. MINUTES

Blundeston & Flixton Parish Council Meeting
Held on Monday 21st September 2026

Present: - Mr G Wade, (Chairman) Mr S Rees (Vice Chairman) Mr K Blowers, Mrs G Soanes, Mrs D McKernan, Miss E Gowen, Miss M wright, Mrs E Sparkes, Mr C Harris, Mr P Button , Cllr P Ashdown,Cllr P Sutton & 2 Parishioners were present.

1. **Apologies**, Mr R Leach were noted.

2. **Declaration of interests**: Miss E Gowen declared an interest in point 11 number section 5 16 The Street

3. **Approval of Minutes**: Minutes of the previous meetings held on July 2026 were approved and signed.
4. **Update on ongoing matters-**
   Village Hall Updates-The management team are getting three quotes for the cost of the outside work needed and decorating and toilets and the stage, a Councillor said to let them know and they would see if we can get any funding to help.

   SID Board re Volunteers and Data- A Councillor has put a post on Village Life asking if anyone would like to volunteer to help with the SID Board so far we have had one person come forward, it was asked if the data has been downloaded but to date this cannot be done as it needs a windows device or an android device it was agreed to see how many volunteers come forward before we buy a windows/android device.

5.Clerks Report-The Clerk mentioned that the Budget/Precept needs to be set for 2027/2028 it was agreed that the Charman Mr G Wade and Cllr Miss M Wright would help the clerk and agree a date in October.

The Clerk let the Councillors know that the ICO certificate has been accepted.

The Clerk also raised that the keys to the Lakeside notice board have fell off the key ring and that it cannot be opened and has asked if anyone can help open it.

6.Public. Participation (15 mins) A Parishioner let us know that the Wreath for Remembrance Day has been ordered, and it was agreed to do the same as last year**.**

A Parishioner let us know that the spare keys have been cut for the notice board in the street at a cost of £18.00

7. Other Parish Business (Parish Councillors)- It was raised about the Tree Survey for the Playpark and the Millennium Green that came in last month about getting a quote for the works needed it was agreed to contact Farmland Forestry who done the survey for a quote, It was asked to ask how often does the survey need to be carried out.

It was mentioned that the Defibrillator at the Plough Inn needs a new battery at a cost of £300 plus vat.It was agreed at the meeting to buy this for the community.

It was asked about the kind donation from Cllr P Ashdown for the £1000 for our new container shed and asked if we had had anything from Cllr P Sutton, Paul said he would chase this funding up as all the forms have been completed.

It was asked who owns the Pound as it has a couple of bricks missing and needs tiding up.

A Councillor wanted to thank Mr. J Smith for sorting out the locks on Notice Board in the Street

so all can access it now, and it was asked if this could be kept tidy and all out of date correspondence removed the clerk said she would check once a month.

A Councillor also wanted to say a big thankyou to the Thursday Night gang for all the hard work in replacing the Beacon on the Millennium Green and clearing the Pond.

It was raised about the fence in Lound Road, in as much as it has been years since it was raised about the height and now there has been a 7ft wall built in Flixton Road. Cllr P Ashdown said to contact the enforcement officers, Cllr P Ashdown also said he will investigate the fence again in Lound Road.

8.County Councillors Report-Cllr P Sutton- Said that Cllr P Ashdown had covered all that was needed to be reported.

9. District Councillor Report -Cllr P Ashdown, Let us know that East Suffolk Elections will be in May 2027.
The biggest change will start on the 1st November 2026 is that planning will change for the whole of East Suffolk that are going down to one planning committee and they will meet once a month they have set the committee to 11 instead of 13 he asked us all to take a look at the planning forum as there are a lot of changes as we need to build 1500 houses a year which is double the amount every think below 10 will get dedicated powers it's going to be very difficult for small applications so we need to have reasonably knowledge of what your comments and reasons are.
Over the last few weeks Lowestoft itself has been given £2 Million a year for 10 years for the poorest part of Lowestoft we want that extended out so the Community partnership are working hard with schools to try and get them to have more pride in their area.
Two question were asked
A) Who says what a poor area is or where it is ?
B) It was asked about Garden Village? Cllr P Sutton said That there is a lot of discussions in regard to the Garden Village going on now and that there is a meeting planned for next week.
Another question was asked in regard to Call for Sites Paul said that there is a meeting on Thursday and he is hoping that some of the call for sites might be discussed then.

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

August Planning

DC/26/2531/VOC|Variation of Condition No. 12 of DC/23/3191/FUL - Phased Hybrid Planning Application on 8.27 hectares of land to the north of Hall Lane and south of Union Lane, seeking outline planning permission for up to 159 no. dwellings, associated infrastructure, and public open space and a pre-school site (if required). Together with full application for 26 no. dwellings, vehicular access, associated infrastructure, and public open space. - reflect offsite BNG Credit Purchase|Land Between Hall Lane and Union Lane Oulton Suffolk
Permission Granted
DC/26/2610/LBC|**Listed Building Consent -** Structural and conservation repairs to the existing historic brick outbuilding within the courtyard of Whitehouse Farm.|Whitehouse Farm Rackhams Corner Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5LB
Permission Granted
DC/26/2499/FUL|Replacement of all existing UPVC windows with new UPVC sash windows|Blundeston House Church Road Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5AX
Permission Granted
DC/26/2500/LBC|Listed Building Consent - Replacement of all existing UPVC windows with new UPVC sash windows|Blundeston House Church Road Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5AX

