. MINUTES

Blundeston & Flixton Parish Council Meeting
Held on Monday 19th October 2026

Present: - Mr K Blowers, Mrs G Soanes, Mrs D McKernan, Mrs E Sparkes, Mr C Harris, Mr P Button, Mr R Leach Cllr P Ashdown, Cllr P Sutton & 10 Parishioners were present.

In the Absence of Chairman Mr G Wade and Vice Chairman Mr S Rees Parish Councillor Mr P Button Chaired the meeting.

1. **Apologies**, Chairman Mr G Wade, Miss, E Gowen, Miss M Wright, Vice Chairman Mr S Rees

2. **Declaration of interests**: Mrs E Sparks declared an Interest in regard to point 10 DC/26/3193/FUL|Change of use of previous ground floor shop premises (Use Class F2) to a fitness and pilates studio, also offering pre-school kids music and dance classes and use as a childrens party venue. |16 The Street Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5AQ

3. **Approval of Minutes**: Minutes of the previous meetings held 21st September 2026 were approved and signed.

4. **Update on ongoing matters-**
   Village Hall Updates-The management team had two people come to look at the rendering at the Village Hall and have said that it could not be renewed as it would not stick as to much lime is present so it has been suggested that it be cladded a brochure was shown to the Councillors who have agreed that they would like to know roughly what it would cost before they decide.

   SID Board re Volunteers and Data- There are now three volunteers to help with the Sid Board and hopefully the data will be downloaded before it is moved again.

   Lakeside Notice Board- Re Lock-The keys to the left hand side door have fell off the key fob so it cannot be opened on further inspection the right hand side of the notice board door fell off so at this point it cannot be used this is an ongoing issue and will be looked into further.

   Tree Survey works needed re quote-The quote was circulated and it was agreed to go with the quote from Farmland Forestry for £485 ex vat.

5.Clerks Report-The clerk raised that the Nomination for the listing as an Asset of Community Value for the Plough Inn in Market lane will expire in December and will need to be Nominated again and asked if some councillors could help with this.

6.Public. Participation (15 mins)
A Parishioner put there points forward regarding point 10 DC/26/3193/FUL|Change of use of previous ground floor shop premises (Use Class F2) to a fitness and pilates studio, also offering pre-school kids music and dance classes and use as a childrens party venue. |16 The Street Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5AQ

They are monitoring the issue with the noise and reporting it to the environment services and are aware of neighbours 14 and 18 and the resident adjoining. It was asked what the hours would look like and it would be 8.30-19.30 7 days a week but maybe only 4 of the hours being taken up. The issue with Parking was raised and it has been agreed that the plough Inn would accommodate any over spill.

The issues raised by the Councillors in respect of this Planning Application is the concern of Sunday hours

and the Parking and the Noise if this is monitored by the owner they will except the change of use. Opening hours will be monitored by the owner and if we have an issue the Parish Council will contact the environment agency to come out.

A Parishioner let us know that they are a Road Safety officer for Blundeston School and they want to do a poster competion and asked if the winner could have their poster put up It was asked if the council would agree to putting a poster up within the village. It was agreed at the meeting to support this.

A Parishioner thanked the Thursday Night Gang again for the help in the replacement/repairs to the Beacon on the Millennium Green.

It was raised about the sewer at the end of Hall Lane that it has been blocked twice in the last couple of months.

It was asked if the Sid Board volunteers could get some High Vis vests for when they swop the battery a Councillor said he would arrange to put some out.

7. Other Parish Business (Parish Councillors)
A Councillor wanted to thank the Thursday Night Guys again for their help in the work they do in the village and to thank the three Sid Board volunteers for coming forward to help and also Emily Sparks for all her work.

It was mentioned about the Bungalows opposite the Plough Inn that there is a pathway that goes between them and there is one with a man hole cover that is raised and is now a trip hazard it was advised by Cllr P Sutton to report this on the highways reporting tool.

A Councillor let us know that the water treatment site that was raised last month will now be sited from land up at the lound Hopton boarder this is in the early stages so will not happen overnight.

8.County Councillors Report-Cllr P Sutton- let us know that National Highways has opened up a consultation on closing the gaps on the A47 it runs from 16th October for 21 days to close all the gaps between the two roundabouts Paul said he would send the link for the consultation to the clerk.

Paul also let us know about the community self-help scheme is running and it might be a good idea if Blundeston joined the scheme as this might help the Thursday Night Gang as it provides training and PPE and provides public liability insurance it will also help with tools and equipment Paul will send the clerk the link.

9. District Councillor Report -Cllr P Ashdown- Paul asked if we had an email from East Suffolk in regard to Daffodils bulbs? We have not hand one this year.

East Suffolk have spent 25 minutes going through a Tree strategy plan to sort out a tree policy which you can have a look at online.

10.Consider planning applications as listed below plus any further applications received before the meeting
DC/26/3193/FUL|Change of use of previous ground floor shop premises (Use Class F2) to a fitness and pilates studio, also offering pre-school kids music and dance classes and use as a childrens party venue. |16 The Street Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5AQ
Change of use agreed at meeting.

DC/26/3046/FUL|Full Planning Application for the demolition of existing buildings and residential development of 120 dwellings with vehicular access from Corton Long Lane, associated access parking and infrastructure, public open space (including Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace) and landscaping. |Land North of Corton Long Lane Lowestoft Suffolk
This application was not recommended

11. Other Points to discuss
Dates for 2027 Parish Council Meetings to agree

Monday 18th Jan 2027, Monday 15th Feb 2027, Monday, 15th March 2027, Monday 19h April, Monday 17th May 2027, Monday 21stJune 2027, Monday 19h July 2027, No Meeting in August 2027, Monday 20th Sept 2027, Monday 18th October 2027, Monday 15th November 2027, No meeting in December 2027.
The Dates where agreed at the meeting

To discuss the donation of the Somerleyton Telephone Box
It was agreed at the meeting that this could replace the one that got damaged at Flixton, Paul said he would contact the person responsible and the clerk would send the details over to Paul.

To agree the Budget for 2027/2028 ready to set the precept in November/December that has been sent around to all councillors.
It was agreed at the meeting to agree this in November as we still have not had a response from East Suffolk on the Precept Figures.

Bank Reconciliation July-Sept 2026 Miss M Wright to sign off
Miss M Wright has signed of the July-Sept 2026 Bank Reconciliation

Policy's
Accessibility Statement to discuss at the meeting.
The clerk spoke about the cost of this from the website provider to update the website it was going to cost £250 a year, the clerk said she would try and find a cheaper way of doing this and add it to the November agenda to discuss further.

12. **Finances** **Expenditure**

£37.20 Starboard Systems Accounting Package
£10.98 HP Ink and Paper for Clerk
£18.00 Keys cut for new notice board in the street
£4.00 clerks Expenses (Calculator)
£122.40 SALC invoice for 12 Months Payroll Service
£25.68 NI Employer Contributions
£2892.00 Adaptainer for new shed
£110.46 Back Pay clerks Salary

Income £40.00 Clothing Recycle bin
£1000.00 Locality Budget Suffolk Council for Container Paid Sept
£10,000 second payment for Precpt 2026-2027 Paid in on 30th Sept
£1115.54 Vat Reclaimed

Correspondents

Somerleyton Telephone Box

To note the attaches appendix of items which have been circulated.

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

Important Notice for our Customers Insurance
Local Plan timetable updated - Planning Policy Update
Re-opening the Call for sites

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm
The next meeting is scheduled for; Monday 16th November 2026