

MINUTES

Blundeston & Flixton Parish Council Meeting Held on Monday 21st July 2025

Present: -, Mr G Wade (Chairman), Miss M Wright, Cllr P Ashdown, Mrs B Shaw, Mr C Harris, Mr R Leach, Mrs G Soanes, Mrs D McKernan, Mrs E Sparkes, & 7 Parishioners were present.

1. **Apologies**-Cllr K Robinson, Cllr E Back, Vice Chairman Mr S Rees, Mr K Blowers, and Mr P Button.
2. **Declaration of interests:** No Declaration of interest
3. **Approval of Minutes:** minutes of the previous meetings held on 16th June 2025 were approved and signed.
4. **Update on ongoing matters-**
 - Footpath between The Street and Market Lane**
Nothing to report at the meeting
 - Play Park Repairs/Health and Safety**
We have received an email from Simon Walker re the new contact for ESSL inspections called Louis Clarke.
 - Village Hall**
Nothing to report at the meeting
 - Sid Board update**
We have now received 10 Hi -Vis Jackets with Blundeston and Flixton PC on. A Councillor will pick up the SID Board tonight and go through the instructions once this is done then we can involve the volunteers.
 - Discuss the Scribe package /re other quote for the clerk**
It was agreed at the meeting to go ahead with the Scribe Accounting Package it was also agreed that that another Councillor will be trained up to use it, it was agreed that Miss M Wright would be trained up along with the clerk.
 - Asset Register**
This is an ongoing issue starting with going through the Minutes and all other paper work we have.
 - Generic Email Account start date**
The clerk has sent all the Councillors their log in details and passwords it was agreed to order the new sign for the play park to reflect the new email address and all other contacts and policies to be changed before going live.
 - Barriers on Footpath between Hall Road and the School**
On the 17th July we received an email from Keith Sampson at Suffolk highways- I have received a response from the Section 278 team in the attached e-mail. Basically, they will be reinstating the barriers as per the rough picture in the e-mail where the black arrows are. They need to draw this up properly and discuss this with the developer. In the meantime they will install temporary barriers until the changes are made.
It was also raised about the new badger houses at Lakeside Rise that there is no footpath from Stephen George way to the footpath opposite the school as people are having to walk on the road it was agreed to contact Justin Coote to clarify if this will be done.
 - Roundabout in Playpark**
We are still waiting for the quote from B.F.S a Councillor said they would chase this up.
 - Beacon On Millennium Green**
We had two quotes for the replacement Oak Pole, it was agreed to go with Traditional Beams at a cost of £1585+ VAT
 - Notice Board in the Street**
The clerk went to see the team at the Man Shed in Stradbroke Road who kindly sent someone to come out and take a look at the Notice Board to see if it could be refurbished they said this can be done but we will need to get the notice board delivered to him it was agreed to get this arranged.
5. **Clerks Report:**
The clerk has asked if the signatories would be prepared to be set up with online banking at the moment it is only myself and Keith that can make BACS payments and we need dual authorisation for each payment this was agreed at the meeting the clerk will send the details to them.
6. **Public. Participation (15 mins)**
A Parishioner raised their concerns about the speeding in Hall Lane and asked how we can stop this? The

Councillors said that we are in the process of setting up our SID Board in Queensway and Market Lane, but we have to comply with Highways legislation on the siting of the boards. It was asked if the Parishioner could contact PC Michelle Dean to report this direct the clerk will give you her email address,

7. Other Parish Business (Parish Councillors).

It was asked if we could find out from NGF Play re the Zipwire as to how many years recommendation for inspection is required for the Zipwire.

It was asked about the trees in the Millennium Green 3- 4 months ago it was agreed for this to be looked at but nothing has been done as yet? And could we follow this up.

It was raised about the Junction at Flixton Road and Lound Road that the Grass verges need to be cut back again, a councillor is kindly cutting this back as it is only done twice a year by the council.

It was asked how the Teddy Bear Parachute Jump went? Barbara reported that 200 bears had jumped on the Saturday at a cost of £1 each but the actual amount raised would be more than this due to the sale of refreshments and other stalls across both days.

