

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at Wacton Village Hall.

Weds 7th January 2026 at 6.00pm at Wacton Village Hall

Present: - Chair Pete Fraser Councillors: Boone, Kat Ireson and Mike Hollamby (after item 3)

County Councillor Alison Thomas, District Councillor Kim Carsok

Parish Clerk: Alan Arber

7 Members of the public

1. To agree vice chair to chair the meeting

It was agreed Pete Fraser would chair the meeting in the chair's absence

Proposed Kat Ireson Seconded Freddie Boone

2. Co-option of new Councillor

Mike Hollamby introduced himself to the councillors and gave a short resume of why he wanted to join the council and what he could bring to the council

It was agreed Mike would be co-opted onto the council

Proposed Kat Ireson Seconded Freddie Boone

3. New councillor to sign the acceptance of Office Form witnessed by the clerk

Mike Hollamby signed the Acceptance of Office forms witnessed by the clerk and duly joined the meeting.

The clerk made comments that he needed to send the Mikes Register of Interest forms to election's asap

4. To note a 6-month dispensation for Cllr Prentice

Due to recent personal experiences Councillor Prentice was granted a 6-month dispensation from attending meetings. All agreed to this rule being in place and the clerk will contact councillor Prentice to inform her.

5. Public Participation

Thanks to the Parish Council for the Wednesday warmer soup sessions which were helped by a grant from District councillor Kim Carsok of £300 from her members ward fund

6. To consider any apologies for absence

Gary Mulhall sent his apologies due to personal reasons. All agreed to accept

7. To receive any disclosures of interest.

None for this meeting

8. To approve the minutes from the meeting held on 5th November 2025

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting of 5th November 2025 were correct and a true record of the meeting and the acting chair Pete Fraser duly signed the minutes

Proposed Freddie Boone Seconded Kat Ireson

9. To consider matters arising from the last minutes (for information only).

All items were on the agenda as required by all councillors

10. To receive a report from the County councillor.

No report

11. To receive a report from the district councillors.

No report

12. To receive a report from the Village Hall committee.

No report received

13. To consider planning applications.

- East Pye Solar and Scoping documents comments (for Info only)

No further information received on this application

- Field Battery Storage Plant update (for Info only)

- 2025/1689

Proposal: Erection of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and associated infrastructure including access, drainage, landscaping and other incidental works

Location: Land North of The Junction of Market Lane and Carr Lane
Great Moulton Norfolk

Applicant: Field Long Stratton Ltd

Application Type: Full Planning Permission

The Parish Council were disappointed that this application was submitted on 23rd December 2025 when the council had broken up for Christmas holiday, and this seemed a pattern with this company. As yet the clerk or councillors had been unable to go through the new 44 documents in time to report to the meeting and had requested an extension till February 6th 2026 to go through the documents with councillor Boone to prepare a report for the February meeting for all councillors to receive and the extension has been granted which is great news from planning.

The council will submit their report to the planning portal as the latest date possible. We will also not put this onto our website till the after the Feb meeting as we are aware that Field is always monitoring our website. The Clerk had received objection letters, and these had been printed and parishioners can take them away and sign them or leave them for the clerk to deliver to Planning at SNDC asap. Or the parishioners can take them away and once completed put them in the parish letter box for the clerk to collect and take them to Planning at SNDC before the end of January.

14. Governance

No Governance this month

15. Correspondence: -

Field Planning application received 23/12/25

Email sent to Field showing our disgust at them putting planning application in when it's the holiday period

No reply received from Field

Clerks Appraisal undertaken
 Budget meeting held
 Precept Request agreed
 Assertion 10 training attended
 £300 grant received for Soup kitchen days
 Community Payback Questionnaire completed
 Annual Playground Inspection booked
 SAM 2 report sent to all councillors for Nov/Dec
 Field Planning application extension requested
 Field Planning application agreed till 6th February to allow us time to go through the extra 44 documents
 Email from District Councillor regarding CAF funding for woodland projects
 Letters received from Greta Moulton for Parishioners to oppose Bess
 Emails from Parishioners on Field and East pye and Tas way projects
 Email reply sent to parishioner on above email
 Emails from parishioner on village hall fees
 Emails replying to parishioner on Village Hall fees

16. Maintenance

Nothing

17. To note receipts for November and December

Members ward grant

Poppy wreath payment from Wacton PCC

18. Authorization of payments

November Payments

- To approve payment of Clerks Salary and expenses for November £681.96
- To approve payment to Norfolk Pension Scheme for Clerks Pension Nov £228.70
- To approve payment to G Mulhall for travelling to Training £18.00
- To approve payment to SLCC for clerk attendance at Practitioners conference £179.00
- To approve payment to Excite for Grass Cutting £457.00
- To approve payment to Parish Online for Mapping Software subscription £48.00
- To approve payment of Grant to Wacton Social Club for Parishioners Xmas meal £100.00
- To approve payment to The Clerk for food and drink for Budget Meeting £13.89
- To approve payment to O2 for clerk's mobile Nov £12.91
- To approve payment to BT for Broadband for defib Nov £35.84
- To approve monthly payment to Lloyds for Credit card £3.00
- To approve payment to Unity Trust for

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| monthly bank charges | £6.00 |
| • To approve any payments on Credit Card for October
Soup Kettle, books and Tickets for clerk | £92.45 |

December Payments

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| • To approve payment of Clerks Salary
and expenses for Dec | £675.01 |
| • To approve payment to Norfolk Pension Scheme
for Clerks Pension Dec | £228.70 |
| • To approve payment to HMRC for Tax and NI | £428.74 |
| • To approve payment to BT for Broadband | £28.93 |
| • To approve payment to Viking for Stationery | £56.81 |
| • To approve payment to O2 for clerks Credit Card | £12.91 |
| • To approve payment to Lloyds for Credit card charge | £3.00 |
| • To approve payment to Unity Trust for
Monthly bank Charges | £6.00 |

- To Note the financial position of the council
The council had a balance on 1st December of £14,661.18 and after the dec payments were taken out we had a balance of £13,083.63 which we started the month of January with and after Jan payments are taken out we have a balance of £11,628.05 with a VAT refund of £232.27 to be reclaimed at the end of this financial year once other vat paid is recorded each month

Proposed Pete Fraser Seconded Kat Ireson

- To agree Parish Budget
The councillors met in early December and after much discussion the budget was agreed, and this will be posted on the website and noticeboard asap
- To agree percentage rise for precept and sign precept request form after being checked by all councillors
The budget was agreed as detailed and the precept rise for the coming year 2026-2027 was finalised at 10% with an increase of £3.49 per week and the precept request will be £25,084.40 and this will be submitted to SNDC asap. All councillors had a copy of the form and agreed it was correct

Proposed Kat Ireson Seconded Freddie Boone

- To agree actions from Clerks Appraisal
The clerk had his appraisal in early dec where all aspects of his work was discussed, and it was felt that apart from some copy and paste issues the clerk had done an excellent job and continues to serve the parish very well. It was noted by the clerk that he will retire soon, and the council needs to start looking for a new clerk to take on his role and

hopefully the council could find a suitable replacement that the clerk would take under his wing for say 6 months before he leaves to if continuity. The final note on the clerk's appraisal was the agreement to raise his salary as his contract allows by one SCP point to £19.32

Proposed Freddie Boone

Seconded Pete Frase

19. Report on any ongoing matters:

- Woodland Project and Bridge repairs

The clerk will be meeting with District Councillor Kim Crasok to submit a CAF grant application for the bridge repairs and the forming of a picnic area on the green with new benches and waste bins for the parishioners to enjoy

- Councillor and Clerk Training

The clerk needs to work with Mike to get his training booked but it was also wondered if we get a full council training session with councillors at Great Moulton involved to share costs

- Defib Pads

Electrode pads need ordering asap. Pete Fraser will advise on what we need.

20. Matters raised by councillors and members of the public. (For information only).

All the detail of the field report will be gone through by Freddie Boone and The Clerk will go through these with a fine-tooth comb in the coming week. The letters need to be updated with Wacton in.

21. To receive details of the Parish Speed Watch group, plus Volunteers that are needed and SAM data download.

Due to the weather and Xmas holiday the clerk has been unable to download the SAM 2 machine and will do this next week when he moves it to Hall Lane

22. To discuss the need for new parish councillors

It is great we now have Mike Hollamby onboard, but we still need another couple of councillors to take up posts

23. Items for the next agenda.

Field Report

Meeting finished 6.32pm

Next meeting 4th Feb 6pm