

. MINUTES

Blundeston & Flixton Parish Council Meeting Held on Monday 20th July 2026

Present: - Mr G Wade, (Chairman) Mr K Blowers, Mrs G Soanes, Miss E Gowen, Miss M wright, Mrs E Sparkes, Mr C Harris, & 6 Parishioners were present.

1. **Apologies,** Vice Chairman Mr S Rees, Mr R Leach, Mrs D McKernan, Mr P Button, Cllr P Sutton apologies were noted.
2. **Declaration of interests:** There was no declaration of interest at this meeting
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes of the previous meetings held on 15th June 2026 were approved and signed.
4. **Update on ongoing matters-**
Village Hall Updates-A Parish Councillor was asked by a WI member to raise a few issues about the village hall the first one is the problem with the cleaning issues and raised that the fridge is iced up, Graham said that they have a new one on order and that the cleaning issues are being dealt with.
Secondly in terms of the management Committee it was asked if the minutes could be circulated to the people on the management committee and the Parish Council, and the Parish Council should be aware of the financial position as it is a separate bank account.
It was also raised that the Chairman of the Parish Council should not be Chairman of the village hall committee as this could be a conflict of interest, this was looked into as the village hall is owned by the Parish Council and that the management Committee is just a sub-committee in accordance with our standing orders if we appoint a sub-committee we have the power to appoint the Chairman of that sub-committee this information came from the template from SALC it was agreed that everyone was happy for Graham Wade to continue as Chairman and that there is not a conflict of interest.
It was also raised how to advertise the village hall to get more income as the hall has just lost a regular income.

SID Board re Volunteers and Data- No updates this month

5.Clerks Report-Anya updated the PC on the External Audit that had come back from PkF Littlejohn
The AGAR was not accurately completed before submission for review:

- The smaller authority has confirmed that it is not a sole managing trustee. Therefore, the response to Section 2, Box 11 is incorrect and should be 'Yes'.

6.Public. Participation (15 mins) It was raised about point 10 on the agenda in regard to the planning application -DC/26/2085/FUL|Construction of a single-storey side and rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory and sunroom. Internal alterations including reconfiguration of the ground floor layout, formation of new porch entrance and associated external alterations. Erection of a detached ancillary annexe outbuilding within the rear garden for purposes incidental to the enjoyment of the dwellinghouse. Installation of rooflights/roof lantern and associated landscaping and external works.|20 Orchard Close Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5AF
Parishioners are concerned about the detached annexe as it is going to affect the neighbours outlook and the boundary fence is a concern re the guttering if it rains heavily it could wash into the neighbours' garden Cllr P Ashdown has said he will look into this planning application.

7. Other Parish Business (Parish Councillors)- Let us know that the Beacon has now been concreted in and that the burner still needs to be put on, and the dog signs have now been put up in the Millennium Green.

It was raised about the old storage container that the Thursday Night Gang use that is behind the village hall to ask if they could get a new one the cost of this would be around £2000 it was agreed to get some quotes, Cllr P Ashdown said he could use some of his budget to help fund the storage container.

It was asked if anyone new anything about the new proprietors of the shop as building work is going on and rumors have it that it might be a dance studio or a fitness center? A Councillor called in to say that there is a meeting at the village hall and would you like to give us any details of when you will be opening and was told that the Parish Council know what they need to know Cllr P Ashdown said he will check if it would need a change of use application.

A Councillor let us know that the footpath between Market Lane and the Street has now been resurfaced and the vegetation has been cut back, the Councillors thanked Gary for his persistence to the council for getting this done.

It was asked if the new notice board in the street could have the right hand side unlocked so that people could access the board it was asked if John could have a look to see what can be done.

It was raised about the phone box in Flixton Marsh Lane where the notice board is that the phone box has been hit this has been reported and the person responsible has given details to their insurance company.

It was mentioned about the Notice Board that the Lowestoft Men's Shed kindly repaired that they invoiced the Parish for Materials only and that we should kindly donate some money for the men's shed it was agreed at the meeting by all parish Councillors to donate £50.

8.County Councillors Report-Cllr P Sutton no reports given at this meeting.

9. District Councillor Report -Cllr P Ashdown-Spoke about Government Legislation coming through and there will be changes to Planning Law and Policy this should be around October this year delegated powers will be much more involved new units of up to 10 dwellings will go through East Suffolk at the moment have two planning committees one in the North and One in South this will now be amalgamated to one committee of 13 members. There will be a Parish forum meeting which we should attend. Call for sites still has not come to committee yet for decisions as to what sites will come forward.

If you have any issues with your bins, please persevere it has affected rural areas more than the towns there will be a press statement going out.

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

DC/26/2056/FUL|Single storey rear extension|The Piggeries Lowestoft Road Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5BW

This Application was recommended

DC/26/2085/FUL|Construction of a single-storey side and rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory and sunroom. Internal alterations including reconfiguration of the ground floor layout, formation of new porch entrance and associated external alterations. Erection of a detached ancillary annexe outbuilding within the rear garden for purposes incidental to the enjoyment of the dwellinghouse. Installation of rooflights/roof lantern and associated landscaping and external works.|20 Orchard Close Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5AF

This Application was recommended

DC/26/2255/VOC|Variation of Condition No. 2 of DC/22/3282/FUL - Single and two storey extensions - Smaller extension|Forevermore Hall Lane Blundeston Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 5BL

This Application was recommended

DC/26/2180/FUL|Single storey rear extension|6 Barkis Meadow Blundeston Lowestoft
Suffolk NR32 5AL
This Application was recommended

DC/26/2136/FUL|Non-habitable timber framed outbuilding (not exceeding 2.5m high, with
an area of 50 sq.m)|2 Flixton View Oulton Lowestoft Suffolk NR32 3GZ
This Application was recommended

11. Other Points for discussion

Letter from the church re Donation

It was agreed at the meeting to donate £250 as they was given a Lawn Mower earlier in the year.

Overgrown footpaths

They have all been cut back now the Parish Council thanked the Parishioners for cutting back the vegetation.

Policy Updates/Review

Communication Policy

Filming, Photographing, & Media Relations Policy

Persistent and Vexatious complaints Policy

Protection of Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy

The above policies were agreed at the meeting

12.	Expenditure	£37.20	Starboard Systems Accounting Package
		£10.98	HP Ink and Paper for Clerk
		£250.00	Pear Space .GOV.UK Domain Renewal
		£9.11	HMRC Employer NI Payment (July)
		£20.55	John Smith Materials from Smith Bros Timber
		£40.00	Lowestoft Men's Shed Refurbished Notice Board
		£2940.00	Village Hall Fire Alarm Repairs (CIL)

Income £22.00 Clothing Recycle Bin
£250.05 Vat Reclaimed 1st April-30th June 2026

Bank Reconciliation April-June 2026 Miss M Wright to Sign Off
Budget/Forecast Sent to all Parish Councillors

Correspondent

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

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

Local Plan Briefings - Slides, Questionnaire and Poster

Chief executive's bulletin - 25 June 2026

Register of Interests - please make your Councillors aware - no need to share their home address from 29 June 2026

Temporary Use Ban (hosepipe ban) across the East of England

Consultation: Draft East Suffolk Tree & Hedgerow Strategy

Self Help scheme (Cllr P Sutton)

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.05pm

The next meeting is scheduled for; Monday 21st September 2026

