

Fulmodeston & Barney Parish Council

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The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 19.00 on Tuesday 10th February 2026
in the Old School Hall, Fulmodeston.

Present: Cllr C Lickley (Chair), Cllrs R. Harris (locum Clerk), D. Cooke, J. Marston, M. Marshall and A. Fearn from 26/02
7 members of the public.

26/01 Welcome and to consider apologies and reasons for absence.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all for coming. NNDC Cllr Hankins had sent his apologies.

26/02 To co-opt new members to the Parish Council

The Council considered the application from Alison Fearn. Acceptance proposed by Cllr Cooke; seconded by Cllr Marshall; approved unanimously. The Council welcomed Cllr Alison Fearn who signed the Declaration of Acceptance form in the presence of the Council.

26/03 To receive declarations of Interest and request for dispensations in any agenda item.

Cllr Lickley declared his role with the Playing Field Association. Alison Fearn declared an interest as Chair of the Old School Hall Committee. Dispensation was given to both to speak. Acceptance proposed by Cllr Marston; seconded by Cllr Marshall. Approved unanimously.

26/04 To Approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1st December 2025.

Councillors confirmed Minutes. Proposed by Cllr Harris; seconded by Cllr Cooke. Approved unanimously.

26/05 Matters arising (for information only), not included on the agenda

Councillor Harris mentioned that the grant agreed for the PFA at the previous meeting had not yet been paid. He requested bank details from the PFA. And when they would like the money paid. Cllr Harris also requested that the PFA provide evidence of how the grant money is spent.

26/06 Open Forum for public participation

i Receive reports from NNDC Cllr Mike Hankins and NCC Cllr Steff Aquarone
Cllr Harris related the main points from a report Cllr Hankins: LGR – the delay in holding County Council and Mayoral elections has given rise to concern; North Norfolk Local Plan has been finalised; Anglian Water Meeting Update – a very productive meeting was held, focussing on discharges; Mobile Connectivity – a meeting was held with MBOs to ensure that representatives were aware of problems faced by residents with varying levels of connectivity.

No report had been received from Cllr Aquarone.

ii Questions and comments from residents and members of the public
No questions or comment received.

26/07 To Receive an update from the locum Clerk

Cllr Harris raised two points. First, updated the Council on progress with closing the No2 account, which is now underway. Secondly, he referred to an opportunity for NPTS Training

for the full Council and suggested that this might be considered at the next meeting, given financial considerations.

26/08 To Approve the process for appointing a permanent Clerk

Cllr Harris outlined the need to get this process underway in order that a new Clerk might be appointed close to the end of the financial year, or soon after. He proposed the setting up of a Working Party to expedite the process. Following interviews, the WP will arrange an EM to discuss and agree appointment in confidential session.

The WP was agreed as Cllrs Fearn and Cooke, plus resident Mrs Harris, with immediate priority of advertising the position.

Process proposed by Cllr Harris; Seconded by Cllr Marshall. Approved unanimously.

26/09 Finance and Governance

i To Approve the Cashbook, Receipts & Payments since the last meeting
Cllr Harris gave an update on the cash book, stating that the PC's community account balance is £7,998.01 and the balance in the Cambridge Account is £10,795.00. The balance of £13.72 in the Barclays No.2 account will be transferred to the Barclays current account as soon as it has been retrieved from a Barclays dormant account setting.

List of payments and receipts since 1st December meeting

Payments

17.12.25	£55.00	Fakenham Prepress Solutions – Newsletter Dec/Jan
6.02.26	£47.00	ICO – Annual Registration
10.02.26	£55.00	Fakenham Prepress Solutions – Newsletter Feb/March

Receipts

16.12.25	£8,474.00	Approved transfer, including loan, from Cambridge PC
19.01.26	£357.23	VAT refund

Cllrs considered and discussed the cashbook, payments and receipts. Cllr Harris proposed approval; seconded by Cllr Marshall. Approved unanimously.

ii To receive update on the Grant application for warm hub rental.
Cllr Marshall reported that the grant was no longer needed, as the warm hub had received a donation.

iii To receive update on the PFA grant for insurance and Approve any action.
Cllr Lickley reported that a reduction in the insurance cover had been secured. Payment of the grant will be made once the PC receives its new precept. Cllr Cooke proposed the payment be made; seconded by Cllr Marston. Approved unanimously.

iv To receive update on the Capital Grant for the Millenium Window and Approve any action.
Cllr Fearn presented the community petition requested at the previous PC meeting before grant could be awarded. Cllr Harris proposed that payment now be made; seconded by Cllr Lickley. Approved unanimously.

v To Review and Approve the Asset Register and programme any repairs and other action.