It was asked if the Minutes Books that need to be checked through to check for the Assets that the parish owns could be read at home, this was agreed at the meeting.

It was asked if anything can be done about the footpath between Hall Road and the School as there are so many weeds coming through it was agreed to take some pictures and report it on the highways reporting tool.

It was raised about the hedges in Lound Road as they are over hanging the paths. Could these be cut back to the boundary line? it was asked which houses they are and the clerk will send them a letter.

It was raised again about the fence in Lound Road as this case goes back to 2022. Cllr P Ashdown said he is still chasing this up with the planning officers.

It was reported on the reporting tool about two missing parking restriction signs at the school and was told they will be replaced but will take 14 weeks? Cllr P Ashdown said to contact Cllr K Robinson.

It was raised about the new Website that there are a few things that need to be amended and couple of changes needed before it goes live.

It was asked about the Dogs on Leads signs in the Millennium Green and that we still have not heard anything from the person who was dealing with this, it was asked to contact them again to find out where we are with this matter.

8. County Councillors Repot Cllr K Robinson Cllr E Back Both councillors sent their apology for the meeting

9. District Councillor report Cllr P Ashdown said that it was good to hear that the Planning Application has finally gone through for the metal shed at the church and that he would pay £500 towards the cost of the shed it would still need to be painted grey.

Also to say that the new authority are proposing three Councils but we will not know until September.

And let us know that if we was thinking of starting up a warm room for the winter at the Village Hall there would be some funding for this.

A Parish Councillor asked Paul how the Buzz Bus was going and said that they would help promote it through social media as more people need to use it or we will lose it.

10. Consider planning applications as listed below plus any further applications received before the meeting.

DC/25/2136/FUL|Single storey rear extension|17 Pickwick Drive Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5B

This was agreed at the meeting

11. Other Points for discussion

Approval of the following policies as circulated to the PC Member

Communications policy
Filming Photographing & Media relations,
Persistent & vexatious complaints,
Protection for children and vulnerable adults

These Policy's were all agreed at the meeting.

It was raised about the next set of Policies that we need to decide who was going to Audit our Financial End of year 2025-2026 it was agreed at the meeting that we would ask SALC and get a cost for this service.

To Discuss our Annual Play Park Inspection

The annual report was sent around to all PC Members and there are no issues pending at the moment

12. Finances - Expenditure

£6.68 HMRC Employers NI
£500 Churchyard Maintenance
£387.50 New Website and Generic Email Set
£150.00 David Bracey Annual Playpark Inspection

Income

£5.00 Clothing Recycle Bin
£844.00 VAT Reclaimed

Budget/Forecast (Quarter) Was sent around to all Parish Council members
Bank Reconciliation (Quarter) Miss M Wright has signed off the Bank Reconciliation

13. Correspondence for Information

Email from Justin Coote (Badger Builders re Barrier)
Email: Planning consultation - DC/25/2136/FUL
Outcome of Referral Panel | DC/25//0878/FUL | St Mary's Church, Church Road, Blundeston

To note the attaches appendix of items which have been circulated

14.– Emails All have been read prior to the meeting

Affordable Housing
SALC training bulletin 24th June 2025
Lowestoft and northern parishes Community Partnership
Chief executive's bulletin - 26 June 2025
June Monthly Newsletter (Cllr K Robinson)

Neighbourhood Plan funding withdrawn by Government
Events newsletter
Drink and drug driving - What will it cost you?
Suffolk Constabulary supports dementia awareness
Chief executive's bulletin - 3 July 2025
Important consultations and changes to planning appeals that parishes need to know about
Suffolkonboard bus timetable updates
NEWS BULLETIN From SALC- 14th July 2025
How would you like to be involved in planning the future of your area?
Lowestoft and Northern Parishes Community Partnership - Thursday 24 July 2025
Suffolk Constabulary launches new video to warn of the dangers courier fraud
Important update: Price increase for payroll members
Local Government Re-organisation and devolution UPDATE

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.30pm
2025

The next meeting is scheduled for, Monday ^{18th} August 2025 at 7.30pm

