

RINGLAND PARISH COUNCIL

Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting 21/08/2025 7pm.

Present: Cllrs L Cooper (Chair), M Turner (Vice-Chair), K Stone, M George, S Addington, A Illing, Clerk Kay Montandon, and 17 members of the public.

Minutes

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Jill Baker

2. Declaration of Interest

None

3. Presentation on Norwich Western Link Road Options

Nick Adams outlined the situation for the County Council since the planning application for the NWL was withdrawn due to Natural England objections. Nick explained that no new dual carriageway road and bridge over the Wensum options would be likely to get approved so the NWL team are looking for other options to mitigate traffic problems in the area of Ringland. Essentially the team is back where it was in 2018 looking at options.

Nick explained that by the time of the new consultation process, the Parish should have a clear idea of what mitigations they would like. The A47 dualling and changes to road accesses from that may mean traffic is funneled through Ringland via the Bridge at the Swan, which would lead to issues. New developments of housing and industry around the NDR will add pressures on the traffic infrastructure in the Wensum valley. These developments were approved with the knowledge that a NWL was being implemented. Now the NWL is not to be implemented but the new developments are still going ahead.

4. Discussion on Norwich Western Link Road options

It was agreed to put forward any changes in the area since the last NWL proposal for consideration by the NWL group in their work towards options for traffic mitigation. The changes highlighted by the meeting were:

- a. **The change in weight limit of Ringland bridge to 3t means heavy traffic cannot use this route.**
An improvement or replacement of the bridge would also require straightening and widening of the approach roads.
- b. **New houses have been built opposite Langley School and that also affects traffic in the village.**
- c. **The Ringland Swan pub has reopened and is very busy, causing traffic and parking issues on the roads near the bridge.**
- d. **Flooding issues near the bridge have been more prevalent in recent years.**
- e. **The culvert next to the bridge has had to be repaired twice in the last couple of years.**
- f. **An application for the reopening of the ford next to the bridge has been made.**
Should permission be granted this will cause traffic problems due to the unsuitable

ground and gaining access via River Green or from the approach to the bridge.

- g. New walking routes are being promoted such as the Walsingham Way which means more pedestrians use the roads in Ringland that previously.
- h. Much higher volumes of courier traffic come into Ringland since 2018, which means more vans travelling at high speeds through the village.
- i. Paddleboarding has increased in popularity meaning many more users of the River Green and associated car traffic.
- j. Runners are more common in the village since the Norwich Half Marathon.
- k. Dog walkers, including professional dog walking businesses, are more common in the village.

5. The date of the next Parish Council meeting is Monday 8 September 2025 7.30pm.

6. The meeting closed at 8pm.

Signed by Chair.....Date.....