

An extraordinary meeting of Full Council was held on:
Tuesday 24th March 2026 at 6.30pm
at the Sheringham Community Centre and was attended by the following:

Chair: Cllr Brisbane

Councillors: Brisbane, Ashcroft, Kime, Worboys, Langsdon, Dorey, Farrow, Ratcliffe, Jolley, Hart, Jackson, Sellick

In Attendance: Mel Ashcroft – Projects & Assets Officer. 16 members of the public.

Clerk/Minutes: Michelle Barron

ITEM	MINUTE	ACTION
2025/26-FC/166	1. APOLOGIES	
	It was RESOLVED to accept apologies from Councillor Heinink and Councillor Bailey.	
2025/26-FC/167	2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST and DISPENSATIONS	
	With reference to items on the agenda members are reminded of their responsibility to declare interests and to update their Register of Interests as required. The Clerk has received and approved dispensation requests for all Councillors.	
	Cllr Hart and Cllr Sellick declare a Non pecuniary interest for Otterndorf Green.	
	Cllr Worboys enters the room.	
2025/26-FC/168	3. OPEN MEETING	
	A business owner in the Town Centre spoke. She said the sooner we can move the bus stop back so that the public can access the town more easily, the better. Lots of businesses are concerned about moving the bus stop to the Morley Club, especially those businesses further down the town.	
	Paul Goldsmith spoke on behalf of the STSP. He said they wanted to make is clear they were not trying to hold up or stop works. They were urging the council to use the delay as a window of opportunity to explore options. He referred to the designs from Bernard Smith, and felt that the narrow pinch point hadn't been resolved. He said that NCC have not been consistent with other stops, including Cromer. The second aim of the group is to	

	address traffic flow in a remarkably low-cost solution such as what has been done at Dereham. STC's failure to engage makes them equally culpable (as NCC) in failing our community and rate payers. He states that STC have repeatedly failed to respond. And requests and explanation within 5 working days. Charles Sanders spoke on behalf of Sanders Coaches. He said that Sheringham is unique with regards to bus improvements, so can not be compared to other towns. It is the only place with a bus stop next to a major car park, toilets and tourist attraction, the putting green as well as the North Norfolk Railway. That is unique. Cromer has two major bus stops. So has Dereham. There is more room and opportunity in those places. Sheringham has this problem. He said he feels sorry for town council but they need to do what is right for the town. We cannot have traffic chaos after May. We will double this service and there will be chaos. I don't want to worry people. Stick by your difficult decision and get buses back to Station Approach. Paul Richmond spoke as Chair of Experience Sheringham representing 130 businesses. He is being contacted on this subject by many people. Approving the Road Traffic Order is an opportunity to turn this into something real. He said that we have a genuine opportunity to bring the buses back into the Town for the summer season. If we risk another delay confidence is lost. Every day people are being inconvenienced. The extra distance to Cromer Road is the difference for some people between coming into Sheringham or staying at home. As we move into the busy summer months it will gets worse. 95% of bus users surveyed by Sanders Coaches want the buses back in town. They want normality restored. People will go elsewhere. The result would be less footfall and less visitors. The demand is there. Make the decision tonight. Do we move forward or hold Sheringham back? He urged the council to vote yes tonight and give the town the future it deserves. Laura Taylor was part of SOS group and now STSP and wanted to thank those councillors that supported the protestors. She said all they want is collaboration for the safety of the whole area, and they have shown they want to improve Sheringham's Travel Safety. Cllr Brisbane thanked members of the public. She explained that the Council was not able to provide a response to questions at this time and would respond to questions as soon as possible but to please bear with us as we have significant time pressures that we are dealing with.	
2025/26-FC/169	4. OTTERNDORF GREEN	
	Cllr Langsdon said he wished to speak in support of STC's application for a Traffic regulation order to facilitate the next stage of the Travel Hub project. A vocal group of protestors campaigned to support the retention of the bus shelter. The group succeeded, and, in February, STC/we voted to retain the	

historic bus shelter in a modified form that facilitates the safe widening of the pavement and, therefore, the return of buses to Station Approach in a timely fashion. STC made this decision on the basis of a process of discussion with stakeholders, this was a carefully considered decision. It was the right decision. There is no reason for any delay in the return of buses to Station Approach – further delay would be a dereliction of duty by the council. We owe it to the people of Sheringham and to visitors to Sheringham to facilitate the next stage of this process.

Cllr Farrow spoke to agree with Cllr Langsdon comments.

Cllr Ratcliffe stated that he had supported the proposal from the outset but had now reached a position of accepting a compromise, acknowledging that it was not ideal but one he had come to terms with. He recognised the unique and compelling circumstances outlined during the debate and highlighted that a significant number of local businesses were keen to see the issue resolved and buses returned to service.

He referred to the ongoing traffic disruption and the negative impact on disabled residents, emphasising that the priority must be to restore bus services as soon as possible. Reflecting on what he described as a long and challenging debate, he noted that the council was now at a crossroads and had carefully considered a range of views. He concluded by confirming that he would be voting in favour of the Traffic Regulation Order.

He went on to note a previous feasibility study that had been a long and painful process, which took months and we still haven't been able to enact any of the feedback from that. One thing that everyone on both sides of the argument has said, is that they don't feel the current stop is safe and we have to get buses back to Station Approach.

Cllr Dorey, can I ask Charles a question about bus stops. Charles Sanders answered him.

Cllr Worboys doesn't believe the old bus stop is unsafe he doesn't buy into the Health and Safety side. He feels it's common sense and drivers should be adhering to the Highway Code.

Cllr Ashcroft raised concerns about vexatious and bullying emails.

A recorded vote was requested.

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the Traffic Order for Station Approach.

Votes in favour: Cllrs Jolley, Ratcliffe, Hart, Sellick, Brisbane, Ashcroft, Farrow, Langsdon, Kime.

Against: Cllrs Worboys, Jackson

Abstain: Cllr Dorey

	B: Councillors debated this and there was a general view that this was a necessary embellishment for Sheringham as a tourist destination. Cllr Langsdon said that he was aware that the modification of the bus shelter as agreed by STC and stakeholders could facilitate the swift return of buses to Station Approach. I am also aware that the Travel Hub project will not be completed until after the summer period and so I think that decorative art work for the fencing to be produced alongside stakeholders is a necessary embellishment for Sheringham as a tourist destination. It was RESOLVED to approve a budget of £2000 for decorative panels to improve the look of the site for summer, and if any groups feel they would like to contribute that would also be very welcome. Cllr Kime suggested that the panels could be moved to Shannock's to improve that part of the Town when they are no longer needed, giving them a renewed purpose. He also pledged a donation towards the project	
2025/26-FC/152	5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
	The next Full Council meeting will be 21 st April 2026.	

Meeting closed at 21.30

Chair Date: