

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Annual Parish Council held at Wacton Village Hall.
Weds 6th May 2026 at 6.00pm at Wacton Village Hall**

Present: - Chair Gary Mulhall, Councilors: Freddie Boone, Kat Ireson, Pete Fraser and Mike Hollamby

Parish Clerk: Alan Arber

6 Members of the public

1. To appoint a chairman and sign the Acceptance of Office
Gary Mulhall agreed to continue to stand as chairman for Wacton PC and all agreed and Gary duly signed the Acceptance of Office form witnessed by the clerk.
Proposed Peter Fraser Seconded Freddie Boone
2. To appoint a Vice-chairman and sign the Acceptance of Office
Peter Fraser agreed to continue to stand as chairman for Wacton PC and all agreed and Pete duly signed the Acceptance of Office form witnessed by the clerk.
Proposed Freddie Boone Seconded Kat Ireson
3. Public Participation
Question was raised on the village sign and when it will be back and this should be done when the funds are available.
Lots of signs covered by vegetation.
4. To consider any apologies for absence
No apologies received
5. To receive any disclosures of interest.
Gary Mulhall for a pecuniary interest at item 17 he was advised to leave the room by the clerk.
6. To approve the minutes from the meeting held on 1st April 2026
The minutes were approved as a true record of the meeting held on 1st April and were signed by the chair.
Proposed Gary Mulhall Seconded Peter Fraser
7. To consider matters arising from the last minutes (for information only).
All on the agenda
8. To receive a report from the County councillor.
Alison Thomas sent her goodbye as she is not standing in the coming elections and the clerk had written to Alison to thank her for her 19 years' service to Wacton.
9. To receive a report from the district councillors.
CAF Funding grant of £13,000 to Wacton was a major help with their

woodland project.

Leisure centre upgrades at Framlingham Earl and Diss have passed planning.

Diss leisure centre will start construction in the coming weeks.

Kett's Park in Wymondham is being look at for expansion.

Wymondham Town Centre improvements after the highway's consultation have been held after the elections.

Community grants are around £1million for community facilities.

£150, 000 in South Norfolk in Bloom grants have been approved

Food waste collections will start soon in phases.

No changes to other bin collections

Field BESS not scheduled for planning as yet but when it does the district councillor will be opposing and she feels the officers will recommend for approval.

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

A brand-new committee has been formed at the April AGM after resignations of the Chairman and secretary of the previous committee, with three trustees being re-elected along with four new trustees. The new Treasurer stated that she has not had a full and concise handover from the previous Trustee administration. She stated that we are about £2000 under predicted income for this time of the year from what information she has received. The hall has some way to go to get back to its normal state and has some regular hirers. Finally, it was agreed to change the locks and new keys will be given to the relevant people. Also, a full inventory will be done asap, as well as the terms and conditions being updated along with the website which has many events out of date.

11.To consider planning applications.

- East Pye Solar and Scoping documents comments (for Info only)
- 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 are aware that East Pye have submitted their development consent order and all the details are on the parish website and noticeboard as required. The council will look to prepare their response asap.

No update on Field at present.

12. Governance- To agree to update the Parish Council policies.

Clerk will undertake these now year end is completed and it was agreed that we would take the need to propose and seconded items.

13. Correspondence: -

East Pye Solar DCO received.

Alison Thomas goodbye letter

South Norfolk in Bloom Grant acceptance letter received.

CAF funding payment received for £13,000.

First precept payment received.

Internal Audit completed

AGAR to be redone due to figures change.

Letter sent to Parishioner who requested acceptance from the council for the works to be done by his property with Parish Council Terms in.

Email from Parishioner on the works near the green received agreeing to our terms.

Details of Grant Funding to The Village Hall sent.

Councillors attended all council training.

Tree works accrued out on the green and donation from parishioner received.

Annual play Inspection completed and no issue in the red to be found.

ICO registration for the year done.

14. Maintenance

Village Green

Grant in place to move the projects forward.

