



MINUTES of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on Thursday 19 March 2026 at 1930

2026/03

Those Present: Karl Jagger, David Reason, Jonathan Smith (Chairman), & Steve Vickers
Keith Leesmith (Clerk), Sarah Butikofer (NNDC)

1) Apologies Peter Dagg

2) Declarations of Interest None

3) Minutes of the Meeting held on 15 January 2026 – Approved

4) Reports

a) Norfolk County Council

Michael Dalby had sent a report which was distributed to Councillors, is appended to these minutes, and appears on the website.

b) North Norfolk District Council

Sarah Butikofer had sent a report which was distributed to Councillors, This is appended to these minutes and appears on the website.

c) Parish Clerk

KL had circulated a report to Councillors. This is attached to these minutes and appears on the website.

5) Planning – any planning matters to hand

There were no planning matters for discussion.

6) To discuss plans for new playground

KL had written to Flagship appealing for funds for the new playground but had not received a reply. It was suggested that what was needed was a “named person” and maybe Homes for Wells could help with this. Correspondence had been received from the Geoffrey Watling Trust over the past couple of days. They were sympathetic to the problems of Parish Councils obtaining playground grants. They were impressed by our attempts to solve this by reducing the size of the scheme but said that this was significantly different from the original to require a new application. KL would attend to this .

7) To discuss recruitment of the new Parish Clerk

Peter Dagg was unable to be at the meeting as he was attending the third instalment of a Zoom Course on “Induction for new Parish Clerks”. As KL had set this up, he was being sent copies of the handouts after each instalment and was impressed by the quality and scope of the course, Pete Dagg also had said that he found the course useful. KL and PD would be meeting at the Reading Room on Thursday 2nd April for the handover to take place. KL was over retirement age when compulsory pension contributions were introduced and therefore was able to choose not to join a pension scheme. However, this does not apply to Pete Dagg, and he will have to join a scheme and both he and the Parish Council make contributions. KL was a pensioner (from Wells Town Council) of the Norfolk Pension Fund, which he believed was worthwhile and as good or better than any other. It was agreed that we join this.

8) To discuss financial appeals from local organisations

As last year there had not been any appeals from local organisations. It was therefore agreed that we apply the £200 budget to the new playground fund.

9) Financial Report plus accounts paid

A bank reconciliation had been circulated to Councillors

The following amounts had been paid since the last meeting:

a) Bank Charges – January	6.00
b) Bank Charges – February	6.00
c) Streetlights January	25.27
d) Streetlights February	20.19
e) New Clerk Induction Course	120.00
f) Zurich Municipal – annual insurance policy	484.60
g) Reading Room Hire 2026-2027	144.00

10) Minor Matters

JS asked SB for an explanation of the “Parish Grants” mentioned in her report. SB said that this scheme was yet to be finalised, but the idea was to give every District Councillor £5000 which could be used to give grants to Parish Councils each year. SB said that she thought that children’s playgrounds would be the sort of scheme to be supported.

SV said that there was no provision on the new affordable estate for the charging of electric vehicles. This was clearly a deficiency which should be corrected if/when a phase two is built.

SV talked about the Greenhoe Energy Club which is being formed in Warham and local Parishes. He is involved with the scheme, which could eventually mean lower electricity prices for members. The organisation would be available to local business and charities as well as domestic customers.

11) Date of next meeting

Confirmed as Thursday 12 May 2026 at 1930.

The meeting closed at 2030