

Culford, West Stow and Wordwell Parish Council

MINUTES

of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held at Culford Village Hall on

Thursday 30th July 2026 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Rachael Salt, Cllr Paul Luke, Cllr Andrew Miller, Cllr Paul Turnill, Cllr David Fisher

In attendance: Christine Mason (Clerk to the Council), District Cllr Susan Glossop, County Cllr Tim Kent, Andy Moore SCC Highways Technical Engineer and fifteen members of the public.

1. Apologies

All present.

2. Declaration of Interests

- a. To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature –none.
- b. To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda, and their nature –none.

3. Minutes

Proposed and seconded that the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 28th May 2026 be approved and signed by the Chair as a true record – all in favour.

4. Co-option

Following applications to be co-opted to the parish council, it was unanimously agreed candidates Graham Sutton and Katie Green be approved. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed. The Register of Interests paperwork to be sent separately. An application from a third candidate was deferred until the next parish council meeting.

5. County & District Councillor Reports

Cllr Susan Glossop: Owing to the August Bank Holiday, bins will be emptied one day later for one week; in relation to the Government's proposed use of RAF Barnham to accommodate asylum seekers, the Home Office using the Government's emergency powers has submitted an Urgent Crown Development application to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. This means West Suffolk Council will not be asked to decide on any planning application but will instead be a Consultee. In response to concerns regarding works being carried out at Newmarket Farm without planning permission, this falls under permitted use of agricultural land and therefore consent is not required.

Cllr Tim Kent: The Community Liaison Engineer is collating a jetting brief to unlock the Icklingham Road gullies including lifting ironwork; response received that Rats Hall Corner is not suitable for stop lines and signage as they need at least 150m of visibility when 3.00m back from the line markings; rotten public footpath sign post reported; response to Culford resident who has been seeking a concealed entrance sign. Unfortunately, this is not a prescribed option but advice was provided for increasing vision splays by trimming hedges and verges and potential enforcement with the landowner; at a cost of up to £500.000 the leader of SCC has instigated a judicial review to look at the decision made by the previous administration relating to Unitary Councils.

6. Public Forum

Discussion relating to Rat's Hall Corner with SCC highways Engineer Andy Moore:

Following lively debate, residents were invited to feedback to the Parish Council, with a copy to Cllr Tim Kent, their ideas to make Rat's Hall Corner safer for motorists. Ideas will be forwarded to Andy Moore, and if feasible, further investigation will be undertaken.

To be noted: In relation to conflicting accident statistics it is important when reporting an incident to record the police unique reference number.

7. Rolling Action Log update

Deferred to the next meeting.

8. Planning & Environment

DC26/1064/TPO

Proposal Location Applicant TPO 063(1980) tree preservation order - one Sycamore (marked on plan) crown lift to three metres above ground level Pumping Station Icklingham Road West Stow Suffolk Anglian Water Services Ltd - 686151 The above application can be viewed by downloading it from the planning section

No objections.

DC/26/0735/LB

Application for listed building consent - a. structural works to lounge room chimney b. repair and refurbish floor in great hall c. addition of lime render to colonnade first floor elevations d. structural stitch repairs to east elevation turret e. re point mortar joints on east elevation turret and north elevation house f. ridge repair roof and gable tiles West Stow Hall Icklingham Road West Stow Suffolk IP28 6EY

No objections.

9. Finance

- a. The schedule of receipts and payments and cheques to be authorised at the meeting was unanimously approved.
- b. The bank reconciliation ending 29th June 2026 was unanimously approved. The finance report to be appended to the minutes.
- c. A quotation to purchase two solar speed devices at a cost of £2,3339.49 and two new poles at a cost of £1,278, plus vat, was agreed in principle pending approval of a grant from both Cllr Kent and Cllr Glossop.

10. RAF Barnham

Heard in agenda item 5. No further discussion.

11. Inappropriate incidents at Culford School

Following contact by the Head of Culford School concerning inappropriate and anti-social behaviour at the school, it was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council will continue to support the school to ensure that visitors to the grounds behave in accordance with the rules.

12. Councillor reports and items for future agendas

a. Follow up with Andy Moore, SCC Highways, subsequent to the public session at which residents were invited to send their thoughts to the parish council on how safety measures at Rat's Hall Corner could be implemented to reduce speeding and accidents; the posts to the Wordwell village sign are non-existent and require reinstating, Andy Moore to provide a quotation, Cllr Turnill to send details including a photo.

b. Resolution required by Lloyds Bank in order to change signatories to the existing bank mandate: *'At the meeting of the Culford, West Stow and Wordwell Parish Council on 30th July 2026 it was agreed in accordance with the Constitution and Rules that the following changes are to take effect upon the Bank's receipt of this form.*

John Millward and Margaret Penwin are to be removed as signatories from the above account held with Lloyds Bank.

We confirm that Paul Turnill, Paul Luke and Andrew Miller are to be added as new signatories to the account held with Lloyds Bank.

We hereby confirm that the above resolution is in accordance with the Constitution and Rules of the Organisation'

13. Date of next meeting

Confirmed as Thursday 24th September 2026 at 7.30pm.

With no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.