

BARKING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at Barking village hall at 7.00pm on Thursday 20th November 2025

Present

Cllr R Fellowes (*Chair*), Cllr A Ross, Cllr M Anderson and Cllr Bailey

In Attendance

District Cllr D Pratt and County Councillor K Oakes

Mrs L Rogers *Clerk*

Bpc58/25 Apologies

Cllr M Tabberer, and Cllr S Butler

Bpc/59/25 Election of Chairman

Cllr Fellowes was elected as Chairman for the meeting

Bpc60/25 Declaration of Interests and Applications for Dispensation

No interests were declared and no requests for dispensation had been received.

Bpc61/25 To Approve Minutes of the Meeting held on 18th September 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th September 2025 were approved by the councillors and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Bpc62/25 Report from County Cllr Kay Oakes

Cllr Oake's report was circulated to the Councillors – no matters to discuss (appendix 3).

Bpc63/25 Report form District Cllr Dan Pratt

Cllr Pratt's report was circulated to the Councillors - no matters to discuss (appendix 2).

Bpc64/25 Public Forum

No matters raised

Bpc65/25 Planning Matters

- a. Mid Suffolk have given permission for DC/25/03405: Full Application - Conversion & Alterations To Existing Agricultural Barn To Create A New Dwelling, Erection of Replacement Cart Lodge and Change Of Use Of Associated Land to Residential Amenity. Location: Grinstead Barn, Needham Road, Barking
- b. DC/25/01524 Notification under Schedule 2 Part 3 Class Q of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 Proposal: Application to determine if Prior Approval is required for a proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Buildings to Dwellinghouses (C3) and for building operations reasonably necessary for conversion. Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 as amended Schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q -Conversion of Agricultural Barn to form 3no. dwellings at Lower Farm, The Tye, Barking
- c. Mid Suffolk have refused the Proposal: Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/21/01057 - Condition 8 (Materials)Rectory Farm, The Tye, Barking

Bpc66/25 Finance

- a. The Councillors approved the RFO Report (appendix 1) authorising payments made since the last meeting and to be made; noted income received since the last meeting; reviewed the Reconciliation of Accounts against Bank Statement and to approve the payments to be made.
- b. Deposit account for funds – the councillors reviewed the arrangements and agreed to review again at the January meeting. CCLA are merging with Jupiter in January 2026
- c. Draft budget – it was agreed to defer the budget to the January meeting when the Precept is agreed

- d. Defibrillator requires new pads by 31 December – The Councillors agreed to agree purchase anew set of pads for the defibrillator. The defibrillator will be ten years old in November 2016 and it is recommended that defibrillators are replaced at ten years.

Bpc67/25 Path Along the Tye

We continue to receive details from the solicitor to be able to make the Section 38 application to the Secretary of State prior to adverting in the EADT newspaper as a Public Notice and sending letters sent to anyone with rights over the Tye. They need to be checked and additional details sought before making the Section 38 application.

Bpc68/25 Digital and Data Compliance for Parish Councils – it was agreed to meet the new requirements for email and website domain at a cost of £49 per year. Clerk to action.

Bpc69/25 Needham Market & Barking Welfare Charity

The Councillors agreed to nominate Maria Dalby as a representative

Bpc70/25 Village Hall – A recent booking led to the parquet floor being damaged. It is estimated to cost £2000 to repair it. The hall will send a petty claims letter to the hirers to try to reclaim the costs. It was suggested that the deposit for hire is raised to cover potential damage.

Bpc71/25 Village Hall Management Committee

Cllr Fellowes had circulated the minutes. The solar panels are to be installed in December. The Councillors expressed their thanks to Gary Dalby for his work in fixing the leak in the ceiling near the first aid box. The electrical consumer unit needs to be updated at an estimated cost of £1500 and the floor repair £2000.

Bpc72/25 Norwich to Tilbury Pylons - Submission to the Planning Inspectorate – The Council has until 27 November to make representations to the Planning Inspector. It was agreed to send the same objections sent to Fisher German and the seek advice from Jane Lushington. Clerk to register to object. Councillors to let Clerk know specific details of how the pylons will affect barking. It could be we ask for mitigation of the effects such as tree and hedge planting to improve the outlook on the pylons.

