

Fulmodeston & Barney Parish Council

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 4th August 2026 in the Old School Hall, Fulmodeston.

Present: Cllrs R Harris (Chair), D. Cooke, A. Fearn, C. Lickley, J. Marston, M. Marshall, locum Clerk K. Harris,
 NNDC Cllr M. Hankins, NCC Cllr V. Holliday, 7 members of the public.

26/47 Welcome those present to the meeting and to consider apologies and reasons for absence
 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were no apologies.

26/48 To receive declarations of Interest and request for dispensations in any agenda item.
 Cllr Lickley declared his role as Trustee with the Playing Field Association

26/49 To Approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 12th May 2026.
 The Minutes were Approved unanimously on a Proposal by Cllr Marshall and Seconded by Cllr Cooke. They were signed by Cllr Harris.

26/50 To Approve the minutes of the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 6th July 2026.
 The Minutes were Approved unanimously on a Proposal by Cllr Fearn and Seconded by Cllr Lickley. They were signed by Cllr Harris.

26/51 Open Forum for public participation
 i Receive reports from NNDC Cllr Mike Hankins and NCC Cllr Victoria Holliday.

Cllr Hankins, NNDC – Mobile Connectivity – the roll out of 4G in parts of North Norfolk has been paused; Anglian Water have introduced a hosepipe ban, New North Norfolk Local Plan: consultation open until 31st August, also a Call for Sites is being carried out, Councillor Community Grant: a small sum is available and the PC should apply for the SAM2 repair, there have been over 70 applications for the fuel poverty fund.

Cllr Hankins is meeting with the new Police & Crime Commissioner in September and requested the PC to send him any issues.

Cllr Marshall has already been in contact with the Police & Crime Commissioner.

Cllr Holliday, NCC – is sending weekly reports: Electrical waste collections have resumed, Recycling rates are up by 2%, free workshops are being offered on driving safely, there is free travel on buses for children during the summer holidays, information has been sent on the *crisis & resilience fund* and fire safety, there are 2 Social Worker drop-in sessions being held each month. NCC is arranging a webinar for parishes on Broadband and Digital Inclusion.

Pedlars Lane will have pothole patching imminently and a surface dressing in 2027

ii Questions and comments from residents and members of the public
 A resident asked about car parking in Barney. This is on the agenda.

A resident said he had been included in an email earlier today from a Croxton -resident who was receiving intimidation and threats from another resident. The police are involved and the resident has said she is going to contact the PC. No contact has been made and Cllrs suggested this is a matter for the police.

26/52 To Receive the Clerk's report

The laptop has been purchased and set up for the new Clerk.

A mobile phone contract, at a reasonable cost, is still being sought.

Website – due to a change in legislation, the addresses for all Cllrs have been removed and a link placed on the website for Cllrs Register of Interests. All other information is up to date.

A second key has been purchased for the Barney bus shelter noticeboard

The 'No. 2' bank account originally set up with the defibrillator donations has been placed in dormancy by Barclays. There is £13.72 remaining in the account and Barclays have not responded to a request to release the funds. Due to the small amount of funds remaining the Clerk has suggested that after one more letter, this should be written off by the PC due to the time & cost required to chase the account. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

26/53 Finance and Governance

i. To Approve the Cashbook and Payments list

The balance in the Current Account is £7,030.67 and in the Cambridge Account £10,650.30.

Transactions since the last meeting:

Receipts £500 Rent for Plot 2b

Payments £55.00 March/April Newsletter, £270.00 Emptying of dog waste bins, £55.00

June/July Newsletter, £639.50 Purchase of laptop £84.99 Microsoft subscription for laptop, £129.60 WIX subscription for website, £346.82 Locum Clerk's costs & expenses 12th May – 20th July, £55.00 August Newsletter

Transfer from Cambridge Building Society: £532.92 ex VAT cost of laptop

The Cashbook and payments were Approved by All on a Proposal by Cllr Fearn and Seconded by Cllr Lickley.

ii. To Approve new signatories to the bank account

Additional signatories to the bank account are required to increase resilience of the Council for making payments. Cllrs Fearn and Marshall were Approved by All to become signatories on a Proposal by Cllr Lickley and Seconded by Cllr Cooke.

