

28th APRIL 2026

A meeting was held on Tuesday 28th April 2026 in the Community Centre at 7.00pm.

In attendance: Mr A Ketteringham (AK) Chair, Mr R Leighton (RL) Vice-Chair, Mrs A Binns (AB) Mr A Howell (AH), Mr K Kissiedu(KK), Mr J Leggett(JLg), Mrs J Lusher (JL), Mrs A Shepherd (AS), Mr A Thomas (AT), the Clerk Jean Sangster, 19 Members of Public & Mr F Eagle (FE) District/County Councillor.

Declaration of Interests – AH declared interest in Local Plan

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 24.03.26 had been circulated and were passed as a correct record, agreed by all and signed.

OPEN TO PUBLIC

Resident presented views collected regarding the flag pole and flag erected without permission on The Green. As The Green is the responsibility of Trustees there had been a contact email address provided on Notice Board and on Face-Book for residents to express their views or they were advised to write to the Clerk of Trustees and the Chair of Trustees explained that this matter will be discussed at their next meeting on 19th May. There were many comments made by the gentleman who attended the March meeting regarding the Trustees as he felt that he should be able to attend their meeting to hear what they had to say but as all meetings of the Trustees are not open to Public this is not possible but he requested that result of their decision be published.

A vote on the flag pole and flag remaining on Green was taken by public present resulting in 18 voting for this to stay.

AK at this point explained that this is a Parish Council meeting and all these matters should have been brought to the Annual Parish Meeting where all village problems can be aired so he called a halt on any further discussion.

Residents of Dunnetts Close expressed their concerns regarding the Planning Application for dwelling to be sited in back garden of 18 Dunnetts Close. Their objections were noted and discussed by Councillors later in meeting.

There are still concerns raised regarding the Hale Road development and Enforcement.

Resident advised that remedial work is needed to Lych Gate Memorial.

Representatives of Ashill Community Garden Club asked if they could have a donation towards planting the 8 barrels in the village. After much discussion and various donations from Councillors a figure was agreed to be confirmed later and they were advised that if they should require new barrels in the future to let Parish Council know.

Report from County/District Councillor – Fabian Eagle.

He reported on recent meeting with MPs from area regarding the proposed Solar Farms.

He explained that NCC were doing all they could to ensure that vehicular access does not cause disruption to local Parishes if these go ahead.

He felt that he had ensured that potholes were dealt with and surface dressing is about to commence and he was questioned if RWE would give Bond Money for the future upkeep of the roads in the vicinity and this is something to consider.

He advised that as from 30th September 2026 Councillors will be unable to call-in planning applications for discussion by Committee and these will be decided by Officers.

He stressed that he feels that all Enforcement and conditions made on applications should be adhered to and asked that everyone votes at the County Council Elections on 7th May.

MEETING CONTINUED

Matters arising from last meeting

Highways – All matters reported are being dealt with and pothole outside 11 Dunnetts Close will be reported again. The name plate for Watton Road is being dealt with by Breckland Council.

Play Equipment – Checked and much the same as last month. Equipment to be cleaned on Sunday in 10th May and volunteers needed. It is hoped that old goal posts will be cut down below ground level and scrapped. AB reported that zip-wire is now running very low and as installers advised they would check and adjust this for free on first occasion, the Clerk will contact them.

Pickleball markings – still to be dealt with.

Playing Field – Clerk had received request for contact of mole catcher but to advise that he is already committed to so much work he could not help.

Football – Clerk advised that meeting with new Chair has been arranged for Mon. 18th May in Upton Room at 7.00pm. It is hoped that Councillors and members of Comm. Centre Committee will attend to discuss the way forward especially as there is still a problem with car parking.

Community Centre – Report from AB. Fete confirmed as 6th September.

New floor has been laid in kitchen and small hall and quotes obtained for large hall, heating problem is being dealt with. The Easter Bingo was very successful and another proposed for summer. AK said he was very disappointed that only 2 members of the public attended their AGM and hoped that there could be much more interest from within the Parish.

Footpaths – Crossings Rails. Still no news.

Police – SNAP Meeting held on 20th April 2026 at Narborough at 7.00pm was attended by AK with JL on-line but very disappointing. Next SNAP meeting is on July 9th at Necton.

Speedwatch – The Clerk has reported the VAS in Hale Road and is waiting to hear back from Westcotec and also re SAM2 problems with transferring data.

High Grove Solar Farm – The meeting with Mr George Freeman and MP's and villages concerned was very well attended and several matters were raised – grazing under panels, fire prevention, traffic and timescale if given go ahead by Government but this is dependent on National Grid connection. However there is growing opposition in Government to this large scale intrusion on Norfolk.

