



Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

held on Wednesday 21st October 2026 at 7.00pm in West Row Outdoor Bowls Club, Beeches Road, West Row IP28 8NY

Attendance:

Councillor Alan Fisher
Councillor Lisa Baker
Mrs Sharon Vale
Councillor Roz Hamill
Councillor Alan Goodenough
Councillor Sally Knight
Councillor Martin Connery

Chair
Vice Chair
Clerk

Members of the electorate and other attendees:

Two members of the electorate and District Councillor Don Waldron.

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

639	<u>Apologies and acceptance for absence</u> Apologies requiring consent received and accepted from Councillor M Peachey, Councillor June Goodenough, Squadron Leader Owen Crossby and County Councillor Louis Busuttil	
640	<u>To receive member's declaration of interest and dispensations relating to items on this agenda.</u> None were received.	
641	<u>To resolve that the minutes of the meeting of the council held on Wednesday 9th September 2026 are a true and correct record.</u> It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting on Wednesday 9 th September 2026 were a true and correct record. The minutes were signed by the Chair.	

Signed by Chair of Meeting:.....

Date Signed: 18th November 2026



642	<u>Public Participation session (15 minutes) to include District and County Councillors', RAF Mildenhall and Police Reports, plus representation from electors of the Parish.</u> a. County Councillor Louis Busuttil – Suffolk County Council Nothing to report at this time. b. District Councillor Don Waldron – West Suffolk Council District Councillor Don Waldron provided an update on various matters being progressed by West Suffolk Council, including the new Local Plan for 2045. The first draft of the Local Plan is anticipated in spring 2027, followed by public consultation, with formal adoption expected in May 2029. c. Squadron Leader Owen Crosby – RAF Mildenhall In light of recent threats to US interests in the UK, you may have noticed an increased police presence in the area. Both the Ministry of Defence Police and Suffolk Constabulary have increased patrols in recent weeks to provide visible deterrence and reassurance. If any members of the public see anything suspicious, they are encouraged to contact the police, who work closely with the on-base security forces to respond to any potential threats. We are aware of the planned windfarm development at Redmere and have reviewed the flight safety implications. Relevant concerns will be passed to the Defence Infrastructure Organisation to inform their consultation response. Planning is underway for support to Remembrance Day activities this year. The Base Commander is not in the UK that weekend, sadly, but we expect two members of the 352nd Special Operations Wing to attend the Sunday wreath laying and service in West Row. A security exercise was held over the last few days (19th to 21st October). You may have heard or seen on base emergency services responding to incidents. Thank you for your understanding while the base conducts essential	
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	training to ensure the base can be resilient and defend against any terrorist threats while sustaining operations. There is a new Group Captain US Visiting Forces and Station Commander RAF Marham, Group Captain Michael Dutton. He visited RAF Lakenheath and RAF Mildenhall on 2nd October to familiarize himself with the bases and their strategic value to both the USA and the UK. A ceremony was held at RAF Mildenhall to mark the 25th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, also attended by personnel from RAF Lakenheath. Organised by the emergency services departments, the ceremony was supported by a fly past of USAF aircraft and pipers from Watton, Norfolk. d. PC Scott Cameron – Community Police Officer Nothing to report at this time.	
643	<u>Planning Matters</u> None.	
644	<u>Matters Relating to Governance</u> None.	
645	<u>Financial Matters</u> a. Approval and Authorisation of Payments for October 2026. It was unanimously Resolved to Accept the payments. b. Approval of September 2026 Payments & Receipts List. c. Approval of September 2026 Bank Reconciliation. d. Approval of Receipts and Payments Qtr 2.	
646	<u>Matters Relating to Street Furniture/Amenity Provision</u> a. Report on Speed Indicator Device Findings. The SID data was shared with Council Members ahead of the meeting. The data is consistent with the last readings showing as expected. Other data shows isolated issues with speeding, but average speeds are within limits set. b. Update on Footpath 30 (eroded riverbank) along the river at bottom of the Gravel. Nothing to report.	



	c. SCC Development – No update. d. Building site at the entrance to Pott Hall Road – Councillor A Fisher has spoken to WSC regarding the site and can report that the case is still ongoing and that the enforcement order is still in place. e. New Cemetery – The groundworks have begun work and are progressing well. Fencing will begin next week. The landscaper will come in once they have finished. The water connection is yet to be scheduled, due to all the bureaucracy involved, but hopefully will be done before the end of the year. As we will have to wait until spring to get the grass seed down, we are currently looking for a spring opening. WSC approved our request to change (non-disabled) car parking spaces from grass to Breedon gravel. f. Bus Stop Signs – Councillor A Fisher will contact Suffolk County Council Passenger Transport regarding the installation of the relevant bus timetable information. g. Lost Bridge over River Lark – Close. h. Redmere Windfarm Consultation. The Clerk will complete the statutory Consultation Response with the Parish Council's concerns and objections.	
647	<u>Other Working Party Updates/Reports</u> a. Update to the Echo/Parish Magazine. Deadline for articles is 15th November 2026. b. Warm Places Update. Expenses update. The next fish and chip lunch will be on Friday 6th November 2026. Christmas lunch is booked at Simpsons Garden Centre for Friday 11th December 2026 c. 100 Club Update. Ivor Role, number 160, won the bi-monthly draw.	
648	<u>Allotment Matters</u> Nothing to report.	
649	<u>Events</u> a. Remembrance Sunday 8th November 2026 – 1pm. Wednesday 11th November 2026 at 11:00 am. Exact timings will be published on social media. b. Christmas 2026. Friday 4th December 2026. Tree lighting at 7pm and refreshments in the Church Hall. c. Parish Council Surgeries. Next surgery to take place on	

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	Saturday 21 st November 2026 from 10:00 to 11:00 – Councillor A Fisher will attend. Additional surgeries will be on every third Saturday of the month.	
650	<u>Chair and Councillors' reports/suggestion (on the night)</u> - Councillor M Peachey informed us that the public inquiry into the unregistered right of way linking West Row to Worlington, known as Ferry Drove, will take place in mid-February 2027. We will need to get as many people who completed user evidence forms as possible to attend the inquiry in person to confirm their use of the route to the inspector. Councillor M Peachey suggests that the Clerk works with the Worlington Clerk and the SCC officer nearer the time to contact the people required. - The inquiry into the "lost footpath" between Ferry Lane and The Gravel will be determined by an inspector early in the New Year. Our evidence supporting this has been submitted. - Councillor A Fisher informed the Council of correspondence from a resident of Ferry Lane expressing concerns regarding the safety of a tree situated alongside the public footpath and requesting its removal. The Council agreed that responsibility for this matter rests with Suffolk County Council. The Clerk was instructed to write to the resident accordingly.	
651	<u>Correspondence and exchange of additional information (at the discretion of the Chair)</u>	
652	<u>Items for consideration for inclusion on the next agenda</u>	
653	<u>Date of the next meeting</u> The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 18th November 2026.	
654	<u>Meeting closed</u> The meeting closed at 8:45 pm.	