

## GREAT MOULTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Great Moulton Parish Council Ordinary Meeting  
held in the Coronation Hall Carr Lane Great Moulton NR15 2LA.  
on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllrs C Bailey (Chair), K Bailey, M Negm, G Timms, G Crawley (arrived 7.17pm)  
and J Crawley, Alan Arber (Locum Clerk)

4 Members of the public was in attendance.

1. To receive apologies for absence with notified reasons  
Cllr Morgan gave their apologies all agreed to accept.
2. To record Declarations of Interest from Councillors in any item to be discussed  
None

3. To agree and sign the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting on 8 May 2025

Proposed Crawley      Seconded Bailey

4. Matters arising from the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting on 8 May 2025 not covered elsewhere on the agenda.  
None

5. Public Participation including reports from the County and District Councillors

County Councillor Catherine Rowett gave the following report that is attached as **Appendix a**

Catherine also has pressed the planning department for full EIA assessments on all battery storage plants. It was agreed this would be brought up at district moving forward and that these companies must provide substantial local community funds.

Hundred lane access at Broadgate was also discussed as the blockage has been done with one parishioner is pleased and one is not. Questions have been asked when the bollards will be erected by County Council.

Resurfacing has been done on a couple of local roads.

A new community fund has been made known, and it was for the use of local groups especially for church groups for county councillors.

District Councillor Susan Wateridge gave the following report that is attached as **Appendix b.**

The District Councillor added to her report with the following points.

Questions were raised on a couple of points with the District Councillors report regarding the renewables mapping software.

6. Finances

6.1 To receive account balances and reconciliation.

The balance on the accounts were as detailed below.

SIGNED..... DATE .....

Current Account £9763.98

Deposit Account £21993.23 this includes the two earmarked funds and CIL monies.

6.2 To approve the attached schedule of payments.

This was submitted as **Appendix c.**

Proposed Cllr Bailey    Seconded Cllr Timms

A question was raised on when a councillor will complete his bank authorisation, and this will be done asap.

#### 7. Planning Applications:

##### **New – 2025/1607**

Toad-a-bode Woodrow Lane Great Moulton NR15 2HZ – Extension to bungalow using same external materials. New cart shed using complementary materials.

**Determined – None**

**No comments received on this planning application.**

#### 8. Correspondence received –

Not Listed but sent to all councillors via email.

9. To receive an update on the proposed Field Long Stratton Battery Energy Storage System on land north of Carr Lane, Great Moulton, Norwich, NR15 2LA

The planning application has been received, and the clerk had sent a full list of questions which they did not answer. They have asked for a councillor only meeting on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 5.30pm to 6.30pm. A question was asked if all councillors are happy or should it be moved to after the public consultation.

It was agreed that we would ask Field for the meeting to be scheduled later at 6.30-7.30pm on the evening of the 26<sup>th</sup> of June 2025. All councillors agreed on this.

It is also noted Wacton PC will also do this too.

District Councillor mentioned the point that the East Pye Solar will connect to the Tivetshall sub station for the grid connection.

Question was raised that extensions would be sought for an extra four weeks by all councils involved due to the nature of the application and the number of documents.

Due to the point above it is hoped that new meeting date would be sorted for an early meeting in August.

It was agreed that we ask field to provide the documents for parishioners.

The EAI takes over 16 weeks which is a worry, and it is not known till it is agreed.

10. To consider the proposal from RSL Computers to provide a gov.uk website domain and emails

It was proposed that we go ahead with this, but it will be on hold until a new clerk is in place.

Costs were known and sent to all councillors via email.

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Proposed Cllr C Bailey Seconded Cllr K Bailey

All in favour

11. To agree the clearing of the Access Chamber situated on Council owned land at Frith Way/Old Road junction

The access chamber is clogged with mud and unusable a quote will be obtained to the parish council, and it was agreed once a reasonable quote is received the work will be conducted.

12. To receive an update on the proposed East Pye and Station Road Solar Projects

East Pye Solar councillor presentation recently with not much information provided, since then there has been more information to local parishioners. More information has been revealed on their documents, and it is noted that a new primary site nearer Tivetshall has been mentioned on the consultation, and it has been moved further east.

Great Moulton site is the secondary option moving forward.

It was felt that a few local sites would connect to the Tivetshall substation.

13. To receive a report from the Coronation Hall

A report was sent to all councillors.