Permission Granted
DC/26/2610/LBC|Listed Building Consent - Structural and conservation repairs to the existing historic brick outbuilding within the courtyard of Whitehouse Farm.|Whitehouse Farm Rackhams Corner Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5LB
Permission Granted

September Planning to Agree
DC/26/2787/VOC|Variation of Condition No. 2 of DC/26/1794/VOC - Variation of Condition No. 2 of DC/25/0660/FUL - New single storey timber building with pitched roof comprising 3 no. car ports - to amend right hand bay garage door to a Garolla insulated roller door. - To install matching doors on the remaining two bays.|Whitehouse Farm Rackhams Corner Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5LB
Permission Granted

DC/26/2316/OUT|Outline application (with all matters reserved except access) for mixed use development including up to 899 dwellings (use class C3); up to 1.6 ha of Adult Care Services (use Class C2); up to 1.52ha of commercial (use Class E(g), B2 and B8); up to 0.6ha for a local centre (use Class E and F2); up to 2.2ha for a primary school and early years facility (use Class F1a); and associated works including public open space, landscaping, Suitable Alterative Natural Green Space, access and infrastructure (phased development).|Land To The North Of Corton Long Lane And East Of The A47 Lowestoft Suffolk
Not Recommend

WA0210003 - Suffolk Water Recycling Transfer and Storage - EIA Scoping and Consultation and Regulation 11 Notification
Permission Granted

DC/26/3085/FUL|Rear and side extension|19 Orchard Close Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5AF
Permission Granted

11. Other Points for discussion
1) Council to consider delegating authority for the period when it is not meeting. The councillors would then vote on the proposal, and the resolution should be clearly recorded in the minutes.
For example, where the Council does not meet in August, the Council can resolve at their July meeting to delegate authority to the Clerk, in consultation with the Chair, to approve routine payments during August.
The same principle applies to planning applications. If applications are received between scheduled meetings and it is not practical to convene an extraordinary meeting, the Council can resolve to delegate authority to the Clerk, either generally or in defined circumstances, such as after consultation with the Chair and/or councillors by email.
This was agreed at the meeting

2) To appoint a Parish Councillor to volunteer to do an Internal Audit of our controls once a year.
Mrs G Soanes has agreed to do this again this year

3) To agree the clerks salary increase from NALC

The Clerks Salary was agreed at the meeting

4) To Discuss the Tree Safety Survey
This was discussed at point 7

5) Discuss 16 The Street re change of use
Waiting for the Planning department to send us the planning application for discussion

6) Discuss the Colour of the Village Hall for Quotes to upgrade the Hall
It was agreed that the Village Hall should stay as Suffolk Pink

Policy Updates/Review

Internal Controls Policy
Training and Development Policy
The Policy's were agreed at the meeting

12. Finances Expenditure August

£37.20 Starboard Systems Accounting Package
£10.98 HP Ink and Paper for Clerk
£9.60 John Smith (Bolts)
£9.11 NI Employer Contributions
£50,00 Donation to the Men's shed for notice board repairs
£176.70 Sunrise Installations Concrete for Beacon
£250.00 Donation to the church
£252.00 PKF Little John External A

Income August £12.00
£1000.00 East Suffolk Council for new shed

Expenditure September

£37.20 Starboard Accounting Package
£52.00 ICO Certificate Renewal
£288.00 Farmland Forestry Tree Safety report
£78.93 Clerks Expense for Monitor
£104.99 Clerks Expense for Microsoft 365 Package
£9.11 Ni Employer Contribution ?
£30.00 clerk's Telephone expenses
£10.98 HP Ink/Paper
£95.00 Waveney Pest Control Wasp nest in Play Park

Income September

£12 Clothing Recycle Bin
£57.14 Bank Interest

Correspondent
Blundeston playing field re Zipwire
Re using the playing Field
The Shop at Blundeston
16 The Street

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

14.– **Emails All have been read prior to the meeting**
Emergency Preparedness and Building Community Resilience Webinar - October 2026
NEWS BULLETIN - 3rd August 2026
Street naming and numbering - Phase 3, former prison site, Blundeston
Join Us: East Suffolk Community Partnership Forum Registration Open
News Bulletin - 25th August 2026
Local Government Re-organisation Suffolk - SALC update
WA0210003 - Suffolk Water Recycling Transfer and Storage - EIA Scoping and Consultation and Regulation 11 Notification
News Bulletin - 8th September 2026
Diplomacy, Confidentiality, and the Councillor's Code of Conduct
For information there has been a rise in thefts of power tools and garden equipment from sheds and outbuildings.
Lowestoft and Northern Parishes Community Partnership 16 September 2026
Scoping Opinion Consultation briefing
Funding for community engagement: Pride in Place Lowestoft
September Town and Parish Forum slides & Public Access Downtime update

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.20pm
The next meeting is scheduled for; Monday 19th October 2026