2 Trees are still down and a request has been received to remove the tree as it obstructs his view when coming out of his drive. This will be removed.

Small branches need removing to help the grass cutters.

Trees at Blacks meadow

These have been trimmed back and look better but was quite late in the season and in the Autumn will need a good harsh trim to allow them to reshape themselves.

15. To note receipts for April

HMRC Vat Refund £344.68

Boone Associates Tree work donation £350.00

CAF Grant payment £13.000

Precept £12542,20

16. Authorization of payments

April Payments

- To approve payment of Clerks Salary

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| and expenses for April | £699.26 |
| • To approve payment to Norfolk Pension Scheme for Clerks Pension April | £209.99 |
| • To approve Payment to HMRC for Tax and NI | £214.55 |
| • To approve payment to Arbor Pro for Tree work on The Green | £840.00 |
| • To approve payment to Clerk for Training course sundries | £19.83 |
| • To approve payment to Sonya Blythe for Internal Audit | £120.00 |
| • To approve payment to Viking for Ink for year-end works | £92.83 |
| • To approve payment to Play Inspection Company for annual inspection | £115.80 |
| • To approve payment to BT for Broadband Charges | £41.94 |
| • To approve payment to 02 for clerk's Mobil | £13.39 |
| • To approve payment to Lloyds for Credit Card charge | £3.00 |
| • To approve payment to Unity Trust for Monthly bank Charges | £7.00 |
- Proposer Freddie Boone Seconded Gary Mulhall
- To Note the financial position of the council
The council started the month of May with a balance of £6062.39 and after the receipts totalling £26,236.88, we started the month with a balance of £32,299.27 and after today's payments totalling £1536.89, we end May with a balance of £30,762.38 and have a VAT refund of £246.51 to be reclaimed.
- 16.1 To approve section 1 of the AGAR Annual Governance statements
All councillors agreed the statements were correct and agreed to accept.
Proposed Freddie Boone Seconded Kat Ireson
- 16.2 To approve section 2 of the AGAR Accounting Statements
Box four updated to add clerk's pension to the figures and all councillors agreed to accept.
Proposed Peter Frase Seconded Mike Hollamby
- 16.3 To receive the Internal control report and note any actions.
The clerk took the council through the Internal control report and the following actions were noted that the AGAR needs resigning again due to the changes on the accounting statements to include the clerk's pension on box five which has been duly done and AGAR updated as requested.

17. Report on any ongoing matters:

- The woodland project and Bridge in the Copse repair.

Gary Mulhall left the meeting.

The clerk had produced a spread sheet on the companies that quoted for the work and as only Mulbee solutions had replied to undertake the work it was agreed that they would undertake the repairs asap due to receiving the funding. All agreed that Mulbee Solutions would be the contractor.

Gary Mulhall returned to the meeting

- Tree Issues on The Green

Already reported

- All Councillor Training and Clerk Training

The clerk has booked his place on the National SLCC conference and it was noted that all councillors attended All council Training expertly done by NPTS along with colleagues from Great Moulton PC and Tivetshall PC.

- CAF Funding

The clerk had produced the spreadsheet regarding the works from the CAF funding recently received and it was agreed the following companies had been selected to provide the items needed.

Benches NBB was the best choice by all councillors.

Bench Anchors All agreed.

Bins It was agreed to order three bins.

Springers Hags to supply the Springer.

Proposed Freddie Boone Seconded Peter Fraser

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

All benches are composite.

Nothing else was brought up.

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

Today the clerk downloaded the SAM 2 machine and the figures are worrying with a speeder noted on 1/5/2026 at 65mph coming into the village from Long Stratton 17.05 mph and the average speed was noted at 32.9mph which is acceptable but not great.

20. To discuss the need for new parish councillors.

We still need two new councillors if any volunteer's wish to contact the clerk and come forward.

21. Items for the next agenda.

CAF Funding works on this work

South Norfolk in Bloom Plants

Meeting closed 18.34pm

Dates of next meeting: Parish Council meeting 3rd June 2026 6pm