The report is attached as [Appendix d.](#)

14. To receive an update on Footpath, Tree, and Wildlife issues

The report is attached as [Appendix e.](#)

15. To approve the date of the next ordinary meeting of Great Moulton Parish Council as Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Agenda items received.

None

Meeting closed 20.04pm

SIGNED..... DATE .....



Councillor report 11<sup>th</sup> June 2025, from Catherine Rowett

11/06/2025

### Progress report

The main issue at the moment across the division is the rash of energy infrastructure planning proposals, including the pylons, solar farms and BESS storage units. I am working to ensure that proper assessment of the environmental impacts, and correct reports relating to the quality of the land are put in place, so that we can see the planning system do its job properly. I am also working with the local MPs to try to get the UK's national rules for planning for these things put right, to ensure that suitable locations are prioritised over unsuitable ones, and that the government's desire to slash protections for nature and heritage is thwarted. I put in detailed submission to the government's consultation for their land use strategy, and I've had a useful discussion with Ben Goldsborough MP, so let's hope the government can get some strategic thinking brought to bear sooner rather than later. This week I attended, with Adrian Ramsay MP, a very useful meeting with the Norfolk Fire Service team, to hear their assessment of what are the risks associated with large BESS storage schemes in the Norfolk countryside, and how much say they have in the planning consultations.

At the May County Council meeting, I submitted a motion requiring the administration to intervene with ministers against the planning Bill (to warn against scrapping all the environmental protections), and to ask them to swiftly bring into force the excellent principles enunciated in the land use strategy to ensure that energy infrastructure is strategically located where it belongs, in brownfield sites and beside motorways and other existing infrastructure. Despite a Conservative amendment which was somewhat ill-informed about energy security and what counts as sustainable energy, the motion passed without too much damage to the project, so that is a real achievement in setting the County Council's agenda on energy farming with a priority on the green perspective.

I have been active in pressing the planning authority to require a full environmental impact assessment for battery storage systems sited in precious open greenfield sites.

Meanwhile I note that the government is now going to make it mandatory for energy developers to provide substantial community funding. See link here(it's not just coastal but rural areas as well): [Cash boost for coastal towns hosting clean energy infrastructure - GOV.UK](#)

In other local work, I'm working with landowners and the footpath officer to solve issues with one of the footpaths in Winfarthing, and with residents and the riparian rights and water management teams to solve problems in Bressingham. I'm hoping to see a resolution to some ongoing issues with rights of way at Hundred Lane in Great Moulton in the near future, and resurfacing on two of the important B roads in the division, at Tivetshall and the horrible pitted surface at Winfarthing/Shelfanger.

Strangely, given our tight budget, Cabinet appear to be planning to give councillors a new fund to spend on community initiatives, so I am interested to hear of projects or community groups (including church groups if they serve the community) that might be looking for a little financial help to keep them on their feet. The decision hasn't been taken yet, but seems likely to go ahead.

### Devolution and local government reorganisation

In the light of responses to their engagement questionnaire, and studies of the data about costs and benefits of unitary councils, the Cabinet is going to debate a report that argues that the best thing for Norfolk would be one unitary council for the whole county. This would avoid fragmentation of county-wide services, and ensure that council tax and services were the same

across the county. However, not all members agree, and we are considering a joint opposition request for a full debate in Full Council before this proposal is sent to the minister.

## Info from County Council

### Roadworks - fines for non-compliant roadworks in Norfolk

Norfolk County Council has issued fines totalling £685,000 in a year for non-compliant roadworks as part of its ongoing efforts to reduce the impact of roadworks upon Norfolk's communities. Unfortunately, utility companies have a right to dig up roads, and to lay utilities under roads, and the Council has no legal authority to refuse. We see the effect of this in the case of the A140 closure for laying infrastructure for the energy park at Dunston, where the cables are being put under the road because paying farmers to go across their land would be more expensive than digging up the road (which costs the county in lost time, missed appointments and productivity but the profiteers have no interest in that, obviously).

In 2024/25, NCC issued over 44,000 street and roadwork permits, with 75% of these relating to works by utility companies and developers. Of these, 7,000 were emergency works, which often cause the most disruption. The Council rejected 5,400 permit proposals that were unacceptable. However, their powers remain limited under national legislation, so 79 utility companies have a legal right to carry out works on public highways – and in emergency situations, can begin this work before notifying the Council.

In 2024/25, Norfolk County Council issued 2,809 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) for breaches such as working without a permit or failing to meet permit conditions—raising nearly £340,000 in fines. A further £345,000 was recovered from 306 cases where works overran, causing 1,317 days of disruption across Norfolk's roads.