Bpc73/25 Benches in the Village

It was agreed that Cllr Bailey will assess if the bench by the play area can be renovated. If not agreed to order a new bench and store it at Cllr Fellowes until it can be installed.

Bpc74/25 Reports from Councillors

Dead Tree opposite the drive to Overhall Farm – Clerk to ask contractors to assess Soil has been deposited on the edge of the roadside near the bus stop making it impossible to walk along to the bus stop safely. Clerk to investigate
Ross Piper told Cllr Fellowes that he ditch opposite his house needs digging out as it flooded in the recent heavy rain. Cllr Fellowes to suggest he reports this on the Highways Reporting Tool and informs County Cllr Oakes.

Bpc75/25 Date of the Meetings for 2026

15th January, 19th March, 16th April (Annual Parish Meeting), 21st May (AGM), 16th July, 17th September and 19th November

Bpc76/25 Date of the Next Meeting

Thursday 15th January 2026 at 7pm

Meeting closed at 8.10pm

Chairman Date

Appendix 1 Finance Report

Financial Report 20th November 2025

Income Received since 18.9.2025

MSDC	Solar panels deposit grant	4,390.60	
		<u>4,390.60</u>	

Expenditure (movement since 18.9.2025) and invoices agreed for payment

MSDC	Play area inspection	75.40	102295	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9&10
CAS	Insurance	606.56	102296	LGA 1972
L Rogers	October pay	410.36	102297	LGA 1972
HMRC	October tax & NI	88.01	102298	LGA 1972
L Rogers	Backpay	91.00	102299	LGA 1972
L Rogers	September expenses	39.92	102300	LGA 1972
CAS	Website support	66.00	102301	LGA 1972
Blackthorn Landscapes	Grass cutting (1728)	960.00	102302	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9&10
Blackthorn Landscapes	Grass cutting (1742)	960.00	102303	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9&10
Blackthorn Landscapes	Grass cutting (1754)	960.00	102304	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9&10
Blackthorn Landscapes	Grass cutting (1762)	960.00	102305	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9&10
Environment Agency	General drainage charge	543.12	102306	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9&10
L Rogers	November wages	410.36	102307	LGA 1972
HMRC	November NI & tax	88.01	102308	LGA 1972
L Rogers	October expenses	25.00	102309	LGA 1972
Blackthorn Landscapes	Grass cutting (1794)	595.00	102310	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss9&10
R Fellowes	Wreath - Remembrance	20.00	102311	LGA 1972
St Mary's church	Local donation	700.00	102312	LGA 1972, s137
EAAA	Local donation	100.00	102313	LGA 1972, s137
Four Parishes Magazine	Local donation	100.00	102314	LGA 1972, s137
Barking Pre-school;	Local donation	150.00	102315	LGA 1972, s137
		<u>7,948.74</u>		

Unpresented cheques

CAS	Insurance	606.56	102296	LGA 1972
L Rogers	October pay	410.36	102297	LGA 1972
HMRC	October tax & NI	88.01	102298	LGA 1972
L Rogers	Backpay	91.00	102299	LGA 1972
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EAAA	Local donation	100.00	102313	LGA 1972, s137
Four Parishes Magazine	Local donation	100.00	102314	LGA 1972, s137
Barking Pre-school	Local donation	150.00	102315	LGA 1972, s137
		<u>7,873.34</u>		
Account	Statement date	Balance	Balance less unpaid cheques	
Community a/c	10.11.25	£24,219.17	£7,873.34	
Base reward a/c	10.11.25	£16,510.27	£0.00	
		<u>£40,729.44</u>	<u>£32,856.10</u>	

