzi and Helen Twining put up A4 laminated posters at the entrances to the beach and around the dunes, these posters have been issued by Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service.

Gina Dunn has been in contact with Norfolk Coast National Landscape to find out information on how the zones were decided and the possible benefits of being inside a zone, awaiting a response. Gina Dunn has also been in touch with Leisure and Locality regarding who is monitoring the designated areas for BBQs. It was agreed, short term, to put up laminated posters. Long term, it was agreed that the Parish Council invest in more permanent metal signs containing information and rules regarding fires on the beach, BBQs and other beach safety rules.

It was agreed that Helen Twining would keep in contact with the resident who sent the letter, to keep her informed.

Item to be added to the next agenda, and continue as an item until long term actions have been agreed and actioned.

ii. To discuss and agree signs at Bush Estate

After discussion, it was agreed that Gina Dunn will contact highways at NCC for permission for a sign at the Heath Road/Church Lane junction.

The Beach Road sign location is on a resident's land, Council to contact resident once other sign locations have been confirmed and agreed.

Clerk confirmed a sign to be put up at the Cart Gap end of Bush Drive has been agreed with Happisburgh Parish Council, as this location lies within their Parish. Sign previously reported by a resident as damaged has now been fixed, the Council noted thanks to Sue Allen's partner for repairing this.

Clerk to contact The Environment Agency regarding a sign at Seaside Lane, as there was previously one there.

c. To discuss NCC Bus Shelter Grant Scheme 2026/27

After discussion, it was agreed to not put in an application on this occasion.

d. To discuss and share any grant information for the Village Hall Committee

After discussion, grant schemes were shared and the Clerk will contact the VHC to share this information.

e. Norfolk Ramblers – Parish Footpath Audit

Website traffic statistics were noted and after a discussion, it was agreed to carry out an audit of all footpaths within the Parish. Councillors agreed to walk the paths and report any issues. Clerk to share audit template with Councillors. All agreed.

It was also discussed to add a page to the Parish Council website containing a contact form for the general public to be able to submit any suggestions/comments – a ‘have your say’ contact form. Clerk to action.

11. Policies to adopt

- i. Reserves
- ii. Complaints
- iii. Media (to replace both social media and Media and Press)

The three policies above have been adopted. Proposed by James Holden, seconded by Helen Twining, all agreed.

12. Items for inclusion on the next agenda

- a. North Gap Litter Bin

13. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 8th September 2026 7.30pm at Lessingham Village Hall

Meeting Closed at 21:35

CHAIRMAN