

28th JULY 2026

The Monthly Meeting of the Council was held on Tuesday 28th JULY 2026 in the Community Centre at 7.00pm.

In attendance Mr A Ketteringham(AK), Chair, Mrs A Binns (AB), Mr J Leggett(JLg), Mrs J Lusher(JL), Mrs A Shepherd(AS), Mr A Thomas(AT), 14 Members of the Public & the Clerk Jean Sangster & Mr F Eagle District Councillor.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr K Kissiedu (KK), due to holiday, .Mr R Leighton (RL) due to family commitments, Mr A Howell (AH) due to work commitments,

There were no Declarations of Interest.

The minutes of last meeting held on 23rd June 2026 had been circulated and were passed and signed as a correct record.

OPEN TO PUBLIC

Reported that drain in Watton Rd needs attention.

Pothole in road at side pond. This led to information being given regarding the dredging of pond which will take place on 30th July. The spoil is to be carted to dry area at top of playing field and volunteers required to man the route across.

This raised queries about where water comes from and drains to and this was explained.

AK pointed out that this is a Trustees matter not PC.

At this point the Members agreed to discuss the matter of Ashlink.

The Editor and Team attended to give their concerns which are that they will run out of funds. They print 750 copies at a cost of £300 - £400 and as they had not come to Council before Budget was prepared last November, no allocation of funds was made.

The suggestion of advertising was not felt viable by team as volunteers they do not have the time to commit to administration. Also suggested that ask for donations.

After much discussion it was proposed by JLg seconded by AS that money be included in Precept and this was agreed by all.

In the meantime the Team have agreed to publish next edition for 3 months and include some adverts leading up to Christmas so Nov/Dec issue will cover Oct.Nov.Dec.

Also suggested to place donation boxes in business premises.

MEETING CONTINUED

MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST MEETING

Highways – The Partnership Scheme at entrance to Comm. Centre has been completed and felt very worthwhile.

Potholes from last month now all filled.

Clerk had received a request from resident of Woodlands to provide a flower barrel outside 57 and as this is a matter for Highways she had informed resident that she would pass this on.

Dog Waste Bin – This has now arrived and will be installed once the ground is workable.

Play Equipment – Inspection carried out. Quote received from Fresh Air Fitness for the painting of Wheel as this is no longer under guarantee. Agreed to do ourselves.

The Clerk informed that she has been unable to contact the company that installed the Zip Wire. Trading Standards have also tried but no reply. Agreed to ask other parishes who maintains their equipment.

Playing Field & Football – All paperwork has been signed and returned.

At this point Mr Eagle attended.

He advised that the Local Plan Consultation will commence on 31st July for six weeks and asked that Public send in their comments.

LGR – The County Council is raising objections to the three tiers Unitary Authority and await the Government response.

Meeting Continued

Community Centre – AB reported that their recent Bingo had raised approx. £500 and there are to be further Bingos in next few months. Hire charges have been increased by £1-00 per hour. The Fete & Dog Show is on 6th September and it is hoped that the Choir will put on another Christmas Show.

The Lighting for Car Park was discussed at this point. The application for a Grant from North Pickenham Wind Farm had been successful and 2 quotes now received.

It was proposed by JLg seconded by AS that the one from K & M Lighting be accepted and all agreed.

Footpaths – Warden reported that some very overgrown.

Police –SNAP meeting at Necton on 9th July .was attended by AK and JL on-line. There is to be a Fraud Awareness meeting at Necton. Sorry to hear that Paula Giluley has now retired so Justin is on his own at moment.. Next SNAP meeting is at Swaffham on 8th October at 7.00pm. New Police Commissioner was appointed.

Speedwatch – Report from Mr Street. SpeedWatch locations have been visited, vetted and re-approved as suitable for continuing to run sessions in the village. Planned Events with Norfolk Constabulary were held at beginning of July and Teams very disappointed that there was no Police present. The Safety Camera Team will be attending joint sessions during first two weeks of August.

