

LANGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 11th November, 2025 in the Village Hall at 7.00 p.m.

Present:

Richard Gozney (Chair)
Anne-Marie Coe (Vice Chair)
Louise Goodenough
Peter O'Hare
Matthew Reynolds
The Clerk
Seven parishioners

1. Apologies for Absence

Ben Phelps, Sarah Butikofer (District Councillor) and Michael Dalby (County Councillor)

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes of the last meeting held on 2nd September, 2025 – approved by all members.

4. Updated information and matters arising from the previous meeting:

- a) The Inspector's final comments have been given in respect of the Local Plan and they will be considered by North Norfolk District Council. Langham is to become a "Small Growth Village" which will mean that there will be up to 9% more houses, about 15 in total.
- b) The Chairman has spoken to the proprietors of the Fox Hill, Berserker Tactical company which runs airsoft skirmish events. They are allowed to hold 28 events per year and there are a few more arranged for the remainder of the year. They are aware of the badger sett and say that it is fenced off.
- c) The new chicken sheds which replaced the turkey sheds on Langham Airfield probably require retrospective planning permission. Mrs. Butikofer, North Norfolk District Council, is to be asked for an update on the current position.

5. Finance

Income

8/9/25	Bank Interest (2/6/25 – 7/9/25)	£20.18
30/9/25	North Norfolk District Council (Precept – 6 months)	£6,721.50

Expenditure

17/10/25	Anglian Water (Playing Field – 2/7/25 to 1/10/25) – direct debit	£53.44
19/9/25	Drax (street light electricity – 1/8/25 to 31/8/25) – direct debit	£138.80
16/10/25	Drax (street light electricity – 1/9/25 to 30/9/25) – direct debit	£129.38
11/11/25	K & M Lighting Services (street lighting maintenance – Oct)	£25.43
11/11/25	K & M Lighting Services (street lighting maintenance – Nov)	£25.43
11/11/25	K. Webb (Clerk’s pay for September + back pay - 1/4/ to 31/8)	£546.00
11/11/25	HMRC (tax on Clerk’s pay)	£130.00
11/11/25	K. Webb (Clerk’s pay for October)	£476.30
11/11/25	HMRC (tax on Clerk’s pay)	£112.60
11/11/25	SW Horticulture (10th mow and second trim)	£190.00
11/11/25	SW Horticulture (11 th mow)	£110.00
11/11/25	SCS Accounting (quarterly payroll ending 30/9/25)	£36.00
11/11/25	Norfolk Parish Training & Support (Update Seminar fee)	£67.20
10/10/25	North Elmham P.C. (share of new computer) – paid 10/10/25	£300.00 **
11/11/25	SW Horticulture (replacing handholds on climbing frame)	£112.50
11/11/25	SW Horticulture (long grass 3 rd strim & 2 nd spray patio and play)	£120.00

Acceptance of expenditure approved by all members.

Balances of Bank accounts:- Current - £8,129.02 credit, Business Saver- £6,100.93 credit (as at 9th November, 2025)

6. Langham Village Recreation Ground update

Louise Goodenough reported that a number of young trees had been pulled out, (approximately 40 trees amounting to about 50% of the total), apparently by vandals. The general view was that the matter should be reported to the police but it was agreed that precise details (e.g. dates when the incidents happened) would be required.

A new fence is needed and a quotation of £2,720 has been received. Two other tenders are to be obtained. A lottery application for play equipment is to be submitted in the near future.

7. Mandate change/online banking

Confirmation had been received from Barclays Bank on 9th August that the arrangements for the new Bank mandate had been successfully finalised. The online banking facility is now in place with the Chairman, Peter O’Hare, Anne-Marie Coe and Louise Goodenough registered on the system as authorised users. The Chairman and Peter O’Hare have successfully completed the first transaction as previously agreed (please see item 5 above for £300.00 marked **).

8. Trod – possible Parish Partnership application.

Nothing has yet been heard from Norfolk County Council. The deadline for submission of applications is 1st December, 2025.

9. Cars parked on the Cornfield.

A number of residents expressed concern regarding a considerable number of cars, (as many as 15), parked in the street outside a parishioner's home, and which are worked on throughout the day. This matter was discussed, with the parishioner present, at the Parish Council meeting held on 4th March, 2025 at which an assurance was given that the number of vehicles, eight at the time, would decrease "in the next few weeks". This has clearly not happened. In fact, the position has considerably worsened. As a result, the Clerk will write to Mrs. Butikofer, member of the District Council, who has previous knowledge of the issue.

