

Minutes of the Annual Bintree Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday May 28<sup>th</sup> 2025 at 7.45 p.m. in St. Swithun's Church, Bintree

Councillors Present:- Cllr G Holmes, Cllr C Bone and Cllr J Hoskins

Other Members Present: - Mrs G Hubbard, Clerk and 1 elector.

**1. To elect the Chairman of the Parish Council for the forthcoming year.**

Cllr Bone proposed Cllr Hoskins for the position of Chairman of the Parish Council for the forthcoming year, seconded by Cllr Holmes and carried. Cllr Hoskins accepted the position.

**2. Clerk to receive signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.**

The Clerk received the signed Declaration of Acceptance form.

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

Cllr Hoskins welcomed those present to the meeting. There were apologies received from Cllr Stephens and these were accepted. Dist. Cllr Gordon Bambridge also sent apologies for absence.

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

None were received.

**5. To elect the Vice Chairman of the Parish Council for the forthcoming year.**

Cllr Hoskins proposed Cllr Bone for the position of Vice Chairman of the Parish Council for the forthcoming year, seconded by Cllr Holmes and carried. Cllr Bone accepted the position.

**6. To confirm and accept the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2025.**

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

**7. To discuss any matters arising from the minutes of March (not on the agenda).**

There were no matters arising.

**Public Participation Period**

There was some discussion regarding trying to use the \Church for more events. At the moment, it is Open Studio Time and the idea of using the Church for displays by artists was debated. Everyone thought that was a good idea, as the artists would be able to display their work and show it to the public.

**8. To discuss any correspondence received.**

A letter had been received from Norfolk Age UK asking for a donation to their charity. Cllr Hoskins proposed a donation of £25.00 be sent, seconded by Cllr Holmes and carried.

**9. To adopt the end of year accounts.**

Cllr Bone proposed these be adopted, seconded by Cllr Hoskins and carried.

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**10. To adopt the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, the Certificate of Exemption and the Annual Governance Statement for year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.**

Cllr Hoskins proposed these be adopted, seconded by Cllr Bone and carried.

**11. To discuss the Auditor's report and discuss the auditor for the forthcoming year.**

The report had been circulated. There were a few points mentioned in the report and the Clerk will deal with these before the end of the next financial year. The Parish Council agreed to retain the services of C Morton as auditor for the next financial year.

**12. To authorise any necessary Financial Payments.**

The Parish Council agreed to pay the necessary finances:-

Clerk's net salary for April and May	£405.68	Tax for April and May	£101.20
Clerk's expenses for April and May	£49.55	Auditor's fee	£25.00
Norfolk Age UK – donation	£25.00		

**13. To receive a financial update from the Clerk.**

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

**14. To receive an update regarding the new grass cutting situation.**

The Parish Council is very happy with the quality of the work being carried out by the new contractor, Groundscape.

**15. To discuss any Planning Issues (if necessary).**

There were no matters to discuss.

**16. To discuss Highways Matters.**

To gather any current concerns with highways around the village.

Cllr Bone has spent the last 6 months trying to find out when the collapsed pipe will be dealt with. He has now been told that the work will be done in a few weeks' time. The pipe will be mended and the drains cleared. Pot holes have been marked out ready to be dealt with. Cllr Borrett will need to be contacted to try to find out from him if he has any news regarding the roadside reserves and why there are now 4 new ones on Stone Lane. There are plastic posts concreted in and the Parish Council would like to know why they are there, so the Clerk will contact him.

Some investigation will be done regarding cutting the hedges, so it will go on the next agenda.

**17. To discuss footpaths.**

There is an issue on the Twyford to Foulsham footpath gate. Cllr Bone is trying to get a new gate organised but he is not finding it possible to do this. He now knows who owns the field, so he is going to continue trying to get this problem sorted out. He will continue with this problem.

**18. To discuss with Dist. Cllr Bambridge the Twyford Wetland Area**

As Cllr Bambridge was not present, it will be discussed at the next meeting, if he is present.



**19. To discuss the outcome of the recent Breckland Local Plan Meeting.**

This was discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting, earlier that evening. Cllr Cutcher from Billingford sent a very good report after attending the Breckland Council meeting a few days ago. Billingford Parish Council will object to the 75 houses being proposed on the field next to the Manor House. The Parish Council is not against all houses but 75 is far too many on this site. The Parish Council will also support Billingford in their objection to the proposed development off the Bintree – Billingford road, just north of the church.

**20. To discuss the need for additional Parish Councillors.**

Cllr Hoskins has spoken to a resident regarding joining the Parish Council and he will receive a response later in the year.

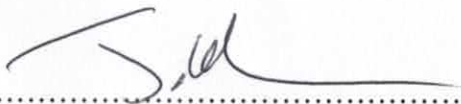
Mrs Bayley, who was present at the meeting, said she was happy to join the Parish Council, so she will be co-opted onto the Parish Council at the next meeting.

**21. To receive items for the next agenda.**

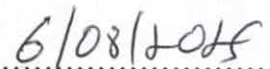
Co-option of Mrs Jean Bayley onto the Parish Council,  
To discuss with Dist. Cllr Bambridge the Twyford Wetland Area.  
To discuss cutting back the hedges.

**22. To set date, time and venue of the next Parish Council meeting.**

The next meeting will take place on either 4th or 6<sup>th</sup> August 2025 at 7.30 p.m. in St. Swithun's Church, Bintree. There being no further business to discuss, Cllr Hoskins declared the meeting closed at 9.15 p.m. and thanked everyone for their attendance.



Chairman



Date