

# Minutes

Meeting held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 7pm in the Village Hall,

**In Attendance:** Cllr Arneill, Cllr Buttifant, Cllr Durrant, Cllr Livingstone (Chair), Cllr Purdy, Cllr Reckert, Cllr Greg Peck (County Councillor). and Sarah Vergette (Clerk)

- 1. Apologies & Approval of absence.** Cllr Hellewell, Cllr Sinclair, Cllr Soanes, Cllr Dave Thomas (District Councillor). Approved.
- 2. Declarations of interest.** None
- 3. To approve as accurate minutes of the previous meeting.** The minutes of the previous meeting, having been circulated were **approved** and signed as a true record
- 4. Public Participation**
  - 4.1 Public.** None.
  - 4.2 County Councillor.** Cllr Peck stated that he would not be standing for re-election in May. The Council offered a vote of thanks for the work, Cllr Peck has done on behalf of the village. Cllr Peck reported that Norfolk County Council had delivered a balanced budget, Council Tax will increase by 4.99%. A decision on LGR should be received next week. The County Councillors' funds will continue, £12,000 for highway and environmental projects and £5,000 community fund.
  - 4.3 District Councillor.** Cllr Thomas sent a report which was noted.
- 5. Updates**
  - 5.1 Clerk's report – noted.** The clerk had attended training, Spring Seminar and networking all of which were informative and helpful.
  - 5.2 Cllr Purdy** stated that he had received a comment from a parishioner on how well the Cemetery had been cut.
  - 5.3 Cllr Reckert** reported that the school had recently carried out a litter pick.
  - 5.4 Cllr Buttifant** reported that School Lunch Bags will take place on 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> April for the Easter holidays. Cllr Buttifant attended a meeting of five local Council Chairs. The anaerobic digester application was discussion and Oulton Parish Council's comments will be sent TO US. Aylsham are applying to be a Town of Culture, the application needs to be submitted by the end of March and if successful will attract £3,000,000. They have to have a programme if events.
  - 5.5 Grow, Make, Bake** will take place on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September. Three new under 16 categories have been introduced.
  - 5.6 The Litter Pick Risk Assessment** was agreed. The clerk will collect the litter picking equipment.
  - 5.7 Cllr Thomas** had sent a copy of a letter he sent to Clarion Housing, this resulted in a local meeting for tenants.
- 6. Finance & Governance**
  - 6.1 To approve payments**

a. Salary	£620.20
b. HMRC	£456.48
c. Norfolk Pension Fund	£275.20
d. Npower	£160.57
e. L Scales	£60.00
f. NPTS Subscription	£492.00
g. Broadland DC – dog bins	£490.20
h. Broadland DC Litter bins	£1037.40
i. Insurance	

**Approved**

**6.2** To approve bank reconciliation. **Approved**

**6.3** To note Member and Employee protocols – deferred to April

**6.4** To re-adopt Code of Conduct – deferred to April

**6.5** To discuss and agree Asset Register. The clerk will look into adding this to Parish Online. The Asset register was **agreed**.

**6.6** Two insurance quotes had been received. The clerk had increased the sum insured to cover playground equipment. Cllr Purdy proposed that the Parish Council should stay with the existing insurance provider, there were five votes in favour. The clerk will however contact the existing insurance company to see if they will reduce the quote to match the lower quote.

## **7. Planning Matters**

**7.1** To discuss planning application 2026/0282 to construct Anaerobic Digester Plant with landscaping, drainage and associated development, infrastructure and works at Land at Oulton Airfield. It was agreed that the clerk should ask for an extension of time to reply and the application will be discussed at the next meeting. It was noted that the proposed layby which will be installed for the poultry farm (2026/0314) development will have to be reinstated.

**7.2** An offer of Community Benefit funding has been received from Bluefield for Oulton Solar Farm. It was noted at the previous meeting that the period of operation has increased from 25 years to 40 years. The clerk wrote to Bluefield to ask if they would increase their offer, but they refused. It was therefore agreed to accept the offer and accordingly the Chair signed the agreement.

**7.3** A revised application for the traveller site 2025/1547 had been received. The Council's existing comments remain the same.

**7.4** Planning application 2025/2220 - Erection of a Solar Photovoltaic Installation of 30 MW output and all associated supporting infrastructure including, cable routing, inverters and transformers, fencing, CCTV, and landscaping for temporary period of 42 years. Will be discussed on 25<sup>th</sup> March. The Parish Council objects to this application. The proposed solar farm will be on BMV (best and most versatile) land.

**7.5** It was noted that the landowners who had previously been contacted to ask for a discussion regarding their GNLP land submission are prepared to have a discussion with councillors. The clerk will contact the landowners.

## **8. Cemetery/Churchyard**

**8.1** A working party cleared the church walls in preparation for the repair work.

**8.2** Cllr Purdy reported that reimbursement had been received for the plaque. Cllr Purdy is still trying to settle on a date for a ceremony.

8.3 There had been a report that a fence panel adjacent to the Bowls Club gates had been damaged, clerk to contact the handyman.

**9. Playing field/Village Hall**

9.1 The clerk will contact the handyman to ask for help in moving the goals.

**10. Highways**

10.1 The SAM2 results were noted. Thanks were given to Cllr Arneill for his work with the SAM2.

10.2 The cost of a new post for the SAM2 would be £195. It was noted that there should be a post which had been approved by Highways near to 37/39 Norwich Road. Cllr Arneill will check to see if he has another bracket. The internal battery is not holding charge, clerk will contact Westcotec.

10.3 The clerk will contact Cllr Sinclair for more information regarding the white gates.

**11. Allotments**

11.1 Cemetery Extension. Cllr Livingstone had circulated a Design and Access Statement, which was agreed. It was agreed that Cllr Livingstone would prepare a planning application.

11.2 A response regarding allocation of the allotment land under GNLP had been received and had been incorporated into the Design and Access Statement.

**12. Correspondence**

12.1 The Home Help Van team will have table in the village hall on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May whilst Lunch Club is on. They speak to attendees and have a private space for any discussions.

12.2 An email had been received regarding Good Village Growth. It was agreed to ask them to attend the next meeting.

**13. Date of the next meeting**

The date of the next meeting is currently set for **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April** 7pm in the Village Hall. Items for the next agenda to be sent to the clerk by Monday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

**14. Any Other Business/ For Information.**

Nothing to discuss.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.08pm

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Chair

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Date

