

BRIGHTWELL FOXHALL & PURDIS FARM GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 10th June 2026 at Trinity Park

Present

Cllr E Warham - Chair

Cllr E Lawrence

Cllr B Newell

Cllr K Rout

Cllr E Beach

Cllr G Watts

Cllr Alistair Jeffreys Suffolk County Council

Mrs Angie Buggs – Clerk

70.26 Election of Chairman and Signing of Declaration of Office

Cllr E Warham stated that she would not be standing for re-election as the Chairman of the Parish Council and asked for nominations for the Office of Chairman. Cllr B Newell nominated Cllr G Watts, seconded Cllr E Beach – all in favour. As there were no other nominations, Cllr G Watts was duly elected and signed the Acceptance of Office form countersigned by the Parish Clerk. **Action: Clerk**

71.26 Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr G Watts asked for nominations for the office of Vice Chairman of the Parish Council. Cllr G Watts proposed that Cllr E Lawrence be elected as Vice Chairman, seconded by Cllr B Newell – all in favour. As there were no other nominations, Cllr E Lawrence was duly elected. **Action: Clerk**

72.26 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mark Packard East Suffolk Council.

73.26 To receive Members' Declaration of Interest

No declarations of interest were received.

74.26 Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on the Wednesday, 13th May 2026 were approved as being a true record and were signed by the Chairman.

75.26 Matters arising from the Minutes.

There were no matters arising from the last meeting.

76.26 The meeting was adjourned to receive reports and questions.

- a. Cllr Mark Packard East Suffolk Council – no report.
- b. Cllr Alistair Jeffreys Suffolk County Council – written report

I am a lifelong resident of Suffolk having grown up in the area and been educated here including at the University of Suffolk. I work at a telecoms company, and I now have over 9 years of experience as a software developer. I am also a Parish Councillor for Rushmere St Andrew. In my free time I enjoy reading, fitness and I am passionate about our history and culture, having been involved with delivering living history events around the UK and overseas.

I became a County Councillor because I wanted to play an active part in improving the county of Suffolk. I don't want to be someone who criticises but doesn't proactively work on making things better. I am willing to put my head above the parapet and be the voice for residents and I am so honoured to have been elected to do that in Rushmere St Andrew. I am driven by the love I have for my country and this county of Suffolk which I truly believe is one of the best places to live anywhere in the world. I want to do all I can to make Suffolk a prosperous county while also preserving our beautiful nature and heritage.

My main priorities are improving the quality of our roads, both in terms of pothole reporting and repair and improving the safety of our roads through highways improvements. I also want to work with Tony Gould, our Cabinet Member for SEND, to see how we can implement the Government's SEND reforms to benefit our residents who are feeling let down by the current system. Finally, I want to work with our Trading Standards teams to see how we can crack-down on high street crime alongside police, fire and immigration enforcements teams to make our towns safer. As Chairman of the Health Scrutiny committee, I will also be working hard with the NHS in Suffolk to improve the quality of service in Suffolk for all our residents' county wide.

Since the Parish Council meeting in May, I have mostly been engaged in training to fulfil my councillor responsibilities. So that you understand which areas I have been briefed in these are the pieces of training I have had so far:

- Information Security and IT Security
- Who does what? And how is it funded?
- Understanding the Council's Decision-Making Process
- County Council Meetings
- Code of Conduct
- Committees of the Council
- Claiming Expenses
- Adult Social Care
- Children and Young People's Services
- Growth, Highways and Infrastructure
- Fire and Rescue Service
- Audit Committee
- Corporate Services
- Public Health, Safety and Communities
- Pension Fund Committee / Pension Board
- Development and Regulation Committee – Planning
- Charing Committee Meetings
- Education Transport Appeals Committee
- Social Media

The areas that I am still not yet trained in are:

- Scrutiny in Practice – 11th June
- Development and Regulation Committee – Rights of Way, TRO's and Village Greens – 12th June
- Councillor Locality Budgets – 12th June
- Finance Scrutiny – 17th June
- Introduction to Chairing Health Scrutiny – 25th June
- Working with Constituents -29th June
- Safeguarding for Councillors – 2nd July
- Working with the Media in Suffolk – 3rd July
- Highways Reporting, Engagement and Local Highways Budgets – 3rd July
- Public Speaking – 13th July
- Strategic Questioning and Listening Skills for Scrutineers – 13th July
- Corporate Parenting – 27th July
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion – 29th July
- Data and Information – 2nd September
- Health and Safety for Councillors – 18th September
- Artificial Intelligence and Suffolk County Council – 18th September

On the 30th June and 1st July I will be at my first session for Scrutiny and Health Scrutiny respectively. These will be full day training sessions to finish the training for these committees.

