

LANGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 7th July, 2026 in the
Village Hall at 7.19 p.m.

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Present:

Richard Gozney (Chair)
Anne-Marie Coe (Vice Chair)
Peter O’Hare
Matt Reynolds
The Clerk
Dr. Victoria Holliday (County Councillor)
Three parishioners

1. Apologies for Absence

Louise Goodenough, Ben Jones, Ben Phelps and Sarah Butikofer (District Council)

2. Declarations of Interest

None

3. Minutes of the last meeting held on 19th May, 2026

Approved by all members. (Proposed by Anne-Marie Coe and seconded by Peter O'Hare).

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

- a) Following a parishioner request, the road between Langham and Holt has been subjected to some resurfacing work.
- b) All members confirmed that they have checked the accuracy of the details of their Register of Members' information regarding interests on the District Council website.
- c) Matt Reynolds reminded all that it is the intention for the new website to go live by the next meeting on 1st September. Members were asked to switch to their new email addresses by 1st August. Thanks were expressed to Mr. Reynolds for all his hard work on this important matter.
- d) Hopes were expressed that the newly elected County team could bring about some improvement in the fly tipping situation in the area.

5. Finance

Income

16/6/26	Norfolk County Council (agency grass cutting 2026/2027)	£367.21
8/6/26	Bank Interest 2/3/26 to 7/6/26)	£17.48

Expenditure

22/6/26	Clear Insurance Management (annual insurance)	£550.80 **
19/5/26	Drax (street light electricity – 1/4/26 to 30/4/26) – direct debit	£122.33
16/6/26	Drax (street light electricity – 1/5/26 to 31/5/26) – direct debit	£108.42
7/7/26	K & M Lighting Services (street lighting maintenance – June)	£25.43
7/7/26	K & M Lighting Services (street lighting maintenance – July)	£25.43
7/7/26	K. Webb (Clerk's pay for May)	£476.30
7/7/26	HMRC (tax on Clerk's pay)	£112.60
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7/7/26	S. W. Horticulture (4th mow and 2 nd dethatching)	£395.00
7/7/26	Playsafety Ltd (annual safety inspection of recreation ground)	£109.20
7/7/26	Beechwood Landscapes (fencing at playing field)	£2,485.00 ++

** paid to the Company 22/6/26

Acceptance of expenditure approved by all members.

Balances of Bank accounts:- Current - £6,948.99 credit, Business Saver- £6,151.70 credit (as at 5th July, 2026)

A quotation for £2,485.00 was originally obtained for a new fence at the playing field (see above ++). This has recently been installed and will be inspected. If all is satisfactory, the payment above will be released. As previously reported, a neighbour has agreed to make a contribution towards the cost.

6. Langham Village Recreation Ground

A new fence has been installed (please refer to item 5 above)

7. Solar lights update

Peter O'Hare has been actively chasing North Norfolk District Council but there has been little progress. There has also been no response from Amey, the official PFI street lighting contractor for Norfolk County Council, regarding a survey of electric light poles. The Harper Hotel owners are to be approached and asked if they would be prepared to accept lights on their walls. The lights cost about £125 each and increase in intensity if a pedestrian is identified. At this stage it is felt that two will be needed to test effectiveness.

8. The North Norfolk Local Plan review and "Call for Sites"

The North Norfolk Local Plan 2024-2040 was adopted in December, 2025. National planning policy and legislation have, however, changed since then and, as a result, the District Council is required to begin work on a new Local Plan to ensure that planning policies remain up to date and effective. A period of consultation will commence in the near future. It is highly likely that North Norfolk District Council will cease to exist before the new Local Plan is completed due to the proposed reorganisation of Local Government and the formation of new Unitary authorities.

9. The future of the Blue Bell Public House

The Blue Bell public house is a community asset, registered as such with North Norfolk District Council. It is the intention of the owners to sell the property which has been placed on the market. Any interested community bodies are subject to a period of six weeks during which an intention to bid must be made to the District Council. This process has already commenced which triggers a moratorium of six months on a sale. Mr. Patrick Allen states that a strong community team has been formed with contact having been made with the Plunkett Association, a national charity supporting rural community businesses across the U.K. There is an initial feeling that the asking price for the business is on the high side.

10. Planning applications and determinations

Applications

- a) Erection of single storey rear extension following the removal of conservatory – 34 The Cornfield, Langham – PF/26/1128. (No comments)
- b) Retention of 24 secure self-storage containers – land south of Cockthorpe Road, Langham – PF/26/1363. (No comments)

Determinations

- a) Erection of two-storey rear extension, single storey side extension and front porch – 12 The Cornfield, Langham – PF/26/0597 – approved.

11. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received:

- a) Summary of funding sources from NCC and details of Anglian Water's Thriving Communities Fund.
- b) Clerks and Councils magazine for June, 2026.
- c) NBB Recycled Furniture magazine.
- d) Norfolk Local Access Forum's Strategic Vision and Action Plan (recently updated)
- e) RoSPA Play Safety Annual Inspection Report for the Play Area.

12. Report from District Councillor

The Chairman welcomed our new County Councillor, Dr. Victoria Holliday, to the meeting. She had previously submitted a monthly report for June which had been circulated to all members and placed on the website.

The narrow path in St. Andrews Drift is not a public footpath and the owners of the adjacent properties are responsible for maintaining their hedges to keep a clear route. The damaged sign at the Blakeney Road "T" junction has not yet been fixed but the matter is being chased. The Local Members Fund has been recast.

13. Public Participation

- a) The pothole at the top of Hollow Lane has been fixed. Others remain in Swans Close and on the Binham Road.
- b) Developments at the Chicken Farm continue to be discussed by the appropriate authorities.

14. Any other matters (for information)

Some new general policies have been introduced. These will be placed on the website and all other existing policies will be reviewed over the coming weeks.

15. Agenda items for next meeting

None

16. Date of next meeting

Tuesday, 1st September 2026 at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

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Date

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Chairman