Appendix 2 District Councillor Dan Pratt Report

Norwich to Tilbury Pylons – Register to Have Your Say

The National Grid have submitted their application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to the Planning Inspectorate. The Norwich to Tilbury scheme has been accepted for examination and this process is expected to take place over the next few months. To submit objections or make other representations you need to register to take part in the examination by 27th November via the Planning Inspectorates website: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN020027/register/register-have-your-say>

Local Nature Recovery Strategy Launched

The Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) aims to address the decline in nature in the region and deliver wider benefits in health and wellbeing. It is a collaborative partnership of 45 local authorities and organisations across Norfolk and Suffolk. The LNRS is predominantly a mapping system that identifies important wildlife sites and highlights areas that will be important for nature recovery. The LNRS is critical for identifying strategic areas for nature recovery and can be viewed on the website:

<https://www.nsnrp.org/local-nature-recovery-strategy-lnrs>

Call for Development Sites

Following the adoption of the Joint Local Plan in November 2023, MSDC is inviting site submissions to be put forward for a variety of land uses including residential for consideration for future development. This process is known as 'Call for Sites'. The process does not give automatically ensure that the land is allocated for future development. Submissions can be made through the MSDC website: [Call for Sites \(20 Oct - 9 Jan 2026\) - Babergh District Council - babergh.gov.uk / midsuffolk.gov.uk](https://www.babergh.gov.uk/midsuffolk.gov.uk)

Energy Upgrades for Listed Buildings

The Council has worked with Historic England to introduce a new and innovative Local Listed Buildings Consent Order. The consent order makes it easier for residents to make sensitive changes to improve the energy efficiency of their buildings. These include secondary glazing on historic windows, and replacement of windows in Grade-II listed buildings where the original window has already been replaced.

Funding Opportunities: Sustainable Communities Food Fund

Our Sustainable Communities Food Fund provides grants to small scale food initiatives such as community food growing schemes, pantries, and food pop-ups. Groups can apply for amounts between £250 and £5,000. The fund can be used for the purchase of equipment and revenue costs. Please use the link for further information: <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/mid-suffolk-district-council-funding-1>

Appendix 3 County Councillor Kay Oakes Report County Council report

Suffolk County Council's cabinet has voted in favour of creating a new mayoral authority for Norfolk and Suffolk - which will bring £1 billion to the counties in the next 30 years - following overwhelming support from councillors. The new mayoral combined county authority (MCCA) would have access to a starting annual investment fund of £37.4 million - funded by the government. This is in addition to devolved funding from Whitehall to deliver public services. The investment fund would enable the new mayor to support a wide range of long-term, locally driven projects that will boost economic growth, improve infrastructure and enhance the quality of life for residents. This could include transport infrastructure, housing and education and skills.

Margaret Catchpole letters on show in the UK for the first time

On loan from the National Library of Australia, and the State Library of New South Wales, the letters form the centrepiece of Suffolk Archives' latest exhibition *Behind Bars - Suffolk's Criminal Past*.

Servant girl turned notorious horse thief, Margaret's daring escape from Ipswich jail, her capture, and eventual transportation to Australia made her a Suffolk legend. As well as telling Margaret's story, *Behind Bars* lifts the lid on Suffolk's lawless past. Discover gripping true crimes from the infamous Red Barn Murder that shocked the nation to the curious case of the Acton Dumpling Murderess. Step inside the world of historic investigations and harsh punishments, including Suffolk's last public execution. Explore how justice has evolved, from dealing with riots and social unrest to the development of prisons and rehabilitation, supported by HMP Hollesley Bay. In partnership with Suffolk Constabulary, the exhibition also traces the history of policing in the county and how officers continue to keep Suffolk safe today. *Behind Bars* is a free exhibition and runs from 24 October 2025 to 17 January 2026 at The Hold in Ipswich, the home of Suffolk Archives, a Suffolk County Council service. The exhibition is accompanied by a series of talks, walks, and workshops. Visit suffolkarchives.co.uk for more information.

