

Minutes of the Cley Annual Parish Meeting

Held at 6.00pm on Thursday 1st May 2025 in

Cley Village Hall, the Fairstead

Attending: Cllr Holliday (Chair), Cllr High, Cllr Baker, Cllr Williamson, Cllr Deane and Parish Clerk Gemma Harrison.

5 members of the public were present.

County Cllr Eric Vardy attended the meeting.

1. Welcome and to consider apologies.

1.1 Cllr Holliday welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1.2 Cllr Holman and Cllr Allen sent their apologies (family commitments), the apologies were accepted.

2. Declarations and Dispensation Requests by Councillors in any of the agenda items listed below.

2.1 Cllr Deane and Cllr Baker are both members of the Harbour Committee. Cllr High declared an interest in Newgate Green. All interests were noted.

3. Agree the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on

3.1 The minutes were circulated prior to the meeting; they were PROPOSED by Cllr Deane as accurate and correct and SECONDED by Cllr Williamson and AGREED by all.

4. Receive the Chairman's Report for 2024 – 25

4.1 Cllr Holliday read out the annual report which can be seen in full at Appendix A and is also available on the Parish Council Website.

5. Receive Accounts for the year to 31st March 2024

5.1 The Clerk gave an update on the accounts for 24/25, the update can be seen at Appendix B.

Public Opportunity for Questions to Councillors

- A member of the public congratulated and extended thanks to the Parish Council for all their hard work in 24/25.
- Cllr High raised concerns about a live electricity cable neat the ditch on the Cooks Marsh development site. Clerk to report to NNDC. GH

- A question was asked about the blocked ditch at the end of Newgate Green. The work is being arranged by the Parish Council to clear the ditch. Clerk to add to the June Agenda. GH

The meeting ended at 18.43pm

APPENDIX A – Chairman’s Report

Parish chair report 2024-25

First let me say CPC couldn’t function without our clerk, Gemma, who is super organised, extremely knowledgeable and tirelessly hard working. She really goes the extra mile for us. Also huge thanks for all the contributions from our Cllrs who do the most enormous amount to keep the parish running smoothly.

I’m going to divide my annual report into achievements, work in progress and no progress, fortunately not many!

Achievements

The creation of a Hardship support fund for parishioners entirely paid for by generous donations from Cley residents (to the tune of 1400) with additional funding from the additional second home council tax premium. This disburses £50 Tesco vouchers monthly to those who need help.

The purchase, and hopefully soon installation, of a second defib in the unused telephone box on the High Street, partially funded by a generous donation with some input from the additional second home CT premium.

The Swimming area on Cley Beach was widened by 50m and new signage installed last year.

The continued success of the community cafe which is entirely due to the hard work of volunteers, and of the community loo, which is entirely due to Donny’s efforts.

The large number of waste bins has been cleared off the Fairstead - this was thanks to Andy Smith at NNDC.

A decision was reached to have the lokes cleared twice yearly by a contractor - partly funded by the second home CT premium.

The toad patrol was very active this year but the numbers of toads saved was much lower, almost half in fact. This decline was reflected in the numbers seen by other groups. Huge thanks to those who give up their cosy homes in March to patrol the Coast Rd in the dark and cold.

We asked Highways to look at excessive run off down Holt Road in heavy rains which is eroding the edge of the green. The gullies and drains have been cleaned. but Highways declined to build up the edge of the green.

We formed an Emergency Response group of volunteers to help with emergencies to offer basic help or support, such as collecting the defibrillator. This has been tested and worked well. Thank you very much to the volunteers who have come forward.

We continue to collect speeding data on our roads. This is entirely due to Richard Deane's hard work. The Blakeney Hill is the worst for speeding with 85th centile of 29.9 at the start of the 20 mph zone. This is difficult for the police to monitor and it's felt the corner naturally slows you down. The next worst speeding zone is the Coast Rd for which the 85th c is 32.4 in 30 mph. The police have been out doing speed checks where we have found speeding. For me, it's the average daily count of cars which is staggering: over 1000 a day on the Coast Rd, Blakeney Hill and Holt Rd.

Work in progress

We are almost 3 years behind on the Newgate Green parking space project. We lost two years due to lack of capacity at NCC and another six months when NCC wasn't able to accept payment. Now costs have increased and it may be that our design will have to change to stay within budget.

After a similar length of time, the handrail on steps nr Artemis have been put in place but, despite constant pressure, not on the steps by Zetland House. We are told this is due to delays in getting permission from the Environment Agency and work is now programmed.

Because of the additional capacity we persuaded Anglian water to install at the Glandford STW, trucking out of sewage is now limited to emergencies eg high tides, heavy rain, and to the weekly removal of sludge. It would be good to get it down further.

We've had mixed success with construction vehicle parking - some sites have been better than others. We continue to send the Construction Parking Policy

out to owners/ agents/ developers at the planning application stage and this has on occasion been successful.

We've investigated what can be done to prevent further damage to the wall on Glandford Road at the intersection with Bridgefoot Lane by heavy vehicles. Highways are prepared to make modifications to the verge opposite the turn at their cost. We've found a potential funding source for repairs to the Glandford Road wall but we need to do more ground work.

The Glaven water testing hasn't got off the ground - there's nowhere to sample for invertebrates below the Wiveton Bridge and the Rivers Trust haven't checked out chemical testing at the outfall sluice which is more labour intensive.

No progress

The Barn on Cooks Marsh has permitted development for a guest house, and has now also given permission for external render and new windows and concrete around building. We've been fighting against this without effect since March 2020. The Landscaping which has taken place is not permitted and this is currently an enforcement case.

We've made no progress in getting a toilet on the beach and I doubt we will - unless we can provide evidence to NWT of the need ie human waste fouling on the beach.

APPENDIX B – Annual Finance Summary

Payments and Receipts

159 payments totalling £24,952

and we got 218 receipts totalling £31,125

Precept

£13,960

Staff Costs

£7655

Cley Toilet

Payments - £3394

Receipts - £3332.52

£61.48 debit

Community Café

Payments – £2355

Receipts - £4082

£1727 credit

Allotments

Payments £2556

Receipts £1979

£577 Credit

£960 Heritage Walk	£960.00
£2319.19 Cley Loo	£2,819.19
£730.24 Comm Support	£730.24
£4894.59 Café	£4,894.59
£862.46 Allotments	£862.46
£500 Donation plus additonal defib spend	£1,131.00
Reserves	£6,272.23