High Grove Solar – Still awaiting information from NorfolkALC on employment of person to act on behalf of SuffolkALC and NorfolkALC. Update from RWE. Problems with siting of sub-station and will be late summer before any decision and they hope to meet with Parishes in Autumn.

LGR – Info from FE as above.

Local Plan Call for Sites – Consultation will open on 31st July and run for 6 weeks. Public advised to send in their comments.

Textile Bank – Still awaiting third bin but in meantime Company should empty weekly. Breckland advised that for 25-26 the Bottle Banks and Textile Banks raised £803-11 for Parish.

Allotments – The new taps have been installed thanks to AT and Mr Shepherd and Inspector has now given ok. Overgrown Plots – No 2 & No 5 have not been worked and holders will be advised that work needs to be carried out or they will relinquish their tenancy.

The ivy on Oak tree at entrance has been cleared. Thanks expressed to resident.

Tree Work – This still be arranged.

Ashlink – Will discuss further at next meeting.

Website – No update as KK on holiday.

Ashill 1st Scout Group – Container should be cleared by end July and keys will be returned. Payment has been received.

Lych Gate – This will be discussed at next meeting.

Pickleball Court – Quotes received from JustMarking for £850-00 & from Cullumline for £804-00. It was proposed by JLg seconded by JL that Cullumline be asked to carry out work. All agreed and paint and colour to be checked.

Any Other Matters

Trustees – work to dredge pond – see correspondence.

Correspondence

Newsletters from NorfolkALC & Healthwatch Norfolk circulated to Members.

Trustees – Notification of the proposed dredging of village pond and request permission from Council to deposit spoil in the dry hole at top of playing field. This was granted. Although volunteers had offered to marshall whilst tractors carting this across field, the Clerk advised that Insurance would insist on field being closed for day and this was agreed. Notices to be displayed and advise on facebook.

Norfolk Fire & Rescue – Posters for public places have already been displayed.

Volunteer drivers required for Swaffham

.Resident requests that InPost be oontacted regarding the times that vans are coming to lockers at Shop. Clerk will email.

Resident concerned regarding the parking on The Oaks at School times. Contact Police and School.

Notification of change to Audit procedures for 2027. Clerk has noted these.

PLANNING APPLICATION – No new applications received.**ACCOUNTS DUE FOR PAYMENT**

Direct Debit - SSE Power supply June	£335-39
Barclays Bank Charges June	£8-50
The following accounts due for payment for JULY 2026 were passed for payment proposed by JL seconded by AB:-	
K & M Lighting Services Maint St Lights Jul.	£120-50
Mrs J Pickard Play field Warden Jul)	
Jean Sangster Clerks Salary Jul + 19 hrs)	Undisclosed
Expenses Jul	£113-99

The Current A/C details had been circulated with copies of Bank Statement and these were confirmed

Copies of Savings and Investments Accounts also circulated.

Ashill Welfare Charity Trustees – Appointment of representative to serve from Sept.2026 for next 4 year period. It was agreed to wait until August meeting to discuss this matter.

OPEN TO PUBLIC

Suggestion from resident that Sporle PC be advised to contact Wayland Prison for assistance with their Parish sign.

Also suggestion that local businesses be asked to donate to Ashlink.

Concerns re paths on Allotments - to be looked into.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Pavement to front of Millfield following BT work will be reported to Highways.

Concerns expressed re Coffee Morning for August being cancelled and agreed to ask for help and hold this.

Look East to visit village to interview the people who have now returned to their homes after the fire in 2022.as so many 'wild fires'are affecting the country in this long dry spell.

The 3 Ash Trees in Watton Road which are causing concerns, will be reported to Highways
Breckland had requested a copy of our Emergency Plan but will be referred to National Plan.

Date of next Meeting – Tuesday 25th August 2026 at 7.00pm in the Community Centre.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC

The following resolution was agreed by all :-

“That under Section 100(A) (4) of Local Government Act 1972, the Press & Public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on Grounds that it includes the likely disclosure of confidential information”.

To Discuss Local Plan, Allotment & Ashill Estate

Meeting Closed at 9.10pm

Signed _____

Date _____