

BARTON BENDISH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 9th July 2025 commencing at 7.30pm in Barton Bendish Village Hall

Present: Cllr R Simon, Cllr A Stephen, Cllr P Swallow, Cllr S Tilburn (Vice Chairman in the chair), Cllr T Webster, Cllr D Wells.

Sharon Sweet - Parish Clerk

Borough Councillor – Sue Lintern (joined 8.05pm)

No members of the public were in attendance

1. **To receive apologies for absence**
Apologies received from Cllr W Chapman (work commitments)
2. **To receive Declaration of Interests and any requests for dispensation**
None.
3. **To agree the minutes of the annual meeting 14th May 2025**
The minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting on 14th May 2025, having been circulated to all prior to the meeting, were **AGREED** as correct. The Vice Chairman signed the minutes.
4. **Public forum for members of the public to comment on agenda items, and updates from Borough and County Councillors**
Apologies were received from Norfolk County Councillor B. Long. See post-meeting note for the Borough Councillor's update.
No members of the public were present. Cllr Simon advised that he and other councillors had been contacted directly. One comment received was that the village sign should be rotated 90 degrees; another comment raised concern about private hedges along Fincham Road that required cutting back. The Clerk advised that residents should be encouraged to report highways matters, including overgrown hedges, directly to Norfolk County Council. If unsure who to contact, residents can use the Fix My Street platform to submit their concerns.
5. **To consider any suitable schemes for the NCC Parish Partnership Scheme 2025-26**
Noted, no schemes identified at this time.
6. **To consider join the CPRE Norfolk - Solar Alliance (free to join)**
Members discussed the 'Solar Alliance' and while councillors felt it was not something the council should join, the option for individuals to sign up was noted.
7. **To approve signing the DDM for the parish council mobile contract**
It was **AGREED** to sign a DDM for the council mobile contract.
8. **To note street furniture licence for the 2 grit bins on Boughton Long Road have been applied for. To agree on the size of grit bins to be ordered**
It was **AGREED** to purchase 2x Nestor 400 grit bins £248.45 ex VAT.
9. **Administrative Matters**
 - a) To consider and approve Standing Orders and Financial Regulations
It was **AGREED** to approve the Norfolk Parish Training and Support smaller council Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

The Clerk advised that, since the publication of the meeting agenda, they had reconfirmed the Parish Council's compliance with the Pension Regulator's re-enrolment requirements. This was noted by members.

Chairman's signature.....

Date.....

10. To review assets for any maintenance requirements

It was noted the village sign may require some maintenance. The clerk asked members if they would like to establish an earmarked reserve using £500 from the defibrillator earmarked reserve, as this was sufficiently funded.

It was **AGREED** to establish an earmarked reserve for future village sign repairs and to transfer £500 from the defibrillator earmarked reserve.

11. Finance

- a. **To authorise payments and note any monies received** - the following payments were **AGREED**:

Payee	Amount	Type	Description
S Sweet	£ 723.66	SO	Clerk salary & allowance (July & August)
Unity Trust	£ 30.00	BACS	monthly bank charge (April – August 2025)
SLCC	£ 110.00	BACS	annual membership
NorALC	£126.00	BACS	website fee

The following receipts were noted:

HMRC	£ 135.05	BACS	VAT claim back for 01.06.23 – 31.03.25
Unity Bank	£ 59.04	BACS	Quarterly bank interest (savings acc)

- a) **To review and sign cash book reconciliation** - - the Cash Book had been reconciled to 1st July 2025 and was confirmed by sight of the bank statement to the Vice Chairman
- b) **To receive budget monitoring document and consider any recommendations** - the budget monitoring document was reviewed, and no concerns were raised.

12. To consider planning applications received from the Borough Council. Any applications received after the issuing of this agenda will also be considered at the meeting:

- a) **25/01005/F - Change of use from offices to dwelling and artist studio with minor alterations, and conversion and extension of outbuilding to artist accommodation at The Old School House Fincham Road Barton Bendish King's Lynn Norfolk PE33 9DL.**
It was **AGREED** to support the application.

13. To note planning decisions from the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk

Since the issuing of the agenda for this meeting, the following application had been permitted by the Borough Council under delegated decision. **25/00501/F – Proposed horse arena at Blandings Church Road Barton Bendish King's Lynn Norfolk PE33 9GF.**

14. To receive items for inclusion on the next agenda

None.

15. To confirm meeting dates 2026: 14th Jan; 11th March; 13th May; 8th July; 9th Sept; 11th Nov

It was **AGREED** to confirm the above dates.

16. To confirm date of next meeting as Wednesday 3rd September 2025 7.30pm Barton Bendish Village Hall

The date was confirmed.

Meeting closed 8.01pm

Post meeting note: Borough Councillor Lintern was delayed, due to attending meetings elsewhere, and arrived at the Village Hall at 8:05pm. BCllr Lintern provided a verbal update from the Borough Council, which included:

- An update on the Local Government Reform
- An update on proposed changes to planning dept operations at the Borough Council (a reduced size planning committee; possibly up to 95% of planning apps being decided by officers; ward councillors no longer able to 'call in' planning applications)

Chairman's signature.....

Date.....