Minutes of the Dersingham Extraordinary Parish Council meeting held on 21st September 2026 at 7.00pm in the Dersingham Village Centre

Councillors present: Coral Shepherd (Chairman), Brian Anderson, Nigel Barker, Robert Frost, Su Foxley, Martin Noble, Mike Shepherd, Brett Thomas, Mark Ward, Ann Watkins, Sarah Whitehead and Dennis Wright.

Also present: Karen Orgill (Business Manager - BM)
Geraldine Scanlon (Assistant Business Manager - ABM – Minute taker)

Absent: Cllrs Valerie Brundle and John Houston

1 Apologies for absence – Cllrs Tony Bubb and Jordan Stokes
Borough Councillor Judy Collingham.
County Councillor Lee Jarvis

2 Declarations of interest and request dispensations by Councillors in any of the agenda items listed
Cllr B Anderson declared an interest in agenda item 4 (iv)
Cllrs C and M Shepherd declared an interest in item 4 (ii)
Cllr A Watkins declared an interest in agenda item 4 (iii)

3 Open meeting to allow public participation
None present

4 People, Opportunities, Places: Help shape the Borough's next Local Plan – Call for Sites.

1. Cllr C Shepherd advised that the current Borough Council Local Plan was officially adopted in 2025. The government have changed the rules, and these came into effect earlier this year. The Borough Council have started work on a new Local Plan and consultation is currently underway on the Calls for Sites. Comments must be submitted before the 29th September 2026. Anyone can nominate a site and Councillors were asked whether they had any suggestions for other possible sites in Dersingham that the Parish Council could recommend to the Borough Council. Cllr Thomas asked if the Community Centre, Manor Road and the Infant School, Saxon Way could be considered. Cllr C Shepherd advised that a planning application is shortly to be submitted for the Community Centre. Cllr C Shepherd advised that the future of the old Infants School site was considered in the Neighbourhood Plan that is currently being prepared. After discussion Cllr C Shepherd proposed the Parish Council recommend the Infant School to the Borough Council as a potential site for up to 12 houses. **It was resolved to approve the proposal.**

Cllr C Shepherd advised that the parishioners that had registered to receive updates about the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) had been contacted for their comments regarding the suggested Calls for Sites locations in Dersingham. A total of 18 responses had been received, and the comments had been collated on a spreadsheet and circulated via SharePoint prior to the meeting.

Suggested locations in Dersingham

(i) Land at 94 Hunstanton Road – 3 Detached dwellings proposed – the main concern was the risk of coalescence with Ingoldisthorpe.

(ii) Land at Wood Villa, 92 Hunstanton Road- 6.5 acres with between five and forty dwellings proposed – the discussions concerned the coalescence of settlements and the need to maintain a clear separation between villages, loss of trees, loss of an attractive Victorian villa, detrimental impact on wildlife and character of village.

(iii) Land at Station Road, rear of Semba and beside A149 – Between forty and forty-five dwellings proposed – concerns were expressed because the land is a valuable wildlife corridor linking Dersingham Fen to Ingoldisthorpe Common, destruction of a habitat resource and piece of local cultural heritage, already designated as a County Wildlife site, loss of trees, impact of traffic on Station Road, noise from A149.

(iv) 2 Sugar Lane – 1 detached bungalow in front garden proposed. Cllr B Thomas advised that this proposed site would meet the criteria for submitting a planning application through the standard process and would not require any further action in relation to the Call for Sites process.

Cllr C Shepherd advised that there were general concerns about the impact on infrastructure, including the effect on the doctor's surgery, school, increased traffic volumes, water supply, sewage, the local hospital, and the loss of green space. Cllr C Shepherd proposed that she submit the suggested comments to the Borough Council before 29th September 2026. **It was resolved to approve the proposal.**

5 Open meeting to allow public participation
None present**.**

With no further business the meeting was closed at 7.30pm

6 Date of next meeting: Full Council Meeting Monday 28th September 2026 at 7.00pm in the Garden Room.