I attended the Suffolk Show and networked with departments of the County Council to gather information and contacts to be of use for me later. Some of the teams I spoke to were from Trading Standards, Music Service, Adult Social Care, Libraries and Suffolk Association of Local Councils. I also spoke to a range of other organisations which operate in Suffolk; Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, Rural Housing Partnership, Scottish Power and Sizewell C.

Committees

I have been appointed to three committees. As a member to the Individual Cases Committee and the Scrutiny Committee and as the chairman of the Health Scrutiny Committee. In this chairman role I have already had a briefing with the officer who will be supporting me and I have more training for this coming up. The Scrutiny Committee will meet at least 6 times this year and the Health Scrutiny Committee will be chaired by me 4 times this year. There will be informal meetings between the committee, officers and others between these times and as Chairman of Health Scrutiny I will have the responsibility of also representing the committee at relevant events.

Highways

Joshua White

My Highways contact for my division is Joshua White. I have already had a meeting with him at Endeavour House and there are several issues I am following up with him.

Foxhall Road Crossing

It is the wish of Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council to have a new crossing at the western end of Foxhall Road near to the shops. This is because of parking issues and the large number of school children who cross the road here plus the impact of a new shop being given permission to open there. The plan so far is:

1. I am meeting with Joshua White on the site location on June 22nd.
2. The Parish Council needs to collect pictorial evidence of the parking issues and a footfall count to prove that the crossing is needed. They should also undertake an informal consultation of residents on the proposal.
3. If they agree we will identify sources of running for the proposal which will likely cost £30k+ then a more detailed design will be done with Road Safety Audit to determine the technical proposals and ensure it is fully technically possible.
4. Alongside it we may need to introduce a waiting restriction which would cost £10k.

Path South of Sainsbury's Garage

I have also spoken to Joshua White about the footpath that you would like south of the Sainsbury's Garage. Firstly, he believes this would cost a considerable amount of money, more than the Foxhall crossing.

1. It will need to be justified through local evidence which we should already have.
2. It will require the support of myself and the parish council.
3. Funding will need to be identified of approximately £40k to £50k.
4. After funding is identified a design and feasibility assessment will be done to ensure all the land is owned by highways and approved internally. The footpath will have to be maintained at highways expense forever more.

Potholes

I have spoken to residents about potholes, in particular those in West Kesgrave. Many of those of concern do not appear to be reported on the reporting tool. Therefore, I encourage more people to use it as the first step to getting something resolved. Once it is reported I can query things if it is not resolved in a reasonable time. I will try to do more reporting myself but my time is limited.

<https://highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk/en-gb>

Foxhall Road and Bell Lane Junction

I have been working to determine if improvements can be made to this junction. What I have found is that the £100k funding from the Brightwell lakes development is only freed up at the completion of 1000 homes and this is years off happening. Even with the money it can only be spent on lights and the cost of that is £1million+. Therefore, other funding is required. Highways did not appeal to the district council for more CIL funding because they thought it would be unsuccessful. I will still see if there is a way to eventually get improvements here of some kind.

The whole area north of Foxhall road has been submitted to the East Suffolk plan and there is already the Bloor homes proposal. I have been told that it is likely that all of this area will be developed and a master plan of road changes incorporated into that. I would urge residents and councils to set up planning alerts and make comments on applications especially in regard to highways concerns you have.

Planning

I have been supporting Rushmere St Andrew parish council in their opposition to a development in the northern part of the parish: DC/25/3179/ARM. I have made my own objection on parking grounds and I would encourage others to look at the development and the comments of the Parish Council.

Locality Budget

I have already received several requests from organisations for some of my Locality Budget. I will be considering all of them and as you will appreciate my funds are limited so I can't support all the deserving groups. I am also still awaiting my training on this.

One thing I have pledged to support is the installation of new play equipment at the Tower Hall playground at Tower Hall in Rushmere St Andrew.

If there is anything you would like me to use my locality budget for in Brightwell, Foxhall and Purdis Farm please do contact me.

