POSTWICK WITH WITTON PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13th January 2026 at 7.00pm at Postwick Village Hall, NR13 5HL

Present: Councillors (Cllrs) Julie Smith (Chair), David Dukes (Vice chair), Helen George, Samantha Massingham, David Miller, Jon Price, Matthew Riches
Officer: Sonia Noble-Parker (Clerk)
Members of the public: Colin Hancy, Frank Sheppard, Oliver Higenbottam**,** Colin Whurr

1) To consider apologies for absence
None

2) To receive declarations of interest for items on the agenda and to consider any requests for dispensations
None

3) **Purpose of the Extraordinary Meeting**
It was noted the meeting had been convened to consider matters relating to the provision of additional parking to support increased use of the Cricket Club and Village Hall.

4) **Update on Proposed Purchase of Land**
David Dukes provided an update to the Council. An impasse has been reached in negotiations regarding the purchase price of the land. Following rejection of the Council's initial offer, no indication has been received as to whether the current offer is acceptable.

5) **Land Purchase – Options and Timeframe**
Increasing the offer for the identified parcel of land
a. The option of increasing the offer was discussed. The Council agreed that it did not wish to increase the offer, nevertheless the Council will keep the existing offer on the table until such time as they commit to an alternative plan.
Resolved: Not to increase the offer for the land.

All in favour

b. Alternative options identified within the original proposal
Alternative options were discussed. It was agreed that the preferred option would be to redesign the existing car park to maximise available space, together with a potential extension using the playing field. This would enable the allocation of 24 spaces which Norwich Cricket Club has advised would be sufficient for players and officials. With any additional parking needs being accommodated on the cricket club boundaries.
The Council emphasised that, as the playing field is Local Green Space, consultants should design only what is necessary. The Council also noted that some additional capacity may be achieved through redesign of the existing car park alone. Any extension should be sympathetic to the surrounding environment.
Following on from agenda item 5a) the council agreed that if the car park extension is well underway and a positive response is received regarding the purchase of the land then they may still be willing to purchase the plot for amenity and not car parking purposes. This would require CIL funding.
The parish council would commit to compensate for the loss of green space on the playing field; this could be through purchasing land or securing access to green space elsewhere in the parish, at least equal to the size of the green space lost. Identifying potential sites would be explored during the consultation phase.
Resolved: To proceed on this basis.

All in favour

6) **Professional Appointments and Project Next Steps** — **SNP**

a. Design work

It was agreed that the Council's existing consultants would be instructed to undertake the design work.

All in favour

b. Planning application

The Council agreed to defer discussion on submission of a planning application until the car park design has been completed. — **SNP**

c. Procurement of surfacing works

The Clerk will consider the tender process required for the procurement of surfacing works and report back at the next Parish Council meeting. — **SNP**

7) **Cricket Club Liaison**

It was agreed that a meeting should be held in mid-February with Norwich Cricket Club to discuss usage requirements including the possibility of booking the village hall for larger cricket events to ensure sufficient parking, design considerations, and project delivery. Additional items for discussion will include lease negotiations and the creation of a shared diary between the Cricket Club and Village Hall. The Clerk will investigate file-sharing options.

8) **Public Engagement**

It was agreed that a public engagement event will be held at Postwick Village Hall on **Saturday 28 February**, from **9.30am to 11.30am**, to share proposals for the parking development with parishioners. — **SNP**

The meeting closed at 8.07pm