LGR-Devolution – Information received from Breckland Council Leader advising of timescale- elections for new Unitary Councils will take place in May 2027 with District Councils closing in March 2028 and new councils taking over on 1st April 2028..

Local Plan – Call for Sites – Information from Simon Wood that documents for Regulation 19 should go before Cabinet in July and will then go out for consultation and this will then be submitted for examination. Any changes to allocations will be discussed separately with affected Parishes.

.gov.uk email addresses – KK advised that he is looking at making it easier to find things. Clerk requested further assistance with emails as had problems with out of office not notifying holiday.

Lighting – No reply as yet from K & M Lighting for light over car park at Comm. Centre but AK had also received a request from Parishioner for 2 charging points for electric cars and this will be investigated further.

Dog Bins – Following from last month the Clerk had contacted Breckland regarding permission only to be informed that as this is to be sited on Parish Council land there would be an annual charge for emptying of £259-32 so further discussion followed and agreed that Members look at entrance to Acacia Avenue as possible site.

Fly-Tipping at Comm. Centre - Problem again and Textile Banks full. Advised that there are no longer the facilities for textiles at Recycling Centre and this to be confirmed. Request for further bin at Comm. Centre and ensure that CCTV is active on Councillor's phone.

Ashlink – Following report at Annual Meeting concerns were expressed that the reports that PC submit are being cut down and important facts being missed. Councillors felt that JL should continue and Clerk will impress on assistant editor that these reports should not be changed.

Closure of 1st Ashill Scouts – Unable to make contact with former leader or treasurer but need to know if they are in financial difficulty as Invoices still unpaid and container needs to be cleared.

Tree Inspection – Cost of £650-00 to be shared between Trustees, Church and PC and will take place on 1s May.

CORRESPONDENCE

NorfolkALC and Healthwatch Norfolk - Newsletters circulated.

NorfolkALC AGM – 14th May at Gt. Massingham 10.00am. AK to attend.

British Gas – Clerk had returned completed form for confirmation of gas line on PC land..

Priscilla Bacon Lodge – Request for details to be displayed. Pass to Ashlink and ask for poster.

Wayland Show – Advertising request passed to Ashlink.

PLANNING

PL/2026/0338/FMIN for The Old Hall Cress. Rd. Proposed demolition of existing main dwelling and erection of new self-build two storey dwelling with dormer accommodation in roof on same site has been granted with conditions but information received that sheds are being erected on ground to rear as permitted development will be investigated.

PL/2026/0479/FMIN – 18 Dunnetts Close for erection of single dwelling to rear of existing house with cycle storage and parking space with new vehicular access was discussed. All Members objected strongly to this application and Clerk to return to Planners with following concerns :-

Details incorrect, construction traffic and parking on corner of busy access road opposite bungalows that often have to have emergency visits, limit of 25 houses imposed on area when Old Allotment Close was granted, windows overlooking adjacent properties.

Regarding Enforcement – Clerk to write to Simon Wood, Sam Chapman-Allen and FE.

FINANCE (a) Accounts

DD SSE Power supply Mar payment £540-74

DD ICO Data Protection Fee £47-00

Barclays Bank Charges Feb.Mar & Part Apr. £17-00

The following Accounts Due for Payment for APRIL were passed for payment proposed by JLg seconded by JL :-

K & M Lighting Services Ltd Maint Street Lighting Apr.	£120-50
Mrs J Pickard Play field Warden Apr)	
Jean Sangster Clerks Salary Apr..+ 24hrs	Undisclosed
Expenses Apr .	£74-90
Norfolk County Council Rent Ashill Estate	£1000-00
Broke Bros. Grant for permissive path upkeep	£160-00
Ashill Community Gardens – AK proposed that £20-00 being donated under section 137 seconded by JLg and all agreed.	
Partnership Funding to await amended Invoice	£8350-00

Current account details had been confirmed at Annual Meeting.

Insurance Review –still awaiting quote.

Fencing for Former Surveyors Land – Much discussion over what type of posts should be purchased. Various quotes had been received and were discussed with RL taking chair. It was generally felt that creosoted posts would be best , last longer (possibly 35 years) with spacing of 3metres – cost £3100-00. After debating all quotes it was proposed by AH seconded by AB that PC should purchase these. Vote taken without AK was 7 for & 1 abstention.

OPEN TO PUBLIC – Concern over removal of goal posts.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

AK advised that Trustees have now received funding for new gate for Common.

Reminder to all to vote on 7th May and that should ensure listed on Electoral Roll and carry ID.

NEXT MEETING IS TO BE HELD ON 26th MAY 2026 IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 7.00PM and is the AGM of Parish Council.

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed

Date

