

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF HEVINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 3RD MARCH 2026 IN THE VILLAGE HALL

Present:

Cllr S Ward (Chair)
Cllr D Holmes
Cllr T Palmer
Cllr T Bambridge
Cllr S M Ward
Cllr A Bunn
Cllr G Peruzzi
Cllr C Alpe
Cllr H Cox
Cllr E Mills
Mrs K Medler (Clerk via Teams)

Parishioners: 2

In attendance: County Cllr D Roper

1. OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Residents wished to voice their concerns about planning application 2026/0074 as it shows the applicant owns their property, which they do not - they are not connected or related to them in any way - which could potentially affect their Council Tax. Also, they have concerns over security of the site and their property. When the gates on the site are locked vehicles will still be able to gain access by using their driveway.

It was agreed by the Chairman that planning item 6eii) should be brought forward so the Council's response could be agreed in conjunction with the residents present as the Council's comments had not yet been submitted to BDC.

6. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

e. Planning

ii) Applications considered in between meetings

Cllr G Peruzzi advised he has visited the application site and spoken to the applicant. There are sensor cameras on the site already which alert several people if triggered. Any excess rainwater is likely to dissipate into the nearby lakes. There are two gates in situ already which do give a level of security. Access will be during current working hours only.

Following discussions, it was felt the Council could not object or support either way without further information and so it was agreed the Clerk should submit 'comments' only highlighting the need to address residents' concerns over security, traffic and access with signage erected and one singular entrance into the site to mitigate the impact on the residents of 27.

2 members of the public left the meeting at 19:54pm

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were accepted from Cllr I Nickalls.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATION REQUESTS

Cllr G Peruzzi declared an interest in item 6b. Cllr Peruzzi is not required to leave the room when 6b is discussed as he has a dispensation which allows him to stay unless rents are being discussed. There were no additional dispensation requests.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on the 13th January 2026 were agreed by all.

County Cllr D Roper joined the meeting at 19:55

5. MATTERS ARISING

- The Clerk is still awaiting confirmation of the defibrillator training dates but this has been chased.
- Cty Cllr D Roper is still waiting to hear concerning the extension of the gritting route to the School.
- The Chairman advised the hot water at the Village Hall is still being investigated.
- The Clerk advised Norse have now set out the football pitch again and a local resident will keep it refreshed.
- The Clerk authorised the handyman to cut the neighbours hedge following a majority agreement by Councillors in between meetings.

6. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION

a. Finance

i) Accounts for payment

The following accounts had already been paid and were approved:

SSE (Electricity for January – paid by Direct Debit)	£99.47
Mrs K Medler (Expenses)	£84.99
Anglian Water Business (National) Ltd (Water on HP allotments)	£92.61

The following accounts were presented for payment and were approved:

Norse Eastern Ltd (Football pitch re-marking)	£105.91
R Wichell (Works at Village Hall as agreed)	£870.00

The Clerk's standing order was paid on the 5th February and will be paid again on the 5th March.

The following receipts were noted:

Barclays bank (Interest)	£14.47
Mrs K Medler (Overpayment to Clerk due to tax code change)	£213.15

Balance at the bank at the end of February was £23,133.93. The Clerk supplied Councillors with a breakdown of Receipts / Expenditure against the Budget for the year to date for reference.

It was noted that both Barclays and the Cambridge Building Society have decreased their interest rates again.

ii) Barrier at Village Hall

Cllr G Peruzzi informed the Council on sizes and prices for his suggestion of smaller individual barriers just around the main field, with an access gate for pedestrians / vehicles. All agreed Cllr G Peruzzi should measure and fully cost out this option as it would appear to be a better alternative to the height restriction barrier originally considered. An installer will also be needed and this will be investigated once the full extent of the work is known.

iii) Internal auditor for year ending 31 March 2026

The Clerk has confirmed with the auditor the Council have been using for the past few years that she is happy to complete this again this year for the same price as last year. This was accepted by all.