Cllrs discussed Register and agreed to add the defibrillators. Cllr Lickley agreed to update the register. Cllr Harris proposed acceptance of the Register subject to update; seconded by Cllr Lickley. Agreed unanimously.

vi To Approve the following policies: Reserves, Internal Control, Data Protection, Privacy Notice, Small Grant Application Risk Management, Lone Workers, Information Audit, Data Protection for Councillors, Co-option, Biodiversity Policy
Cllr Harris checked that all Councillors had had the opportunity to read and consider these policies, and whether there were any outstanding questions. All had read; there were no outstanding questions.
Cllr Harris proposed acceptance of the policies; seconded by Cllr Lickley. Approved unanimously.

All Councillors completed Data Protection forms to the Clerk at this point.

26/10 To Approve the process for letting the licences for Plot 1, 2A and 2B in April 2026 and to set up a Working Party to review the process and licence.

Cllr Harris suggested that the process for renewing licences on PC-owned plots was in need of a major overhaul and putting on a more formal basis with rules and procedures. He recommended that the PC fully discusses and agrees a way forward at the July mtg. In the interim he proposed two actions.

First, that incumbents be offered an extension to their current licence for one year and then adopt the new process from April 2027.

Secondly, that a working party should investigate, gather information and recommend formal processes, including the setting of the charge. Council agreed that the working party should comprise Cllrs Lickley, Marston and Harris.

Proposed by Cllr Harris; Seconded by Cllr Marston. Unanimously agreed.

26/11 To Receive an update on the 2 Defibrillators and Approve any action

A volunteer provided an update on the situation with the physical defibrillators and the management arrangements. In the future the defibrillators will be monitored and reported on by two residents (one in Fulmodeston; one in Barney). The volunteers will confirm the monthly reports have been forwarded to the CHB.

Alongside the monitoring, the PC will assume responsibility for the service agreement contract which provides payment for replacement batteries and pads. The Parish Council is waiting for an invoice from the CHB.

This arrangement between residents and the PC was proposed by Cllr Harris; seconded by Cllr Marshall. Approved unanimously.

26/12 To Receive an update on the PFA Community Hub and Approve any action

Representative of the PFA indicated there was no update at this stage as the PFA AGM is taking place next week.

26/13 To Receive an update on Highways Matters and Approve any action

i To receive an update on the Tyre Baling Yard and Approve any action
The Chair of Thursford PC provided an update on the situation. The planning application has been called in by NCC, and the date of the next Planning Committee meeting has yet to be set.

Given that there might be the need to act before the next PC meeting, Cllr Harris proposed that the PC delegate Councillors to submit objections, attend meetings etc. Cllr Harris and Cllr Cooke volunteered. Proposed Cllr Harris; seconded Cllr Marshall. Approved unanimously.

26/14 To Receive an update on Planning matters and Approve any action

RV/25/2782 (regarding the tree houses in Swanton Novers Wood) has been withdrawn

26/15 To approve any action regarding the activities of Grange Farm that impact on the villages.

Cllr Marshall suggested that the PC should seek to build a stronger relationship with local landowners. Agreed that Cllr Marshall would follow-up and report back with suggestions.

26/16 To appoint a Working Party to prepare a work programme for the next Financial Year – to report to Full Council at the Annual Parish Council meeting in May.

Given the actions agreed at this meeting, including the two working parties, it was agreed to defer this action to the May meeting.

26/17 To note any correspondence

NNDC – Confirmation of the Tax Base NNDC Schools Art Competition
NNDC Response (draft & final) to Government consultation of Local Gov't Reorganisation
NNDC Cllr Mike Hankins report to PC meeting

26/18 To Any Other Business (for information only) and to note matters deferred to future agenda: Road signs, Future of the Newsletter, Public rights of way.

Cllr Lickley thanked Mrs Harris and Cllr Harris for their continued support in the absence of a permanent Clerk and RFO.

**26/19 To note dates for forthcoming meetings: Parish Council Meetings:
Tuesdays 12th May, 14th July, 13th October, 8th December.**

**26/20 To set the date for the Annual Parish Meeting
Tuesday 14th April.**

26/21 To close the meeting.

Meeting was closed at 20.27