

BRININGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 20th July 2026, 7pm at Briningham Village Hall.

Present: Cllrs, Helena Gregory (Chair) (HG), Tracey Gardner (TG), Chris Rix (CR), Jackie Rix (JR), Parish Clerk – Kerry. Harris (KH), NNDC & NCC Cllr Andrew Brown, 3 members of the public

26/32 Welcome and to consider apologies and reasons for absence.

HG welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were accepted by Councillors from Cllr Crossley

26/33 To receive declarations of Interest and request for dispensations for any agenda item

There were none.

26/34 Open forum for Public Participation.

- (i) To receive reports from NCC and NNDC Cllr Brown - Cllr Brown updated the Council re NNDC on further work requested by the Planning Inspectorate on the Local Plan, Household waste and food recycling, Coastal protection schemes at Cromer and Mundesley, Coastwise erosion management. The Rural Position Statement where NNDC are undertaking an audit of key rural services, the impact of the Second homes tax premium, Empty properties, Bacton Energy Hub, Banking hubs, Employment land and the implication for Tourism infrastructure assets as unitary councils approach.

From his NCC role, the Council received updates on the Cuts to local highways and community funding by Reform, the Police and Crime Commissioner by-election, Local Government Reorganisation, Children's Services SEND support plan and the topping-out ceremony for the Stalham Extra Care Scheme.

- (ii) Questions and comments from residents and members of the public – a resident informed Cllrs that, due to the hosepipe ban he was taking a wheelbarrow with buckets of water to his allotment and he was concerned about the speed of vehicles driving past him and that there was no 30 mph speed limit through the centre of the village – the sign at the B1110 end informed drivers that the speed was the national limit (ie 60 mph). Cllr Brown suggested residents could put signs on their waste bins requesting drivers to slow down. He said that, although some counties were advocating 20 mph limits, this was not currently the case in Norfolk. The Parish could pay for a feasibility study to obtain a speed limit, but there was no guarantee that this would be successful.

Cllr Brown left.

A resident was concerned about the size of the hedges opposite Holly House as this restricts visibility and prevented the gritting lorry from gritting the village on one occasion last winter.

CR will speak to the residents of the property.

There was also concern about the hedges outside Rose Cottage. As this property isn't permanently occupied, the Clerk will write and request the hedge is cut back.

26/35 To approve Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 11th May.

These were Approved by All on a Proposal by TG and seconded by CR. They were signed by HG.

26/36 Matters arising in the Minutes (for information only), not included on the agenda.

There were none.

26/37 To note the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 11th May.

These were agreed to be a correct representation of the meeting.

26/38 Financial and Governance Matters

- (i) To Approve the cashbook, Receipts and Payments since the last meeting

The Balance in the Current Account is £5,963.89. The Balance in the Business Premium Account is £10,432.57. The Balance in the NS&I Account is £6,607.03.

Receipts since the last meeting – Allotment deposit and payment £50.00, Interest on Business Premium Account £29.64

Payments to be Approved: Clerk's salary (April – June) £420.91, Tax on salary £105.20, Clerk's Expenses £38.88, Annual Subscription to the National Allotment Society £84.00

This was Approved by All on a Proposal by HG and Seconded by JR.

- (ii) To Approve payment for the Clerk to attend the NPTS Code of Conduct course (£52 + VAT) – reimbursement of % of the net cost to be paid by the other PCs the Clerk works for.

This was Approved by All on a Proposal by CR and Seconded by TG.

- (iii) To note the HMRC increase in mileage rate & adopted in the Green Book from £0.45 to £0.55 per mile with effect from 1st April 2026.

This was noted.

- (iv) To review and Approve the Asset Register

This was Approved by All on a Proposal by HG and Seconded by TG.

- (v) To Approve the following policies: Complaints, Co-option, IT.

The Policies were Approved by All on a Proposal by JR and Seconded by CR.

26/39 To receive an update on Devolution and the Reorganisation of Local Government

A Judicial Review is now underway challenging the proposed Unitary Government for Norfolk. The approved timetable is now in doubt.

26/40 To receive an update on Allotment matters and to Approve any action

- (i) To consider the installation of gates for the Memorial Field (deferred in September to a future meeting) and Approve any action

HG has not yet received a response from the farmer's agent and will report back at the next meeting.

- (ii) To consider and Approve any action to change the use of a portion of the Memorial Field

Cllrs have investigated the suggestion made by a resident of changing the use of a part of the Memorial Field from Allotments to Solar panels. There are several reasons why the field is not suitable, the most important of which is the distance required from residences due to the noise pollution and that the field doesn't meet the minimum size required for such an installation. Cllrs agreed not to pursue this.

- (iii) To consider any action on the land behind Holly House

Cllrs agreed to defer any action on this until ongoing work at Holly House is complete.

26/41 To consider any action on pond restoration in the village

This was discussed in relation to an email from Norfolk Wildlife Trust offering help with pond restoration. Cllrs agreed that a pond on this site would be a safety issue so not to pursue this at this time.

26/42 To consider the location and long-term protection of the Village Sign and Approve any Action

Cllrs agreed to leave the Village Sign in its current location. It has recently been oiled for protection and is fitted in a metal sleeve. Cllrs will look into siting something decorative around the base of the Sign.

There is concern about the erosion by vehicles of the triangle of land where the Village Sign is located. The land belongs to NCC Highways and used to be protected by posts which have been broken off over time. The Clerk will contact NCC Highways to see if these can be reinstated.

26/43 To receive an update on Highways matters and Approve any Action

- (i) To receive an update from NCC Highways re the erection of notification signs in the village

HG, TG and KH met with the Highways Engineer. The following actions have been agreed: Top Dressing will be applied to the road through the village when there is a free date in the Highways diary, "SLOW" will be written onto the road at either end of the village, and a "40" will be marked on the road where appropriate.

Signs indicating where the footpath crosses the road will be erected and a horse-riding sign will be installed.

26/44 To receive an update on any Planning matters and Approve any action.

There are none.

26/45 To note any Correspondence

Pond restoration

NNDC Annual Report – Cllr Brown

NCC Electrical Waste Update

Police online Neighbourhood Drop Ins

NPTS Updates

NNDC Local Plan Review & Call for Sites

B1354 road closure

NNDC New Local Plan

26/46 To confirm 5th October as the next meeting and to set the date for future meetings

Monday 5th October. Future dates will be confirmed at the next meeting.

26/47 Any other business – for information and future agenda

KH reminded Cllrs that elections for Parish Cllrs will be held in May 2027.

26/48 To close the meeting

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.07pm

Signed:

Date: