

WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Parish Hall on the 4th of December 2025.

Present:

Councillors – Chas Boston (CB), Heather Smith (HS), William Brooks (WB), Jan Luck (JL), Andy Bliss (AB), Richard Green (RG), Ade Eveleigh (AE), Claire James (CJ), Charlene Campion (CC), and Irene Hunter (IH). County Councillor Julian Kirk
Parish Clerk / 2 members of the public

1. Welcome from the Chairman followed by Public Participation: None
2. Apologies received – Cllrs Blunt and James.
3. All Councillors were reminded of their duty to abide by the Code of Conduct.
4. Declarations of interest – RG continuation of any planning items on National Grid.
5. Minutes approved from the Parish Council meeting on the 6th of November proposed by Cllr Luck, seconded Cllr Bliss and all in favour who were present at that meeting.
6. Matters arising:
 - 6.1 National Grid update: No update from Cllr Blunt re inviting MP, James Wild, to attend the 5th of February 2026 Parish Council meeting to discuss the current issues. **ACTION: RB**
 - 6.2 Grass and footpath cutting – Cllr Bliss put forward request to increase the cuts per year from 3 to 6 for the footpaths. All in agreement and will discuss under item 9.3
7. To receive reports:
 - 7.1 Councillor's reports – Cllr Brooks reported a generator starting up late on a Saturday evening by the 2 caravans. Cllr Kirk advised that enforcement would not be interested in this at this time.
Cllr Green advised that hare coursing was on the increase and a report of stolen diesel from a farm.
Cllr Smith reported that the issues of noise, anti-social behaviour etc., continues on Folgate Lane with regular visits from the police and children out at night with no supervision.
Clerk has reported the S bend on Walnut Road being dangerous for pedestrians to highways and Andy Wallace happy to make a visit. Cllr Bliss thanked for the images and w3w.
Streetlight is flickering on Police Road, Cllr Campion to advise of the number on the light post to the clerk for reporting. **ACTION: CC/Clerk**
 - 7.2 County Councillor Report – still has community funding available and will look to help with the proposed trod. Clerk advised that the community funding details had been sent to the Community Centre Chair for the projector in the Garden Room.

Still hoping that the County Council elections will now go ahead in May 26, following the notification today that the mayor elections have been put back to May 28.

Borough Councillor Report – None received

7.3 Chairmans Report – Cllr Campion had advised that it was very difficult to attend all the PC meetings due to work and family commitments. Finding emails difficult due to the quantity. The Chair explained that all parish councillors are volunteers and must not feel under pressure to attend every meeting. All present were in total agreement.

Clerk Report: Still attending webinars on the new assertion 10 rules and regulations which will lead to a lot of additional work including new policies. 1st draft budget for 26/27 completed – update bank charges to increase to £7 per quarter from February 26.

Parish Public Access Consultee completed and now have access.

New dog bin on Dunces Lane ordered and delivered to Cllr Bliss.

Small allotment invoices ready to go out later this month for Feb 26 payment.

7.4 Cllr Eveleigh advised that the December Criers have been delivered along with Christmas Cards and chocolates.

7.5 To receive updated regarding footpaths and circular walks – 3 signposts on Marsh Road need replacing and Cllr Bliss will take pics/w3w locations.

ACTION: AB

7.6 Community Fund Projects Working Group – Cllr Bliss advised that the Christmas Tree lights were on.

7.7 Cllr Luck advised no problems.

7.8 SAM reports – Cllr Eveleigh's will forward reports.

ACTION: AE

7.9 Communications/Correspondence:

Defibrillator update – This has now got an electricity supply but Cllr Luck concerned about the water in the outer case. Clerk to arrange full service as soon as possible.

ACTION: Clerk

NDP now approved and clerk to put final document on the website.

Everyone who was involved with this, was thanked for their hard work and dedication.

ACTION: Clerk

8. Planning –Any applications received after the date of this agenda and before the meeting date will be considered.

8.1 Applications:

25/01948/NT28 |to reduce the overall length of the overhead tower line route and relocate the terminal tower (last tower in the overhead line) to a new position| Land At E548247 N316587 Walpole Bank Walpole St Andrew Norfolk - No observations proposed Cllr Smith, seconded Cllr Eveleigh with all in favour (Cllr Green abstained)

2 Pre Applications: for information only

25/00203/PREAPP |PRE-APPLICATION FULL (NO CONSULTATIONS): Proposed portable building for relocation of Hedgehog Hospital Hughenden Market Lane Walpole St Andrew Wisbech Norfolk PE14 7LR.

25/00191/PREAPP|PRE-APPLICATION WITH CONSULTATIONS AND A MEETING:
Outline application for a proposed residential development| Applegate Nurseries Chalk
Road Walpole St Peter WISBECH Norfolk PE14 7PG

8.2 Decisions: None

8.3 Appeals: 25/00035/REF| Outline Application: Proposed 4 Self Build
Dwellings |Land Rear of Walnut Road Walpole St Peter Norfolk - APPEAL
AGAINST REFUSAL

8.4 Enforcements:

25/00499/NIA|NIA - Not in accordance with approved plans.| Highway
Cottage Pyecroft Lane Walpole St Peter Wisbech Norfolk PE14 7PL –
PENDING Consideration

25/00386/UNAUTU|UNAUTU - Unauthorised Use|3 Lucky Lane Walpole St
Andrew WISBECH Norfolk PE14 7NX – Pending Consideration

25/00289/UNAUTU| Alleged Unauthorised Use|8 Folgate Lane Walpole St
Andrew Wisbech Norfolk PE14 7HY – DC Application Submitted

25/01660 & 61/CU - 8 & 10 Folgate Lane – called in

9. Finance

9.1 To approve payments/receipts, bank reconciliation and statements for
November Cllr Green proposed, Cllr Luck seconded and all in favour. Bank
accounts to 30.11.25 =£41,111.57 with £10,421.74 in the Solar fund account.

9.2 To approve payments (to date) for December proposed Cllr Luck, seconded
Cllr Brooks and all in favour.

9.3 To review the proposed 1st draft budget – It was agreed that the precept
should increase by 15% to meet the requirements for 2026/27. Proposed Cllr
Green, seconded Cllr Hunter with all in favour. Clerk to amend the draft budget
accordingly. **ACTION: Clerk**

10. Public participation: None

11. Items for next agenda – please advise the clerk 7 days prior to the meeting date.
Cllr Green gave apologies for both January and February meetings.

12. Next meeting will be on the 8th of January 2026 from 7pm at the Parish Hall.

Cllr Smith had advised of her resignation and was thanked for her dedication to the
Parish Council over the last 8 years and will be missed.

Meeting closed at 8.03 pm and Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

PAYMENTS FOR DECEMBER 2025 (to date)

Clerk Expenses	£	48.95	
Clerk Salary	£	644.74	
HMRC	£	268.82	
SSE	£	118.10	direct debit
BCKLWN dog bins	£	290.00	direct debit
Parish Hall hire	£	16.50	