10. Norfolk Police's Operation Radium.

A request has been received from Norfolk Police for support in Operation Radium, a new initiative focused on tackling courier fraud across the county. Parish Councils would help in raising awareness and thus protecting vulnerable members of the community against the growing threat of courier fraud where criminals visit houses to collect items or money. Any alerts received from the police involving scams in the area would be passed on to residents as efficiently as possible. All agreed that the Parish Council should agree to help in this initiative.

11. Precept for 2026/2027 and the start of the Budget process.

The request for the Precept for the 2026/2027 financial year has to be submitted to the District Council by 31st January, 2026. Members are requested to give consideration to financial requirements in the Budget for the forthcoming year. Unfortunately, the crucial taxbase information is not yet available as the system provider has encountered an error regarding calculation of the taxbase changes around the second homes premium. The District Council is pressing for a solution as soon as possible.

12. Assertion 10

This involves new IT requirements for the annual financial audit and a need to meet the Web Content Accessibility requirement. There are new regulations involving Parish e-mail addresses and it appears that addresses linked to "gov.com" or "org.com" will be needed. The Clerk is to attend a training/information session as soon as possible.

13. Planning applications and determinations.

Applications

- a) Conversion of detached domestic outbuilding and external alterations to form two holiday flats – East Hall Farm, Holt Road, Langham – PF/25/2030. (No comments).

Determinations

- a) Installation of replacement windows and doors together with alterations to the existing fenestration and garage conversion – Byre Cottage, North Street, Langham – PF/25/1436 – approved.
- b) Addition of a small sun tunnel to light landing and staircase – Hare Cottage, Hollow Lane, Langham – LA/25/1768 – approved.
- c) Installation of front dormer, erection of rear link extension and internal alterations – Windrush, 7 St. Andrews Drift, Langham – PF/25/1837 – approved.
- d) Re-roofing works to Rectory – The Rectory, 2 Holt Road, Langham – LA/25/1149.

14. Correspondence

- 1) Housing need and affordable housing in the district – Anna Clarke, Community Housing Enabler.
- 2) Norfolk County Council Bus Shelter Grant scheme – final phase of funding.
- 3) NCC Highway Rangers Partnership scheme and the reporting of defects.
- 4) Letter of thanks from Local Lynx for the donation to assist with running costs.
- 5) Police priority for the last three months of the year and the next neighbourhood meeting to be held on 8th December.
- 6) Local Plan sessions cancelled until 2026.
- 7) NNDC public consultation regarding additional dog control Public Space Protection Orders.
- 8) Norfolk Offshore Wind Farms Community Fund grants.
- 9) Clerks and Councils Direct magazine for November, 2025.
- 10) NNDC invitation to attend update on Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation on 13/11/25 at Blakeney Harbour Rooms.
- 11) Inspector's Final report on the NNDC Local Plan 2024-2040.

15. Reports from County Councillor, District Councillor and Member of Parliament

Reports submitted by Mr. Dalby and Mrs. Butikofer will be available on the website for residents to read.

16. Public Participation

- a) It has been noticed that cars, delivery vehicles and other business vehicles are being parked on North Street.
- b) Friday night quizzes have started in the Village Hall. The first quiz was well attended and a success.
- c) Two possible dates in August are being considered for the Langham Street Fayre. Contact is being maintained with Blakeney Parish Council to avoid possible date clashes. There is to be a carols and mulled wine evening on 30th November.
- d) The speed camera is to be put in place next week. Mr. Alan Smith has kindly offered to assist in analysing the data.
- e) Mrs. Goodenough is to check the number of tables and chairs available for the Playing Field.
- f) Mrs. Goodenough is to check the position with the paper and textiles banks.

17. Any other matters (for information)

- a) The Chairman has sent details of the unnecessarily long curb-stone on the south side of the road from Holt, on the bend just before it enters Langham, to the Highways Engineer.
- b) Highways are aware of a high number of large HGVs travelling to and from the Chicken Farm. Also, there is significant light pollution apparent whilst travelling down the Wiveton Road.

18. Agenda items for next meeting

- a) Confirmation of dates for meetings in 2026.
- b) Precept and Budget for 2026/2027.
- c) Parish Partnership Scheme.

19. Date of next meeting : Tuesday, 6th January 2026 at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.31 p.m.

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Date

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Chairman

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