# **Minutes of Hardingham Parish Council meeting held on 8th September 2025 at 7.00pm in Hardingham Village Hall**

**Present**: Cllrs George (Chair), Duthie, Edwards, Hickman, Potter, Hawkshaw, Chapman-Wright, 6 members of the public and the Parish Clerk

## **OPEN FORUM**

Members of the public expressed an interest in items 4.1, 4.4. 8.1 and 10.1 which Cllrs considered when discussing those items.

## 1. **Apologies for absence**

CCllr Connolly and DCllr Plummer sent apologies for absence.

2.   **To receive, consider and decide upon any applications for dispensation and declarations of interest**

 None

3. **To confirm the minutes of meeting on 14th July 2025 as a true and accurate record**

RESOLVED Minutes approved and signed by Chair.

3.1 Cllr Hickman to liaise with NCC regarding corrections to footpath map ONGOING

3.2 Clerk to comment on PL/2025/0933/FMIN on behalf of PC COMPLETE

3.3 Cllr George to attend LGR Briefing on 21/7/25 NOT UNDERTAKEN

3.4 Clerk to report FP4 sign needs replacing COMPLETE

3.5 Cllr George to write to BDC regarding noise complaint from solar farm COMPLETE

3.6 Cllrs to check they have contact details of parishioners for emergencies – note, following recent water supply problems across the village, further work to be undertaken to identify best ways of addressing the needs of vulnerable residents during utilities outages ONGOING

3.7 Clerk to amend date on Emergency Plan COMPLETE

4. **To receive information on the following ongoing issues and decide further action where necessary:**

4.1 Driving of agricultural vehicles around the parish

RECEIVED Members of the Public (MOP) and Cllrs have encountered agricultural vehicles frequently driving dangerously day and night, causing damage and near-miss Road Traffic Collisions. It seems that a number of these are operated by Richard Long Limited.

RESOLVED Clerk to chase PC Austin Clark and escalate if no response

RESOLVED Clerk to write to Police and Crime Commissioner expressing concerns

RESOLVED Clerk to liaise with other Parish Council’s to see if this is a shared concern

 4.2 Local Plan Update

 RECEIVED No update

 4.3 Local Government Reorganisation

RECEIVED No update

 4.4 Noise complaint from solar farm

RECEIVED MOP and Cllr Hawkshaw continue to experience low frequency noise nuisance from the solar park invertors, ongoing for over a decade, despite multiple complaints to BDC and the Solar Farm Operators. Hardingham Farms own the land which they lease to the Solar Park Operators. Hardingham Farms have now taken this matter up directly with the Operators in an effort to get the current problems rectified. The Council expressed its appreciation to Hardingham Farms for taking the initiative in this respect.

RESOLVED Cllr Hawkshaw to work with Hardingham Farms and meet with the Operators, with a view to seeking an effective and sustainable solution.

RESOLVED Cllrs to consider how best to hold BDC to account for failings in addressing this issue. Further emails on ideas to be exchanged between Counsellors and discussed at the next meeting. This should not, however detract from the top priority of engaging with the operators to implement a solution.

5. **Financial Matters**

 5.1 RECEIVED Current bank balance as at 31st August 2025 is £3595.16

 5.2 RECEIVED bank reconciliation and budget comparison to 31st August 2025

 5.3 RESOLVED to pay the following accounts for payment:

5.3.1 Hardingham Village Hall (hire – Sep 8th) £25.00

5.3.2 Hardingham PCC (grass cutting) £350.00

5.3.3 Carl Cowles grass cutting (cheque 0003) £ 50.00

 5.4 RECEIVED the following payments previously authorised:

 5.4.1 Clerks Salary (01.07.25 - 31.08.24) £366.90 5.4.2 HMRC £ 91.80

6. **To consider and decide upon the following planning applications:**

None

7. **To receive and note the following planning decision/information:**

* PL/2025/0992/NMA - The Chapel, Station Road, Hardingham, NR9 4EQ

RECEIVED No concerns or comments from Cllrs.

8. **To receive information on the following new correspondence and decide further action where necessary**:

8.1 Concerns from residents on road safety at the B1135 Station Rd/Mill Rd junction and Goshawk Meadow

RECEIVED MOP expressed concerns over speeding drivers, shared by Cllrs

RESOLVED Cllr George currently awaits a response from Matt Lines of Highways as to what options are available

RESOLVED Clerk to ascertain if there is an interest from parishioners in setting up a Community Speedwatch to cover various parts of the village.

RESOLVED Clerk to explore if Police will provide presence/speed camera

8.2 Concerns from resident regarding leaning/overgrown 30mph sign between Vine Lodge and The Old School

RESOLVED Clerk to contact Highways to request the post is made stable

RESOLVED Cllr Edwards to ask Hardingham Farms to clear around the sign

9. **Village Issues.**

9.1 Any Highways Issues

RESOLVED Clerk to request resurfacing of road between Vine Lodge and Danemoor Bridge

9.2 Any Footpath Issues

None

10. **Matters Requested by Councillors:**

10.1 Protection of bats in Danemoor area

RECEIVED MOP advised that they have worked with the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) utilising their equipment to establish the presence of at least four species of bat within 1km radius of Danemoor. This information is available on the BTO website and can be used with future planning applications where an Environmental/Ecological study is required. It provides a more substantial basis of comparison and assessment than a simple desk top study as it is based upon real measured data, rather than assumptions.

RESOLVED Clerk to write to BDC on behalf of PC, asking why they did not consider local knowledge or take into account concerns raised by MOP, to the applicants ecological report, when considering the planning applications for Danemoor Farm. In addition, regarding the retrospective planning application

3PL/2024/0181/F, why has BDC planning department accepted a revised desktop ecological assessment from their own ecology consultant, Place Services, that has considerable amendments to informative content and markedly reduced ecological requirements, for the applicant to meet. The Place Services ecology consultants name has been redacted on the revised report, where the consultants name on the initial, more detailed and prescriptive report, was visible.

11. **To review and agree the following policies which are due review (emailed prior to meeting)**

None

13. **To notify the Clerk of matters for inclusion on the agenda of the next meeting**

* Grass cutting at Church cost rise

14. **Date of Next Meetings:** 10th November 2025 at 7pm in Hardingham Village Hall

15. **Feedback from Councillors**

Cllrs were pleased to note the barn conversion at the Reymerston crossroads has had the roof completed in line with the original planning permission.