



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

held on Wednesday 17th September 2025 at 7.00pm in West Row Outdoor Bowls Club,
Beeches Road, West Row IP28 8NY

Present: Cllr A Fisher, Cllr R Hamill, Cllr M Connery, Cllr J Goodenough, Cllr A Goodenough and Cllr S Knight

Also in attendance: Sharon Vale, Parish Clerk and 2 MOP's

The Vice Chair opened the meeting at 7:00pm. A reminder to everyone that the meeting was being recorded for accurate writing of the minutes.

441	<u>Apologies and acceptance for absence</u> Received and accepted by Cllr M Peachey, Cllr L Baker and Cllr T Gooch-Taylor-Balls	
442	<u>To receive member's declaration of interest and dispensations relating to items on this agenda.</u> None.	
443	<u>To resolve that the minutes of the meeting of the council held on Wednesday 20th August 2025 are a true and correct record.</u> It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 20 th August 2025 were a true and correct record. The minutes were signed by the Vice Chair.	
444	<u>Public Participation session to include District, County Councillors, RAF Mildenhall and Police reports, plus representation from electors of the Parish.</u> a. County Councillor Colin Noble – Suffolk County Council. No report at this time. b. District Councillor Don Waldron – West Suffolk Council. No report at this time. c. Squadron Leader Owen Crosby – RAF Mildenhall. Nothing to report at this time. d. PC Scott Cameron – Community Police Officer. e. 2 MOP's raised concerns in relation to Judes Ferry, noting in particular that the premises are being sublet to other parties. Further concerns were expressed regarding parking along Ferry Lane. The Clerk undertook to raise these matters with the Licensing Department.	Clerk

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445	<p><u>Planning Matters</u></p> <p>Planning application – variation of condition 1 of DC/24/0729/RM to allow for amended plan for a. submission of details under outline planning permission DC/22/1926/OUT the means of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of nine dwellings b. including details reserved by condition 3 of DC/22/1926/OUT (materials, refuse and recycling bins, soft landscaping, roads and footpaths, parking, cycle storage). Land off Mildenhall Road, West Row. SUPPORT.</p>	Clerk
446	<p><u>Matters Relating to Governance</u></p> <p>None.</p>	
447	<p><u>Financial Matters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Approval and Authorisation of Payments for September 2025. It was unanimously Resolved to Accept the payments. b. Approval of August 2025 Bank Reconciliation was received. c. Approval of August 2025 Current/Deposit Account was received. 	
448	<p><u>Parish Keeper</u></p> <p>A Parish Keeper is someone the parish council seeks to employ in order to maintain the village's footpaths, hedges, grass cutting etc., and ensure the general upkeep of community areas. It was resolved to proceed with the employment of a Parish Keeper. It was further agreed that councillors would arrange a meeting with Beck Row Parish Council to explore opportunities for joint working on this matter and other areas of mutual support. Given the close proximity of the two parishes, members noted that a strengthened working relationship would be of benefit to both communities.</p>	
449	<p><u>Matters Relating to Street Furniture/Amenity Provision</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Report on Speed Indicator Device Findings. SID stats remain consistent. b. Update on Footpath 30 (eroded riverbank) along the river at bottom of the Gravel. Ongoing. c. SCC Development – Ongoing. d. Building site at the entrance to Pott Hall Road – Cllr A Fisher has spoken to WSC regarding the site and awaiting a response. e. New Cemetery – The updated Archaeological work plan has now been received from our contractor and forwarded to SCC for their preliminary approval, after which we can submit to WSC for planning approval. Separately, SCC had the proposed cemetery ground formally valued by a chartered surveyor, who valued the land at £35,000. However, in light of our previous agreements with SCC on the matter, and having been able to negotiate with them, a final purchase price of £5,000.00 has now been agreed, which Cllr M Peachey thinks is a fair sum, and solicitors from both sides have now been instructed to proceed with the sale. It was agreed to SUPPORT the final purchase price. We remain on schedule to complete the 	

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	<p>purchase by the end of the year, but with the current tenant farmer retaining access until 1st January 2026 to harvest winter crops. Cllr M Peachey is hopeful that the archaeological survey will be able to commence, weather permitting, very early in the new year.</p> <p>f. Pott Hall Road – SCC will be doing a speed survey from 14th October to 21st October 2025. Cllr R Hamill will attend the meeting on Saturday 20th September from 10am to 11am, to assist in commencement of the Speed Watch group.</p> <p>g. Village Working Party – Cllr L Barker to put some wording together for FB page asking for suggestions or volunteers to start up a group. Close.</p> <p>h. Community Road Safety – Joining forces with Moulton Parish Council to challenge SCC about their current stance on road safety, speeding and traffic calming. Cllr R Hamill will respond to this once the West Row Speed Watch group has their meeting this week.</p> <p>i. Harvest Festival 5th October 2025 – Judes Ferry. Clerk to write a letter.</p>	<p>RH</p> <p>Clerk</p>
450	<p><u>Other Working Party Updates/Reports</u></p> <p>a. Update to the Echo/Parish Magazine. Current edition is going to print.</p> <p>b. Update on Neighbourhood Plan – Awaiting update.</p> <p>c. Warm Places Update. Expenses update. Next fish and chip lunch Friday 26th September 2025. Christmas Lunch has been booked for Friday 12th December 2025 at £30 per person. A deposit of £10 per person will need to be paid by Friday 26th September 2025.</p> <p>d. 100 Club Update – Leaflets will be distributed at the Warm Rooms lunch.</p>	
451	<p><u>Allotment Matters</u></p> <p>Allotment BBQ and AGM took place on Saturday 6th September 2025 and was a great success. Allotment renewals to be sent out by the beginning of October 2025. A working party has been arranged to complete the erection of the remaining fencing around the allotments.</p>	
452	<p><u>Events</u></p> <p>a. Litter Pick – Saturday 4th October 2025 – 10:00 to 12:00.</p> <p>b. Remembrance Service – Sunday 9th November 2025 at 10:30am, and Tuesday 11th November 2025 at 10:50am. The Council recorded its thanks to Stuart Walker for maintaining the grass and flowers around the memorial during the summer months.</p> <p>c. Christmas 2025. Tree decoration Tuesday 2nd December 2025. Friday 5th December 2025 tree lighting. Santa sleigh on Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th December 2025.</p> <p>d. Easter 2026. Dates will be confirmed once we have discussed it with Beck Row Parish Council.</p> <p>e. Flower/Vegetable Show 2026.</p>	

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	f. Parish Council Surgeries. Next surgery to take place on Saturday 20 th September 2025 from 10:00 to 11:00 – Cllr R Hamill and Cllr S Knight will attend. Additional surgeries will be on every third Saturday of the month.	
453	<u>Chair and Councillors' reports/suggestion (on the night)</u> Cllr A Goodenough asked if the trees at the church green could be trimmed back later this year. Cllr A Fisher asked for funding for new laptop for the Clerk.	
454	<u>Correspondence and exchange of additional information (at the discretion of the Chair)</u> Transfer of land at Chapel Road, West Row for cemetery purposes. Council voted and agreed to accept SCC Heads of Terms for the sale of the land for the cemetery. Public Rights of Way – SCC have made the legal orders for two historic public footpaths in the village, which is part of the process of ascertaining whether the public rights still exist. An update on the next stages should be known by late October.	
455	<u>Date of the next meeting</u> To confirm the date of the next meeting, Wednesday 15 th October 2025. Meeting closed at 21:00 hours.	

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