

DEREHAM TOWN COUNCIL

24th February 2026

At a meeting of the **Heritage & Open Spaces Committee** held at the Memorial Hall on **Tuesday 24th February 2026**.

Present: Councillors P Duigan (Chairman), Z Flint, A Greenwood, R Jamieson, and P Morton.

Also in attendance: Town Clerk T Needham, Deputy Town Clerk J Barron, District Councillor A Webb, Sara Flatt (Dereham Heritage Trust), and Ken Hawkins (Community Access Warden).

1. **To receive apologies for absence.**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A Brooks.

2. **Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **To receive a report from Dereham Heritage Trust.**

Sara Flatt from Dereham Heritage Trust present a report advising that this year the museum will be focusing on sport in Dereham from the Victorian to today. They will also be covering the Temprance Movement and the General Strike in 1926.

Dereham Heritage Trust have been contacting parents and carers who are home schooling and are look to start a Home Education Club.

Events taking place this year will include:

- Digging Dereham which will be a three-day event, Friday, Saturday and Sunday and it will be the Saxon Age
- Bonnie Mouse take over day will be sports themed.
- Big Dereham Book Day, which was an immense success last year raising over £480.

Dereham Heritage Trust have invested in a gazebo to use at events for community engagement.

4. **To receive a report from the Community Access Warden.**

The Community Access Warden Mr Ken Hawkins presented his report to the Committee, expressing his concerns regarding the condition of FP14a (The new Boardwalk leading to Stone Road) and FP26 (Dumpling Green), he continued by saying that the more people that reported the issued regarding these footpaths then there would be a higher chance of something being done.

The Community Access Warden advised the committee that on the Walkers are Welcome website there now a page giving update on paths and any issues.

5. **To discuss maintenance of Rolling Pin Lane.**

Rolling Pin Lane is a Public Right of Way on foot only. The Lane also has a number of private properties with prescriptive private rights for vehicles.

The Town Council could only contribute to the maintenance of a Highway if either the Highway is a Maintained Highway, or the Town Council has private rights over the Highway (as was the case with Cherry Lane). It is not known whether Rolling Pin Lane is a Maintained Highway or not; but it probably is given its history.

The committee recommended that the issues of maintaining Rolling Pin Lane be left to Norfolk County Council if Norfolk County requested funding from Dereham Down Council it would have to demonstrate that Rolling Pin Lane is a maintained Highway.

6. To consider request to place dog waste bin on Cherry Lane.

The committee recommended that the Town Clerk write to Breckland District Council asking them for a formal agreement that they will empty bins for the next ten years or the lifetime of the bin. If no agreement can be agreed, then the Town Council would not provide bins.

7. To consider removal of block-built bus shelter on Norwich Road.

This item was deferred to the next committee meeting to allow councillors to put forward any ideas they may have for the use of the bus shelter should it be found that the Town Council is responsible for the bus shelter.

The committee recommended that the Town Clerk contact Norfolk County Council to ask for evidence of who is responsible for the bus shelter.

8. To consider Norfolk County Council gritting routes.

The committee recommended that the following areas be put forward to be added to Norfolk County Councils gritting routes:

1. Number 8 bus route in Toftwood. This is a vital bus route for many people getting to work, part of which is also National Cycle Route 13.
2. Theatre Street – this is a well-used route to school and a bus route.
3. South Green / South End / Baxter row – Again, a very heavily used route, and part of National Cycle Route 13.
4. Moorgate – bus route into town and heavily used resident, the junction on the corner of Moorgate is a blackspot for ice.

9. Update on Bishop Bonners Cottages.

The Town Clerk gave a verbal update on Bishop Bonner Cottages, saying that after a recent visit by Anna High (Building Surveyor) it was agreed that were a few areas that required some plastering work and that in a couple of years the repairs to the thatch would be needed. A budget of £20,000 would be set aside for the work on the thatching.

Chairman