



MINUTES OF A MEETING OF BEACHAMWELL PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Tuesday 4th November 2025 at 3pm in the Villager Hall.

Present:

Cllrs J Cooper, S Davies, D Lambert (Chair), P Roberts, G Siddons, M Warner.

Clerk : Sarah Hunt

District Cllr Peter Wilkinson.

1. To receive and consider apologies for absence.

None. The meeting received confirmation that the current vacancy can be filled by co-option. This has been advertised on the noticeboard and facebook.

2. To record declarations of interest and approve any requests for dispensations.

None.

3. Minutes.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 5th August 2025 were AGREED as a true and correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. Public Form.

4.1 Fabian Eagle, County Councillor not present.

4.2 The meeting received a report from Peter Wilkinson, District Councillor.

Matters covered included the local government reform, a three area division of Norfolk was favoured by Breckland. The Mayoral election will take place in May 2026. The Breckland Local Plan is now at stage 18 and out for consultation with members of the public.

4.3 No members of the public present.

5. Updates on previous Matters.

Reports on progress of items not on the agenda from the previous meetings.

5.1 Photographing of damage to fencing to share with contractor – J Cooper forwarded to clerk, email response received – Most damage is older, but agreement some is more recent. Team reminded.

5.2 Confirmed that two new sets of defibrillator pads were sourced by the Clerk – reserve set on shelf in defibrillator box.

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- 5.3 NOTED that the insurance was renewed with Zurich as the most competitive quotation at £363.00.

6. Finance and Governance Matters.

- 6.1 It was RESOLVED to make the following payments;

Payments:

Zurich Insurance – already paid	£ 363.00
S Hunt expenses – Defibrillator pads – already paid	£ 139.39
Top Garden Services – 4 invoices – already paid	£1620.00
Sarah Hunt Sept salary incl homeworking – already paid	£ 704.80
Unity Bank charges August/Sept/October	£ 18.00
SLCC Membership for Clerk.	£ 110.00
S Hunt refund 02 top up – August 2025	£ 10.00
S Hunt Oct salary incl homeworking	£ 444.60
S Hunt Nov salary incl homeworking	£ 444.60

Receipts Noted:

Precept payment – Breckland Council	£6,786.00
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- 6.2 The meeting RECEIVED an up to date bank reconciliation as at 31.10.25 showing £17,927.54. The reconciliation was signed by Cllr J Cooper. As at 20.9.25 - £19,001.34 – Budget calculated using 6 months figures.
- 6.3 The meeting received budget against expenditure figures for year to 30.9.2025.
- 6.4 The asset register was reviewed and maintenance considered – Cllr G Siddons led this item.
Dog posts to be painted with black hammerite
Base of village sign similar
Phone box work outstanding, as are the windows in the bus shelter – metal windows to be fitted.
No need for imminent trackway repairs.
Current budget should be sufficient.
- 6.5 The draft budget for 2025/26 was REVIEWED. It was RESOLVED to set the precept figure for 2026-2027 at £11,932.00 as budget.
- 6.6 The following policies were REVIEWED and AGREED:
- 6.6.1 Standing Orders.
 - 6.6.2 Financial Regulations.
 - 6.6.3 Internal Controls Document
 - 6.6.4 Risk Management Assessment
- 6.7 Scribe increase - £3.72/month. £156.17/annually. NOTED.

7. Planning.

- 7.1 To consider consultee response to applications received from Breckland District Council prior to the meeting date: NONE.
- 7.2 To receive notification of decisions taken by Breckland District Council: NONE.
- 7.3 RECEIVED notification of Treeworks:
- 7.3.1 PL/2025/1491/TCA. The Street, Beachamwell, PE37 8BD. G1 – Ash trees X2 located on RHS boundary. Sectional fell clear and cut to hedge height. Ash trees on boundary have 20-25% crown dieback and dysfunctional growth, medium limb failures into neighbouring

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property. Removal due to no long term management plan and clients will be planting a mixed native hedgerow (gap fill) along boundary.

8. Administrative Matters.

- 8.1 Footpath Map – to confirm that the original company has failed to respond. To receive new quotation if available from Prontaprint – they printed the original.
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|---------------------|----------------|
| 250 copies | £140.00 |
| 500 copies | £205.00 |
| 1,000 copies | £245.00 |
- It was AGREED to print 1,000 copies. The clerk was advised by Cllr Peter Wilkinson to put in an application to the SPARK fund at Breckland for the printing costs.
- 8.2 Website – Clerk has training scheduled at 2pm on Friday. The website should be live shortly afterwards. Any changes/corrections to be notified to the Clerk.
- 8.3 Registration of Village Green. It was AGREED to update the area to be registered to include the trackway as demonstrated on VG27. NOTED that Beachamwell Enclosures Award does not appear to have been deposited with the Archive centre.
Clerk to identify minutes referring to installation/maintenance of trackway by church.
- 8.4 RECEIVED confirmation of Tree Preservation order – Land to the south of St John's Farm, Grid Rf: 574543.7.

9. Correspondence.

- 9.1 NOTED the invitation from Breckland Council for Town and Parish Engagement Sessions – 28th October Shropham, 3rd November Narborough.
- 9.2 RECEIVED emailed questions from the PCC and holding response from Clerk. No support for a new lychgate. Far more detail needed about any path installation, but no need if no lychgate. 3rd question re; opening both doors at church difficult to understand. Clerk to mention that opening up the church should be a priority.
- 9.3 Norfolk Constabulary. Operation Radium. Clerk to sign up.
NOTED that the next Safer Neighbourhood Planning meeting will be held at Beachamwell Village Hall on the 12th January at 7pm.
- 9.4 Norfolk County Council – bus review of provision within the area including Swaffham Flexibus serving Beachamwell. To note the Clerk has posted this on Facebook. Clerk to respond citing importance of retaining flexibus service.
- 9.5 Norfolk Community Biodiversity Award Winners notification – previously distributed. NOTED.
- 9.6 CPRE – Getting Solar off the land exhibition – 20th November 2pm to 8pm Dereham Memorial Hall, NR19 1AD. Free. NOTED
- 9.7 Email from Kickstart Norfolk regarding Community Car Scheme – support for any scheme that decreases rural isolation.

10. Village Matters.

- 10.1 Bat Survey – outcome. Cllr J Cooper to write a report for publication. Rare bats in village with a wide variety of species.

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11. Dates of next meetings.

11.1 Parish Meeting to be confirmed as May 5th before the Annual Parish Council meeting.

Scheduled meetings:

February 3rd 2026 – 3pm

May 5th 2026 – 6pm

12. Matters for next agenda.

The meeting closed at 4.48pm.

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