

Minutes of the Bintree Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 26th March 2026 at 7.00 p.m. in Foulsham Baptist Church, Foulsham

Councillors Present:- Cllr C Bone, Cllr J Hoskins, Cllr T Stephens, Cllr J Bayley, Cllr J Westbrook and Cllr L Hollings

Other Members Present: - Mrs G Hubbard, Clerk

1. Welcome by the Chairman and to consider accepting apologies for absence.

Cllr Hoskins welcomed those present to the meeting There were no apologies received.

2. To receive declarations of interest and consideration of any requests for dispensation.

There were no interests to declare or requests for dispensation.

3, To co-opt onto the Parish Council Mr Scott Westbrook.

Cllr Hoskins proposed Mr Scott Westbrook for the position of Parish Councillor, seconded by Cllr Bone and carried.

4. To receive from Mr Westbrook the signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

The Clerk received the signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office form from Mr Westbrook.

5. To confirm and accept the minutes of the meeting held on 29th January.

The minutes had been circulated. Cllr J Westbrook proposed the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr Hoskins and carried. Cllr Hoskins signed the minutes.

6. To discuss any matters arising from the minutes of January (not on the agenda).

The idea of a village fete was discussed briefly but it will be discussed in more detail under agenda item no 10.

Public Participation Period

No members of the public were present.

7. To discuss any correspondence received.

An email had been received from Mr G Frost regarding the play equipment needed on the playing field. He reported that the grant money has now been received and NGF Play have been asked to commence refurbishment of the playing field equipment. NGF Play are busy at the moment but they have been asked to attend to the swings and nest swing as early as they can. At the moment he does not actually know when the work will be done but hopefully soon for safety sake.

8. To authorise any necessary Financial Payments.

Cllr Hoskins proposed the following finances be authorised for payment, seconded by Cllr Stephens, and carried.

Clerk's net salary for Feb. and March £418.60 Clerk's expenses for Feb. and March £45.55
HMRC Tax for February and March £104.60
Norfolk Parish Training & Support subs. £90.00

Since the January meeting, a bank charge of £4.25 was taken in January and again on 31st March. A direct debit of £47.00 was paid for the Information Commissioner's Office and £50.00 was paid to Foulsham Baptist Church for using the room for Parish Council meetings.

Village Green (Bintree Woods) Walkover Rights Contract Review. Last year a contract was set up for the Village Green (Bintree Woods) Walkover Rights. An amount is paid every year to have the right to use it. An invoice will be sent to Mr Garrod and the amount on the invoice will be £50.00.

9. To receive a financial update from the Clerk.

The document had been circulated and no-one had any questions regarding it.

10. To discuss the idea of a Village Fete & money paid into the Parish Council account in 2022.

Some money was paid into the Parish Council account on 15th July 2022; the amount was £81.56. It was thought this money was raised to be put towards the cost of a Village Fete. The idea of a few Coffee Mornings being held was discussed, and this will enable people to learn what the intentions are. Some discussions will take place amongst some Parish Councillors and the outcomes can be reported back at the next Parish Council meeting. A Village Fete could take place in 2027, the date of Sunday 22nd August was suggested as a possibility. Discussions on this idea will be on-going.

11. To discuss any Planning Issues.

PL/2026/0281/HOU Forest Lodge, Field Barn Lane, Bintree, single storey side and rear extension with raised patio. The Parish Council has no objections to the planning application.

12. To gather concerns with Highways around the village, inc. road sweeping

Update on potholes.

Some pot holes have been repaired. The quality of the work done on the pot holes is not good and rubbish has been left behind. Cllr Bone is going to put in a complaint to Norfolk County Council regarding the work.

13. To discuss a quote from Mr Galley re Cutting of hedgerow & quote from John Groundscape.

The Clerk will contact Mr Galley stating that his quote is acceptable and ask him if he can carry out the work in September. Cllr Bone will contact Groundscape regarding getting a quote for churchyard grass cutting and grass cutting in the cemetery.

14. To receive an update regarding the footpaths situation.

On 29th January two signs were put up by Norfolk County Council. The notice says 'Land Owner please contact us'.

15. To discuss purchasing signs for the defibrillator box to cover the telephone panel.

A set of 4 stickers would cost £96.00. It was decided that the Parish Council would approach Bintree Relief in Need Charity for the funding.

16. To receive an update on the grant situation for new play equipment.

This was discussed under agenda item no 7.

17. To discuss the Breckland District Council Community (land) transfer Policy.

There was some discussion regarding some land at Cubbitts Close but eventually it was decided the Parish Council did not wish to take ownership.

18. To discuss the update regarding training for new Parish Councillors.

Norfolk Parish Training and Support are holding a training session on May 7th and some of the Parish Councillors were interested in attending.

19. To receive items for the next agenda.

To appoint the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council for the forthcoming year.
To adopt the end of year accounts.

20. To confirm date, time and venue of the next Parish Council meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday May 21st at 7.00 p.m. and it will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. It was decided that this year there will not be an Annual Parish Meeting but certain people will be invited to attend the Annual Parish Council Meeting.

There being no further business to discuss, Cllr Hoskins declared the meeting closed at 8.30 p.m. and thanked everyone for their attendance.

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Chairman

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Date