Meetings

Since the last time we met I have been at:

Suffolk County Council Meeting – 21st May

Rushmere St Andrew Communities Engagement Committee Meeting – 21st May

Rushmere St Andrew Annual Parish Meeting – 26th May

Rushmere St Andrew Planning and Transport Committee Meeting – 2nd June

My upcoming meetings are:

Foxhall, Purdis Farm and Foxhall Parish Council Meeting – 10th June

Cabinet Meeting – 16th June

Rushmere St Andrew Parish Council Meeting – 18th June

Meeting with my Highways Engineer – June 22nd

Kesgrave Full Town Council – June 29th

Scrutiny Committee – June 30th

Health Scrutiny Committee – July 1st

Rushmere Commoners AGM – July 2nd

Do let me know if there is anything you want me to raise at any of these meetings.

Contact

Alistair.Jeffreys@suffolk.gov.uk

Mobile: 07889066211

Cllr B Newell stated that any improvements to the Foxhall Road / Bell Lane junction to be provided by the developers of Brightwell Lakes will not take place until 1000 homes are occupied. Cllr G Watts reported that the long awaited Bloor Planning Application will include an updated Traffic Plan including the Bell Lane junction.

The Chairman re-convened the meeting.

77.26 Update about Local Government Reorganisation

The Government made the decision to split Suffolk into three unitary authorities and they have submitted the proposed initial Ward boundaries. As far as Brightwell, Foxhall and Purdis Farm are concerned we are returning to a Ward called Martlesham and Purdis Farm. There will also be a Ward called Martlesham Heath. Suffolk County Council is challenging the decision to split Suffolk into three local authorities and in fact the whole of the reorganisation. The reorganisation will continue although Suffolk County Council is seeking a judicial review. It is envisaged that the reorganisation will be in place with shadow elections in May 2027. **Action: Clerk**

78.26 Timetable for Local Plan

Councillors discussed the Local Plan timetable.

May 2026	Publication of the Local Plan Timetable and Notice of Commencement
June to July 2026	Scoping consultation
May to June 2027	Consultation on the proposed Local Plan content and evidence
February to March 2028	Consultation on the proposed Local Plan
September 2028 to March 2029	Examination
April 2029	Adoption

As can be seen, the scoping consultation is from June 2026 and the survey will be completed by 5 pm on 29th July 2026. It was agreed that a corporate response on behalf of the Parish Council should be discussed at the July 2026 meeting. Cllr G Watts agreed to scan the notice of the scoping consultation so it can appear in the next issue of the Parish Magazine. **Action: Cllr G Watts / Clerk**

79.26 Planning

This document updates the planning schedule and highlights any applications for discussion at the June 2026 meeting of the Group Parish Council.

DC/26/1703/FUL - Construction of two detached dwellings including vehicular access and associated external works - Land At Rear Of Beverley Accessed Via 145 Bucklesham Road Purdis Farm IP3 8UB.

This application is a resubmission of details previously approved under extant application ref. **DC/23/1355/FUL**. This application was approved on 5 July 2023 and as construction hasn't started it is assumed if approved this new application will extend the time limit by another three years. There is also a third connected application **DC/26/1911/DRC** Discharge of Condition Nos. 8 & 11 of DC/23/1355/FUL - Erection of two detached dwellings including vehicular access and associated external works - Protective Fencing & Construction Management Plan. This application is still to be decided but importantly includes the proposed Construction Management Plan.

The Parish Council and the owners of Beverley objected to the original application based on a crowded site, residential amenity and concerns about the access along a long driveway. These concerns were rejected by East Suffolk Planning as the plot was of similar density to other nearby dwellings and would not affect the residential amenity of the occupiers of Beverley. Suffolk County Council Highways did not object to the increased use of the drive.

Recommendation: The Parish Council should not object to this application as the previous application DC/23/1355/FUL was approved. After a brief discussion Councillors agreed not to object to this application.

OUTSTANDING PLANNING APPLICATIONS STILL TO BE DECIDED

DC/23/4699/OUT - Land Opposite Seven Hills Roundabout Felixstowe Road Nacton.

The Parish Council has objected to this application. Considering it to be an overdevelopment of land near an AONB which will cause traffic problems along the A14 & A1156 – Both SCC Highways and

National Highways have lodged holding objections to enable them to examine and verify the information provided by the applicant. SCC Highways are concerned about non-vehicular access including pedestrian and cycle access. National Highways have asked for a decision to be delayed until at least **25th September 2026** as they would like further time to assess the impact on the Strategic Road Network. SCC Highways have asked for more information about walking and cycling access to the site and the siting of the traffic lights along the A1156.

BLOOR HOMES DEVELOPMENT AT FOXHALL ROAD

An Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Opinion was submitted last year. DC/25/4003/SCO refers.