b. Village allotments

i) Updates

- The January inspection was missed however the February inspection confirms all is in order.
- Cllr G Peruzzi stated the roadway is very muddy now which is being exacerbated by vehicles driving and parking on it. The Clerk confirmed vehicles should only be unloading then parking in the car park so will issue a reminder to all tenants.

ii) New issues

- Only mud as above.

c. Village Hall play area repairs

- The Clerk has authorised Norse to complete the outstanding repairs following receipt of one other quotation. The handyman will be dealing with the gardening aspects highlighted.
- Following discussions, it was agreed the youth shelter will not be repaired for now and Councillors will seek a more suitable alternative.
- The Clerk stated that some items could do with a good clean again and it was agreed she should contact the Company who cleaned them before to see if they would help.

d. Complaints Policy

The Clerk had previously circulated a proposed Policy and this was agreed by all.

e. Planning

i) New applications:

None.

iii) Outcomes of previous applications:

Nothing to report. All applications and details of any conditions applied can be viewed on BDC's website.

f. Highway Matters

Cllr C Alpe mentioned that parking on The Street near to the junction with the A140 Cromer Road is becoming a real issue. The Clerk advised double yellow lines were recently requested along there but in October Highways responded saying 'they have no plans to install yellow lines on The Street at the location requested'. Cty Cllr D Roper said this is really an enforcement issue for the Police. Following discussions, it was agreed the Clerk should put a post on the Hevingham People Facebook page asking people to send evidence of the issue to the Clerk so she can build up a case to send to the Police and Highways.

7. MATTERS TO REPORT

a. Correspondence

None.

b. Clerks Report

The Clerk advised she has reviewed the Freedom of the Parish Policy and no changes are needed.

c. Village Hall Report

- A few changes will be taking place after the Parish Council's meeting in May: The lounge is being refurbished and there will be new carpet and lights. This is being partly grant funded.
- Thanks to a grant from Cty Cllr D Roper a new permanent stage is being installed.
- The Police Cadets will soon be using the Hall for training and discussions are taking place with a group involved in helping people with autism, around hiring the Hall on a regular basis.
- Thanks to a grant from Cty Cllr D Roper and crowd funding the Hevingham Tots are now able to buy some new tables which will take up less space than the existing. The existing tables will be sold.

d. Police Report

The Clerk advised there was 1 crime recorded in the village during December: 1x Other Theft (on or near The Street) and 4 crimes in January: 2x Violent & Sexual Offence (on or near Halls Corner and Town Corner) and 2x Other Crime (on or near Nelson Way and Town Corner). There is no information available yet for February. Further information can be accessed via www.police.uk.

e. Reports

District Councillor Report

- The District part of Council Tax has been frozen for the second year running with no loss to services due to good management.
- Elections for NCC will be taking place on the 7th May 2026 and due to boundary changes, we will lose Cllr D Roper – we will be sad to see him go. It was noted that Cllr Roper has been in this post for 13 years.
- Any issues with dog waste bins can now be reported directly to BDC by residents online.
- Broadland Country Park visitors centre should be completed this year and will retain its name, even if BDC ceases.
- BDC had planned to be carbon neutral by 2030 but it is now looking like this will be achieved by 2028.

County Councillor Report

- Cllr D Roper is pleased to say that £2,500 worth of grants have recently been given to the village.
- The Local Government reorganisation announcement is expected any day but due to the upcoming elections NCC will not be able to do anything regarding this until after the elections. Likewise, the Statutory Instrument on devolution will not be able to be signed until after the elections.
- The Budget has been agreed and households will see a 5% increase on the County part of their Council Tax bill. This is because rural communities make it difficult to keep this low due to social care and children's services.

Cty Cllr D Roper left the meeting at 20:44

8. MATTERS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Barriers and the youth shelter at the Village Hall.

Next meeting is on 7th April 2026 in the Village Hall.

Cllr H Cox commented on how impressed she was with BDC clearing fly tipping in the village, when it was recently reported and felt it should be minuted. It was noted that whilst the Parish Council cannot stop this, if residents report to BDC it can at least be cleared quickly.

The meeting ended at 20:47