



WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Parish Hall on the 2nd of July 2026 from 7.00pm

Present:

Councillors – Chas Boston (CB), William Brooks (WB), Andy Bliss (AB), Jan Luck (JL), Adrian Eveleigh (AE), Irene Hunter (IH), and Christopher MacCormick (CM).

The parish clerk.

9 members of the public

Co-option meeting was held from 6.45 to 6.55 of Mr. Richard Ford. All in favour and Mr. Ford was duly elected as a Parish Councillor.

1. Welcome from the Chairman followed by public participation: None
2. Apologies received – Cllrs Green, Kirk and Blunt
3. All Councillors were reminded of their duty to abide by the Code of Conduct.
4. Declarations of interest – None
5. Minutes approved from the Parish Council meeting on the 4th of June proposed by Cllr Brooks, seconded Cllr Luck and all in favour who were present at that meeting.

6. **Matters arising:**

National Grid update –

Cllr MacCormick gave a update from the online Liaison Group Meeting held on the 25th of June – 1st appeals, hearings, timeline, transcript – as per the National Grid documents sent out this afternoon. Small bore holes continue to be drilled in the parish. Concerns regarding the amount of HGV's accessing our small road networks The meeting was very practical with the start date end of this year early next year, with completion 2028 and 2033 for final completion on this section. Mention of a community fund up to £3m and all funding requests would be a panel decision. Group funding applications only. Cllr Boston advised that this fund amount does not state what area is covers. A number of questions did not receive straight answers but the National Grid do seem to be quite involved for the first time, however we need to involve all the other contractors/sub-contractors. Regarding Traffic Management, the sub-contractors often do not adhere to the plans and some are not aware. Cllr Boston stated that the work would not be stopped but we have to make sure they work with us. Cllr MacCormick – written confirmation will be in the transcript of the EGL Meeting that all road repairs would take place even in the event the application is denied.

7. To receive reports:

- a. Councillor's reports –
Cllr Eveleigh raised fencing and parking of an ice cream van on West Drove North and clerk to contact highways regarding ownership. ACTION: Clerk
- b. County Councillor Report – Cllr Kirk sent a report and also advised that the members fund to help Parish Councils on highways matters was no longer available.
- c. Chairman Report – regarding the Chalk Road planning application. The Clerk had issued a request to all parish councillors prior to going on leave 19.6.26, and we only had 4 responses to that date. In the past we had councillors with a good knowledge of planning and this is an important issue. Consideration of the Neighbourhood Plan is a must which considering applications. Reject then reasons to support.
Clerks Report – The new website is now up and running and compliant. 2 AGAR follow ups completed. 2nd parish councillor vacancy – one co-option form received for a co-option meeting before the September meeting.
Mr. Thistleton has requested a notice in the Crier advising residents that access to parish council allotments is classed at a roadway. Exact location to be found.
- d. Village Crier – 2 deliver volunteers are leaving with another out of action due to a broken leg. Cllr MacCormick offered to take on one and will discuss with Cllr Eveleigh.
- e. Footpath and circular walks – still no finger posts. No members fund available.
- f. Community Fund Projects Working Group – all quiet at this time.
- g. Play Area – The annual ROSPA inspection has taken place with one failure and this has been checked but no issue found – clerk to follow up. ACTION: Clerk
The quote for the swing seat replacement of £83.82 approved but the bark replacement by the swings still needs to be approved.
- h. SAM – Cllr Eveleigh reported that from 4.6.26 to 24.6.26 at Swingfield, the maximum speed was 50mph with a total of 16,356 vehicles. Average speed limit was 27.6mph. Full report on the website. This unit has had a software update and the newer unit is being repaired.
- i. Community Centre report – Cllr MacCormick gave an update that the Summer Fayre was well attended. The Garden Room will be available for our meetings from September 26 to July 27 and a projector will be available. The cladding will be completed by September.
- j. Communications and Correspondence – changes to the national planning policy read out by Cllr Boston re Neighbourhood Plans– see appendix 1
Cllr Boston read out an email from a resident regarding the 26/00877/OM outline planning application – see appendix 2
A member of the public read out a briefing note sent to the parish council – see appendix 3
The owner of the land relating to 26/00877/OM on Chalk Road advised that this was classed as a brownfield site as the glasshouses had heat provided by black oil and the site was classed as factory units. Other developments in Chalk Road had taken place. He had discussed, with the planning department, pre planning and they had advised him to go ahead with the application. A number of other nurseries in the area have been sold.