East Suffolk Planning made their decision about this opinion and published their recommendations to the applicant. These include expanding the travel area to cover all the roads in Foxhall which will be affected by this application.

A planning application is expected to be submitted by mid-summer this has been delayed by the complexity of this scheme and how it relates to other developments in the area such as Brightwell Lakes.

PROPOSED GLADMAN DEVELOPMENT – NEW MEETING

As promised Gladman have invited representatives of local Parish Councils to a meeting for an update about their proposed development. This meeting is due to take place on 2nd July 2026. Cllr G Watts and the Parish Clerk intend to attend the meeting along with Adrian Day as the Chairman of the Foxhall Poors Land or Fuel Allotment Charity. It will be interesting to find out what progress has been made about access to the site and the increase in traffic on the surrounding roads.

80.26 ESC Pathway Clearance Scheme

Cllr G Watts, Cllr E Lawrence and the Clerk met with Aimee McLachlan Sustainable Travel Officer in Murrills Road to discuss how the pathways could be made more accessible in Purdis Farm and Bucklesham Road. Various options for pathway clearance were discussed with Aimee as follows.

Suffolk County Council Highways operate a self-help scheme which is very useful to enable qualified leadership skills (and insurance) plus freebies from SCC to lead volunteer groups for basic clearance in and around villages. This in combination with more difficult or areas close to busy roads Aimee has a small budget to clear pavements using an external ground maintenance team who will clear mud / creeping bank (skirting). Aimee said that there could be areas for clearance that she could involve the ESSL if it's a case of tree or hedge clearance (after the nesting season). They are good at clearing away this kind of vegetation as well as litter picking scheme too. Councillors had highlighted a number of areas in Murrills Road and Bucklesham Road which Aimee agreed to investigate. One such area was land which is owned by Trinity Park and the Clerk agreed to write to the Trinity Parks Grounds Manager so that he could liaise with Aimee. Some areas in Bucklesham Road were highlighted as being very difficult for residents to negotiate on foot and Aimee agreed to investigate whether these areas were actual footways and could be cleared for accessibility or whether they were part of the verge / bank. It was agreed that this item should be placed on the Parish Council meeting July 2026 agenda. **Action: Clerk / Cllr E Lawrence / Cllr G Watts**

81.26 Clerk's Report June 2026

The purpose of this report is to update members on outstanding issues, items received after the deadline for agenda items, correspondence and action taken by the Clerk.

BFPF Audit

The audit has now been completed by the Internal Auditor and will be presented for discussion at the July 2026 meeting.

82.26 Feedback on the Police Pop Up Surgery Purdis Farm

The Police Pop Up Surgery was held on the Saturday, 6th June 2026 between 10 am -12 pm on the green area in Murrills Road. Pc Arlene Ell and her colleagues manned the surgery until 11.15 am however due to torrential rain it was decided to finish the surgery early. East Suffolk Council Communities Officer Jessica Solway and some members of the public attended. It was agreed that another surgery should be held later in the summer which would be advertised in the Parish Magazine. Pc Arlene Ell agreed to submit any feedback and introduce herself in the Parish Magazine. **Action: Clerk / Cllr E Beach**

83.26 Review the VAS Monitoring

Prior to the meeting Cllr E Lawrence had circulated the latest VAS monitoring figures for Brightwell to councillors. Cllr E Lawrence reported in Brightwell a high percentage of vehicles are travelling at least 40 mph travelling towards Martlesham and return which is particularly noticeable at peak times in the morning and in the evening. This means that drivers are ignoring the speed limit. The Clerk was asked to contact Pc Arlene Ell as to where to send the VAS monitoring for action to be taken. **Action: Clerk / Cllr E Lawrence**

It was noted that one of the VAS signs in Bucklesham Road is covered with vegetation and it was agreed that the Clerk should speak to Aimee McLachlan regarding the trimming of the vegetation. It was also noted that another VAS sign in Bucklesham Road was obscured by a tree and needed to be trimmed back. **Action: Clerk / Cllr E Lawrence**

84.26 To discuss and agree the Parish Council's response to Suffolk County Council's Highways re proposed new 40 mph speed limit in Brightwell Road

Parish Council agreed to support the proposal by Suffolk County Council's Highways regarding the request to place a new 40 mph speed limit which would replace the existing national speed limit from the start of the 30 mph speed limit at Brightwell, along the Brightwell Road, to a point 240m south of Main Road, Bucklesham and Bucklesham Primary School. **Action: Clerk**