iii. To Approve the first repayment to the Cambridge account of £1,000 transferred for cashflow purposes for the 2025-26 Financial Year (minute 25/69 (iii))

This was Approved by All on a Proposal by Cllr Fearn and Seconded by Cllr Lickley.

iv. To Approve payment to the PFA of the first part of the grass cutting grant and to clarify the grant application process

During recent years a large percentage of the PC's Precept had been allocated to the PFA for grass cutting. Cllr Harris proposed that the basis upon which this is awarded should change from a grass cutting grant to a 'PFA overheads' grant, which will be set at a level that the PC can afford. The Community Hub is now operational and will be able to provide funds for the PFA. In future the PFA will be asked to request a single grant to cover all funding required from the PC in October time for budget setting and the Budget Approval meeting in December so that the PC can grant what it can afford.

A discussion took place including the revenue streams available to the PFA and the hire fees for the Community Hub.

The Proposal for the PC to accept a single application from the PFA at the October meeting to include all their expenses for the following year was Approved by All on a Proposal by Cllr Marshall and Seconded by Cllr Cooke.

It was noted that the Cricket Club could also request a grant.

The request for the first payment towards the Grass cutting grant for the PFA was discussed. It was noted that the request was for 79% of the grant. Cllrs agreed that they would only be able to pay 50% of the grant at this mid-way point of the season. Cllr Marston noted that this season has been particularly dry with no rain for nearly 50 days.

Payment of £1,500 was Approved by All on a Proposal by Cllr Marshall and Seconded by Cllr Marston.

Cllr Cooke requested that more financial information be supplied by the PFA when requesting the grant for next year.

v. To Approve the Equality Policy

This was Approved by All on a Proposal by Cllr Marshall and Seconded by Cllr Lickley.

26/54 To Approve the Process for the issuing of licences for the Parish Plots.

Thanks were given to Cllr Lickley for updating the licences, identifying the plot, terms, responsibilities of the licensees and licensor and length of the licence. Cllrs reviewed the proforma. Cllr Marston was concerned that there was no sanction when licencees vacated the plots and left waste behind. Cllr Harris stated that there would in the future be regular inspections.

All Approved the pro forma of the licence, that a deposit should be introduced, that Cllrs Harris and Lickley would consult with the current licencees and the licences would be formally ratified at the next meeting in time for implementation next Spring on a Proposal by Cllr Marshall and Seconded by Cllr Harris

26/55 To Receive an update on the 2 Defibrillators and Approve payment of the invoice for the Service Charge

The Clerk explained that this invoice was outstanding since November due to previous invoices not being in the PC's name. This was payment for the final year of the 8-year support plan. The payment was Approved by All on a Proposal by Cllr Fearn and Seconded by Cllr Lickley.

NNDC Cllr Hankins left.

26/56 To agree the Working Party to update the Asset Register and prepare a Schedule for repairs to Parish Assets for report at the October meeting

Cllrs Harris and Lickley will update the Asset Register and report at the October meeting.

26/57 To Receive an update from the PFA on the Community Hub

The Hub is operational and has been used by Barney and Fakenham Cricket Clubs. A Grand Opening is taking place on 23rd August, 1pm – 3pm.

Cllr Harris was concerned that the furniture hadn't been bought and receipts presented to the PC. , despite the grant being paid on 12th May – this could have earned interest for the PC if still in their account. The PFA said the order was imminent and would be finalised by the Grand Opening.

Cllr Cooke was concerned that there has been no benefit for the community despite all the grants awarded. Cllr Fearn suggested a 6-month plan of future events. The PFA said that this was still new for them.

Cllr Marshall wanted to know what the plans for the playing field were and if there were any plans to update facilities in the play area.

Cllr Fearn reminded All that she could organise a group to co-ordinate events in the Parish to avoid clashes of dates.

26/58 To consider the purchase of a Parish Council Acknowledgment plaque for the Community Hub and Approve any Action

Cllr Harris reminded the PC that they had made grants totalling £32,000 towards the Community Hub. He proposed that the PC purchase a plaque in recognition of this to be sited inside the main room of the Community Hub with the agreement of the PFA. He presented a draft design and a cost estimate. The 3 PFA representatives expressed gratitude for the grants and agreed that this should be possible. A maximum of £300 was Approved by All on a Proposal by Cllr Fearn and Seconded by Cllr Marston. Cllr Harris will purchase the plaque and liaise with the PFA.

