

ASHWELLTHORPE AND FUNDENHALL PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 28th July 2026 7:30pm at St Nicholas Church

Present: Cllr J Ives Chair, Cllr C Eastwood Vice-Chair, Cllr S Tyree, Cllr R Burrridge, Cllr B Morris and N Bailey Parish Clerk

In attendance: District Cllr B McClenning, County Cllr Thomas & four members of the public.

076 Apologies: Cllr H Edwards – Accepted.

077 Declarations of Interest: Cllr Tyree - Pecuniary interest as he is planning applicant for 2026/1810

078 Parish Councillor Vacancy – no nominations had been received. **Resolved** to include an item on the September agenda.

Public open forum – see minute 082

County Councillors report: County Councillor Thomas gave an update and answered questions. The report was available <https://www.ashwellthorpeandfundenhall-pc.gov.uk/minutes-agendas>

The Parish Clerk will collate from members and forward to Cllr Thomas parish priorities relating to the work of the County Council. Speeding through the villages she represents is a common concern. Annual Members grants had been diverted to central funding to support the Fire Brigade.

Cllr Robin Hunter-Clarke, Deputy Leader of Norfolk County Council had today written to all Norfolk Parish Councils confirming the annual Parish Partnership Grant Scheme will be available for bids to be delivered in 2027/28.

District Councillors report: District Councillor McClenning gave an update and answered questions. The report was available <https://www.ashwellthorpeandfundenhall-pc.gov.uk/minutes-agendas>

079 Resolved to approve the Minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd June 2026 without amendment. They were duly signed by the Chair.

080 To consider matters arising from these minutes

- a) The review of policies listed will be at the September meeting
- b) Supporting H&S documentation for the pond clearance had been received from the contractor. The cost had been confirmed as £550.

081 Planning 2026/1810 Applicant: Mr S Tyree The Old Granary Off Top Row Ashwellthorpe NR16 1ET Proposal: Conversion of storage area into office accommodation. **Resolved to recommend approval**

082 Speed Awareness Machine

Speeding in general was discussed at length during public participation along with Community Speed Watch (a calibrated speed gun) and the Speed Awareness Machine. Every effort will be made to support volunteers but there were some operational issues which needed more consideration. Several actions were agreed to move matters forward.

The Chair will speak to the police to see if they can monitor speed along The Street whilst traffic was being diverted from the closure of the B1135 near Hethel Engineering Centre.

www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/planning/future-development/infrastructure-delivery/b1135-hethel-roundabout-and-link-road

083 To consider quotes for War Memorial maintenance

Cllrs Eastwood and Tyree to review quotes and make a recommendation at the September meeting.

084 Finance and governance

a) To note the councils financial standing & bank balance of £18,308.60 at 30th June 2026. It was noted that the second precept payment was due end of September so the £12,500 contribution towards the traffic calming measures can be released.

b) **Resolved** to approve the quarterly bank reconciliation which had been checked in detail by Cllr Morris.

Resolved to recommend approval of the following payments and forecasted expenditure:

HMRC	Tax / National Insurance	£131.05	R021
Parish Clerk	June Net Pay	£442.77	R022
Npower	Streetlights electricity	£38.09 plus VAT	R023
Omashe Gardens	Grounds maintenance 3	£357.50 see min 69	R024
Defib World	Defibrillator	£210.99 plus VAT	R025

085 Thorpe Hall Trustees Update

Enquiries were pending with the Trust's insurance providers over tennis court fencing replacement.

SPOOKS and SPARKS was planned as a community event for Saturday 31st October 7pm. Friday quiz nights and Open Gardens were examples of other activities to explore. **Resolved** to cordon off the parish-maintained play area for the duration of the ticket only Halloween event.

086 Fundenhall Community Trust Land Proposal

Carol Eastwood (Secretary to FCT) had kindly sent notes and explained that matters were being explored via the PCC with advice from the Registrar of the Diocese. Thanks were expressed to the Parish Council for considering the principle of transferring the lease.

087 Picnic Benches

Two wheelchair accessible octagonal picnic benches will cost iro £1,500 plus VAT and delivery. Made from recycled plastic they were very heavy and considered suitable for locations discussed. A £1,000 grant had been awarded from Bracon Ash Solar Ltd towards the cost. **Resolved to purchase two benches from Earth Anchors and install one at each Parish Church subject to consent.**

088 Correspondence - A planning enforcement issue was still being investigated by the District Council

089 To consider items for discussion at the next meeting – None.

090 Date of next meeting – Tuesday 22nd September 2026 at 7:30pm at Thorpe Hall

The meeting finished at 8:45pm