Ofsted Focused Visit finds 'early signs of improvement' in Front Door Children's Services

The report, which noted 'early signs of improvement beginning to emerge' found:

- Children identified as at risk of harm receive prompt and appropriate responses with strong oversight and swift multi-agency collaboration
- Clear investment and support from the whole council for children's services
- High staff morale, stable workforce, strong peer and managerial support maintaining consistency for families despite leadership changes

The report also highlighted the following areas for improvement:

- Monitoring systems need to more reliably flag delays and support effective management decision-making
- More consistency in professional curiosity and threshold decisions needed
- Better recognition and response needed to pattern of concern when multiple or repeated requests are made for the same families

Since the ILACS report in August 2024, which found that the authority's children's services 'Require Improvement to be Good', Suffolk County Council's children's services have been on a transformation journey.

1,000-year-old Sizewell silver coin hoard staying in its Suffolk home - Oxford Cotswold Archaeology carried out excavation works near the site of the future nuclear power station and discovered the lead and cloth package containing the mint condition coins. The donation to SCCAS from Sizewell C, means that the find will be curated for posterity in its home county and will be made available to researchers of all levels. Local and national museums can also apply for a short-term loan, so that as many people as possible can see it in the future. The hoard features coins minted between 1036 and 1044 during the reigns of Harold I, Edward the Confessor, and the lesser known Harthacnut. Though a large proportion of the coins were minted in London, many coins were struck at other locations, including Thetford, Norwich, Ipswich, Lincoln and Stamford. Affectionately known as 'the pasty' - for its visual likeness to a Cornish pasty - it is speculated that it was the savings pot of a local figure, who buried it as a precaution in the face of the social and political upheaval of the 11th century.

Mapping project reaches major digital milestone - Suffolk County Council has reached a major digital milestone in putting the county on the map. It has completed the Definitive Map and Statement (DM&S) consolidation project, using modern background mapping to prepare the updated legal record of public rights of way (PROW) such as footpaths, bridleways, and byways in Suffolk. The consolidation project is the process of preparing a new digital DM&S that incorporates all legal changes since the previous issue. Moving away from hand-drawn maps and written notes, the council has created new versions of the maps from a digital database using specialist software against Ordnance Survey Mastermap base mapping. It has involved checking and digitising more than 10,500 individual routes across the county, ensuring they reflect the effects of more than 2,600 legal orders, including complex public path order packages. This ensures that Suffolk's PROW network — which extends across thousands of miles of countryside — is properly recorded and accessible for generations to come. The updated Definitive Maps are clearer and easier to interpret and working from a digital database makes it easier to share data with a wide range of partners, including user groups, councils, developers, the National Trust, Natural England, and the Forestry Commission. Working copies of the maps are available for the public to view and download from the [Rights of Way and Access pages](#) of the Suffolk County Council website. The second phase of the project will now commence, establishing a rolling programme of consolidation to incorporate future legal changes and addressing mismatches between the Definitive Map parish boundaries and current administrative boundaries. Suffolk's first DM&S was produced in the 1950s and was divided into 19 former rural and urban districts. The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 now place a statutory duty on councils to continually review the legal record of rights of way. The first consolidated map was completed for Ipswich in 2009. Since then, progress has continued steadily, with the sealed legal copies now held at Suffolk's Records Office, *The Hold*. The working copies are available to view in hard copy by prior appointment at Phoenix House in Ipswich, which houses the highways department for SCC, and on [the county council's website](#).

Suffolk celebrates five years of investment in the National Cycle Network - Suffolk County Council is proud to mark five years of dedicated investment in the National Cycle Network — a key part of the county's infrastructure supporting safer, greener, and more accessible

travel for all. In that time Suffolk County Council has secured more than £5 million to enhance the network across the county.

This work has been delivered in partnership with Walk Wheel and Cycle Trust (formerly Sustrans), the national charity responsible for maintaining and developing the Network. Together, they have delivered improvements in signage, route safety, and connectivity - helping thousands of residents and visitors walk, wheel, and cycle more confidently and more often. Key areas of improvement include routes from Ipswich Hospital to the Waterfront area, Nacton Road in Ipswich, Main Road in Martlesham, and areas within Woodbridge as part of the town's active travel project.