26/59 To receive an update and Approve the costs for the Newsletter to be published monthly

All Cllrs wanted the Newsletter to be published monthly. There is no additional cost for filling the blank fourth page with print and it is the same cost if it is stapled or folded. There will be an additional cost of £220 for the additional 4 editions if the Newsletter is published monthly. On a Proposal by Cllr Cooke and Seconded by Cllr Harris it was Approved by All to publish the Newsletter monthly from the beginning of September in a folded format.

26/60 To Receive an update on Highways Matters and Approve any action

- i. To receive an update on the SAM2 machines in Barney and Fulmodeston
Cllr Cooke is managing the Fulmodeston SAM2. The Barney SAM2 is undergoing repair.
- ii. To receive an update on traffic speeds and parking in the Parish and Approve any action
It was noted that there can be difficulty moving past vehicles at certain times and some vehicles are parked in dangerous positions. A notice has been published by the PC and displayed in prominent locations in the Parish, but there is little direct action the Council can take. Parking issues will be added to the next agenda.
- iii. To receive an update on the Tyre Baling Yard
NCC Cllr Holliday reported that NCC Highways have said that the entrance is suitable for the vehicles using it. Cllr Harris said that it is not suitable for articulated lorries, and there have again been recent reports of such lorries blocking The Street and the B1354 and causing a hazard to vehicles and pedestrians. Cllr Holliday will take these concerns to NCC Highways.
- iv. To receive an update on Rights of Way in the Parish
Cllrs Cooke and Marshall have begun replacing the missing and broken signs on footpaths. Signs for permissive paths will be replaced by the landowner. The NCC Rights of Way Officer is replacing broken posts and styles in the Parish. There are also 2 footpaths where changing the route of the path to improve it for users is under discussion with the Landowner. Thanks was given to Cllrs Cooke and Marshall.

26/61 To Receive an update on Planning matters and Approve any action

- i. To receive an update on current planning matters
RV/25/2839 Browns Culvert – Variation of condition 8 of Planning Permission – Pending Consideration
PF/26/1057 Yew Tree Farms, Barney – Change of use of existing agricultural buildings with extensions and external alteration to form 4 dwellings – Pending Consideration
PF/24/2434 Erection of additional four, 1- bedroom self-contained tree houses for use as short-term holiday let accommodation with external works and servicing – Approved

- ii. To consider planning applications received since the close of the agenda
There are none
- iii. To note consultation of the NNDC New Local Plan & Call for Sites and Approve any Action
Cllrs will not produce a PC response but will encourage individuals to respond to the consultation.

26/62 To note any correspondence

Reports from NCC Cllr Holliday	PSTN landline switch-off checklists
Press Release on LGR – pre-assent spending	NCC – Local Members Fund cancelled
Update on New Local Plan & call for sites	NNDC – Community Fund
N Norfolk Police – Neighbourhood drop-in sessions	
NCC Letter from Deputy Leader	Report from NNDC Cllr Hankins

**26/63 To Any Other Business (for information only) and to note matters deferred to future agenda:
Rights of way survey, Highways repairs**

VIP Invite to all Parish Councillors to the Grand Opening of the Community Hub on 23rd August.

Request from Barney resident to use the car park at the Barney Playing Field for her wedding on 8th July 2028 – request passed to the PFA to respond to the resident.

26/64 To note dates for forthcoming meetings: Parish Council Meetings:

Tuesdays 13th October and 8th December

26/65 To consider excluding the public under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the confidential nature of the items to be discussed (matters with commercial sensitivity)

Approved by All on a Proposal by Cllr Fearn and seconded by Cllr Lickley. Cllr Harris thanked all residents for coming.

26/66 To Approve the rents for the licences to be issued for Plots 1, 2a and 2b in April 2027

Cllrs discussed the 3 plots, the current rents, proposed rents access to and condition of the plots and length of licences. They also discussed the potential future for the licences.

Cllrs Harris and Lickley were tasked with meeting the current licence holders and reporting back to the next meeting

26/67 To close the meeting.

The Meeting was closed at 9.05pm

Signed

Date