The Parish council can understand both sides of this application. Cllr Eveleigh questioned the planned access road could lead to more building at the rear of the plot. Cllr Boston though this could be against the NDP refill gaps and the parish council had not been given enough time to fully scrutinise. Cllr Brook advised that the deadline for comments was the 30th of June.

Cllr Boston advised that the objectors would have a fight on their hands as the government is pushing forward for the building of homes and will put pressure on the Borough Council.

Member of the public questioned the lack of shops, doctors and schools.

Cllr MacCormick proposed an objection, due to the late response of the application submission and the lack of time, we could not fully review the application and residents comments, seconded by Cllr Luck with all in favour except 1 abstention

Cllr MacCormick proposed an objection, taking the public interest into account, seconded by Cllr Luck with 4 for, 3 against and 1 abstention. Not carried.

Cllr Brook raised the fact that a number of councillors had put a lot of thought into their objections.

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

8.1 Applications:

26/00974/F - Proposed Replacement Dwelling including the Demolition of the Existing Dwelling at The Hollies Bustards Lane Walpole St Peter Wisbech

No observations proposed by Cllr Boston, seconded Cllr Bliss with all in favour.

26/01026/FM The installation of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) including associated infrastructure and landscaping| Land At E549215 N318554 Follens Road Walpole St Andrew Norfolk. This was objected to on the grounds that it would have an environmental impact on the nearby dwellings and using Follens Road and Gooses Lane was total unacceptable for the high volume of construction HGV traffic.

Proposed Cllr Boston, seconded Cllr Luck with all in favour.

26/01007/F| VARIATION OF CONDITIONS: 3; 4; 5; 6; 10; 11; 14; 17; 18; 19; 22; and 24 attached to Planning Permission: 24/01275/FM: Construction of a battery energy storage system and ancillary development| Land E548887 N317051 NE of White House Farm Frenchs Road Walpole St Andrew Norfolk

No observations proposed Cllr Boston, seconded Cllr Bliss with all in favour.

8.2 Decisions: None

8.3 Appeals:

26/00024/REF Self-Build Dwelling| Windsor 22 Kirk Road Walpole St Andrew Wisbech **Appeal in progress**

26/00017/COND Retrospective application of change of use of a house of six residents (care included) (C3b) to a care home up to three children aged 8-18 (C2)| 10 Folgate Lane Walpole St Andrew Wisbech Norfolk PE14 7HY **APPEAL ALLOWED**

26/00016/COND Retrospective application of change of use of a house of six residents (care included) (C3b) to a care home up to three children aged 8-18 (C2)| 8 Folgate Lane Walpole St Andrew Wisbech Norfolk PE14 7HY **APPEAL ALLOWED**

8.4 Enforcements:

26/00260/BOC|BOC - Breach of Planning Condition|10 Folgate Lane Walpole St
Andrew Wisbech Norfolk PE14 7HY PENDING CONSIDERATION

25/00563/BOC| Alleged breach of planning condition| Caravan At Hill Farm 11
Hill Farm Lane Walpole St Peter Wisbech Norfolk PE14 7JQ STILL PENDING
CONSIDERATION

25/00386/UNAUTU|UNAUTU - Unauthorised Use|3 Lucky Lane Walpole St
Andrew WISBECH STILL PENDING CONSIDERATION

9. Finance

9.1 To approve payments/receipts, bank reconciliation and statements for May &
June – proposed Cllr Bliss, seconded Cllr Brook with all in favour.

9.2 To approve payments (to date) for July – proposed Cllr Eveleigh, seconded by Cllr
Brooke and all in favour.

9.3 To approve first quarter financial review – proposed Cllr Bliss, seconded Cllr
Hunter with all in favour.

10. **Public participation:** crossing from Parish Hall to St. Peters Church

11. **Items for next agenda** – SAM unit, Planning subcommittee, zebra crossing from
Parish Hall to St. Peters Church. Please advise the clerk 7 days prior to the
September meeting date.

12. **Next meeting** will be the on the 3rd of September 2026 from 7.00pm at the
Community Centre.

Meeting closed at 20.51pm and Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

Page 4 of 4

PAYMENTS FOR JULY (TO DATE):

Clerk Expenses JUNE	£	48.95	
Clerk Salary	£	644.74	
HMRC	£	219.51	
SSE	£	128.16	direct debit
BCKLWN dog bins	£	300.64	direct debit
Parish Hall hire	£	22.00	
Walpole Mowing Man	£	500.00	
ROSPA inspection	£	133.20	

Signed

Date