

NYMET ROWLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the 199th Parish Council Meeting & Annual Parish Meeting Held in Village Hall on Wednesday, 14th May 2025 at 7:30 pm

Present:

Councillors: Anthony Odhams (AO), David Gruncell (DG), Jan Coeshall (JC), Viv O'Dell (VO), Babs Channing (BC), Elaine Little (EL) - Clerk

4 MOPs, 1 – Cllr Steve Keable (SK)

1. Annual Parish Meeting

- AO opened the 2025 Annual Parish Meeting & thanked MOPs for attending and invited them to raise any village related matters:
- Village Hall – MOP asked is it possible for the Village Hall committee to present their AGM and funds at an upcoming PC meeting. Clerk to invite Village Hall committee to next PC meeting.
- MOP asked if there was any possibility of our Grade 1 listed Church being offered a grant from English Heritage? PC JC volunteered to investigate any possibilities.
- Church Warden to provide a listing of repairs needed for the church and MOP DC offered to conduct a pre quinquennial inspection in preparation for the quinquennial survey to be conducted which is overdue.
- AO advised that contactless payments options for church donations could be a possibility to improve donations to the church. AO & Clerk to investigate further.

Annual Parish Meeting closed

2. Parish Council Meeting

- AO & DG both stood down from Chair & Vice Chair as is required. They were then re-elected by the councillors to the positions and to continue to do the range of work they do for our community
- Review of minutes of meetings held on 12th February & 16th April approved and signed by Chair

3. Matters Arising

3.1 Pot Holes/Road Maintenance

- It is to be noted that anyone can report a pothole via the Devon County Website <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/report-a-problem/report-a-pothole/>
- Advice is that including a photo is not recommended, so that the site is visited in person for review rather than through an image.
- AO advised PC wrote in Jan '25 to Devon Highways asking for confirmation of when the budgeted road repairs would actually be conducted for the Village as state of road are getting worse and repeated minimal repairs are insufficient. Following a further request for help to Mel Stride MP. He replied that Highways confirmed the work is budgeted and scheduled, but no date given. AO pressed SK under his new DCC Councillor role, to get a clear idea of a date and repair status for all the village roads.

3.2 Planning Application Updates

- Barton Farm application now under further review following the DCC Archaeology Inspector's stipulation to examine area within close proximity of the Grade 1 Church. It's possible this may be the site of the original community. MOP advised that Historic England will consider the age and historical importance of the 17/18 century cobb barns as listed buildings.
- Since the meeting a further update has been received. The application for five contemporary style properties been withdrawn in accordance with the submitted Historic England guidance calling for rurally sympathetic designs. PC is now awaiting further information

3.3 **Phone Kiosk & BT Public Phone Service**

- MDCC Planning and BT have made their decision and the BT public phone service and equipment will be removed from the telephone box within the very near future.
- PC will proceed with adopting the Phone Kiosk and fulfil the proposal of moving the village defibrillator into the box, as agreed by the PC during the meeting held 12th February '25
- VO asked about the cost of the upkeep of the phone box – AO advised that under the Adopt a Kiosk Scheme, a payment of £1 will be made to BT. The latter will cover the electricity costs. There will be a cost to move the electrical supply from 1 Pitt Court to the kiosk. Supplies such as specialist paint, signage etc are available from The Community Heartbeat Trust. Clerk to investigate further and continue with the box adoption

4. **Financial Report Update**

- Clerk gave an update on spend and balances of PC funds
 - o Current Account balance: as of 14 May 25: £1474.51
 - o Deposit Account balance as of 14 May 25: £850.86
 - o Expenditure between Feb25-May25 total of £600.00

5. **New/AOB**

5.1 **Road Closure 11-15th August – South West Water Utility works**

- AO advised he is waiting for a clarification from SWW on what is being done and the actual roads being closed. A further update and information will be posted on the Village notice board

5.2 **Foul Water & Road Markings @ Barton Hill**

- PC advised that complaints had been received from a dog walker of the foul water running down the hill toward Allerbridge
- PC made comment that road marking & signage approaching from Allerbridge to the T junction at Barton Farm need improving to avoid any future accidents

5.3 **CPRE Membership**

- AO requested PC agreement of membership of CPRE to provide professional support when responding to future planning applications
- PC agreed to membership
- Clerk to submit annual membership
- Update. 20th May - AO attended 1 day CPRE seminar on planning & impending county councils devolution.

5.4 **Upcoming 2026/27 Precept & Budgeting**

- AO advised PC that precept budget planning due in Autumn and that consideration of the cost of elections etc. needs to be considered for the future
- Clerk advised that precept budgeting will be conducted prior to next meeting and presented for review

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.