85.26 To discuss the grant application from Kesgrave AFC

Councillors received a copy of the grant application for Kesgrave AFC which was discussed in detail. Cllr G Watts proposed that Kesgrave FC receive £5,000 of Neighbourhood CIL (which matches the amount given by our District Councillors) for the specific purpose of building the new entrance off Straight Road to the car park in accordance with Condition 3 of the Planning Permission granted for the site DC/22/2999/FUL dated 27th July 2022, seconded Cllr E Lawrence – 1 in favour, 5 against. The proposal was rejected. Cllr E Lawrence proposed that the Parish Council delay making a decision until the July 2026 Parish Council Meeting to see if a decision has been made about District CIL, seconded Cllr G Watts – 5 in favour, 1 abstained. The proposal was carried. **Action: Clerk**

86.26 Finance

Income

None

Expenditure

Clerk's Salary and Expenses May 2026	£429.20
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Cllr Kevin Rout proposed that the above expenditure be approved, seconded Cllr G Watts – all in favour. **Action: Clerk**

Bank Account Balances

Current Account on 30 th April 2026	£22,317.09
Deposit Account on 31 st April 2026	£48,623.18

The Parish Council noted the balances as at the 30th April 2026 for both the Current Account and the Deposit Account.

87.26 Meetings attended by councillors/clerk

Cllr Graeme Watts reported that he attended two meetings.

19 May 2026 Local East Suffolk Community Partnership Meeting held in Kesgrave.

At the meeting updates were given about the Community Partnership Board, Marmot Place and from the Police (there was nothing to report). Updates on the various projected funded last year were given these included safer cycling at Kesgrave High School, Photography project involving six schools & Just 42 youth club. The Grundisburgh accessible toilet in the Pavilion has run into design and building regulation problems but is progressing as is the project looking at volunteering which has been extended to June 2026. A brief update was also given by the Deputy Head of Kesgrave High School about the challenges facing the school because of the extra students expected. These include building a new block and how to get pupils on and off site in view of the highways issues and limited space in the underpass. Following a workshop identifying local assets three focus groups were set up: Young People, cycling capacity and info sharing and promotions. Due to lack of time Councillor Watts has not joined any of these groups but will be interested in any results they produce. Bealings Primary School were successful in their bid for £2500 towards their library and reading needs. Next meeting 4th August 2026 at Tuddenham St. Martin.

3rd June 2026 Sizewell C Southern Transport Forum

An update of the progress with various parts of the project including the Two Villages Bypass, Park and Ride Sites and Rail improvements was given. Notable things were.

- Major work at Melton and Darsham Level Crossings to be carried out in Spring 27
- Sizewell C are aware of the various events going on over the summer in the area including Latitude between 23rd and 26th July and will take HGVs off the road.
- Councillors expressed concern about rat runs being created to avoid roadworks and closures of the A12. Drivers will be encouraged to take signposted diversion routes which will be mandatory for Sizewell C traffic.
- The River Deben has broken through its banks near Woodbridge and in times of flood may undermine the East Suffolk Rail Line. Network Rail are now aware and will take the appropriate action.

88.26 Members questions to the Chairman

- a. Cllr B Newell reported that the West Deben Biodiversity Action Plan leaflet has now been produced and that she would be delivering a copy to all the Brightwell residents. Another member of the biodiversity group will be delivering a copy to the residents of Brightwell Lakes. The QR code which is printed on the leaflet will enable resident to find out more.
- b. Cllr B Newell stated she was concerned about the amount of vegetation at the Monument Farm Lane / Bell Lane junction and the Dobbs Lane / Hall Road junction. Clerk to report to Suffolk County Council Highways. **Action: Clerk**
- c. Foxhall Sign junction. Cllr K Rout said that there are currently a number of vehicles parked on the junction which appears to be due to repairs taking place to one of the properties on the junction. The plants which he had planted around the Foxhall Village sign have unfortunately died due to the dry weather. Cllr K Rout was asked to replant the area. **Action: Cllr K Rout / Clerk**
- d. Cllr E Beach asked for contributions to the next edition of the Parish Magazine. Editorial will need to be sent to her by the 24th June. **Action: All councillors / Clerk**

89.26 Date of next meeting

Wednesday, 8th July 2026 at Trinity Park

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.35 pm.

Signed..... Date.....

Angie Buggs

Clerk to Brightwell Foxhall & Purdis Farm Group Parish Council