In addition, the Council successfully prosecuted two utility companies, resulting in court-imposed fines of nearly £100,000, with full costs awarded to the Council.

## National Government info

### Bird Flu (Avian Influenza) update

Mandatory housing measures for poultry and captive birds have been lifted across England from 15 May 2025. Birds can be kept outside unless they are in a Protection Zone or Captive Bird Monitoring (Controlled) Zone. However, stringent [biosecurity measures](#) remain in place nationwide. Poultry keepers need to prepare for the safe release of their bird, including cleansing and disinfecting hard surfaces, fencing off ponds, reintroducing wild bird deterrents.

### Free School meals

Free School meals will be extended to all families in receipt of Universal Credit, from September 2026. I am puzzled as to why this is from 2026. Surely if this is the right thing, hungry children need it now?

### Early Years childcare update

The [government has confirmed](#) that from 12 May all eligible working parents of children who will be 9 months old before 1 September can apply to access up to 30 hours of funded childcare a week.

### Contact me

[Catherine.rowett.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.rowett.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk). See also my Facebook page [here](#).

*Catherine Rowett*

11<sup>th</sup> June 2025



## **Bunwell District Councillor Report June 2025**

### **New Maps for Renewable Energy**

South Norfolk Council has created some helpful new maps (Renewables Mapping) so they and we can plot where BESS (Battery Energy Storage System) and solar farms are likely to be located across South Norfolk. They already had an NSIP (Nationally Strategic Infrastructure Projects) area mapped out, so this complements that and will be updated regularly. These reflect both consented and pre-consent projects. In terms of those that affect us here, you will see Norwich to Tilbury and East Pye on the NSIP map, alongside Station Road Solar and FIELD Long Stratton on the new Renewables Map. Links below:

<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/planning/nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects/map-of-energy-and-electricity-nsips>

<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/planning/renewables-mapping>

### **East Pye Update**

The second public (statutory) consultation for this huge solar project which spans across Hemphall and down to Great Moulton and Tivetshall will be held at Aslacton and Great Moulton Coronation Hall on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July from 2.30pm to 7.30pm. Do come along to look at their plans and ask any questions. I am also pressing them for a meeting with myself and Catherine Rowett before then to try and uncover exactly where they plan to locate their BESS and substation, not to mention the National Grid Substation which they and probably other projects will connect into. This will particularly affect residents in Great Moulton.

### **FIELD Long Stratton**

Despite the name, this huge BESS project is hoping to be located in Great Moulton. I have been working hard to ensure that the company (FIELD) has to do an EIA (Ecological Impact Assessment) - they were trying to get away with not doing one. I met with the planning officer in charge of the project, we had some good, open conversations and we spent much time walking the site. Together with many excellent submissions from residents in the village, which certainly helped to inform the council's decision, the company has now been informed that they must carry out an EIA. This means their full planning submission to the council will almost certainly be delayed and they may even decide to look elsewhere. As always, it's important to stress that I am fully behind renewable energy projects but they have to be in the right place and I will always fight residents' corners if I feel the locations are disproportionately impacting communities and nature.

### **Nature Recovery Consultation**

After the disastrous news that the government's new Planning and Infrastructure Bill looks set to prioritise new housing at all costs, laying ruin to nature across the country, we need to take action in our communities more than ever. Please be sure to respond to the County Council's Nature Recovery Consultation (the closing date is 11<sup>th</sup> June) <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/article/68386/Local-Nature-Recovery-Strategy-public-consultation>

I would also like to introduce my colleague Councillor Trevor Graham to you at the next meeting, who can talk about how a Nature Recovery strategy is flourishing over in Harleston.

The link to the national website is here if you would like to know more about this excellent scheme which everyone can get involved with <https://www.ournaturerecovery.org.uk>

### **Stand Up Against Street Harrassment**

I would like to think this is not a huge problem in rural South Norfolk but as we know, these sorts of incidents can happen anywhere, such as the recent indecent exposure in Bunwell for example. The Police and Crime Commissioner has launched a campaign, in tandem with the Suzy Lamplugh Trust, to drive awareness of street harassment and upskill and empower bystanders across Norfolk to deal with all harassment types. They are offering free training for staff and businesses via a 30 minute webinar on June 18<sup>th</sup> at midday. Follow this link for more information or to sign up <https://www.norfolk-pcc.gov.uk/news/suzy-lamplugh-trust-offers-free-stand-up-against-street-harassment-training/>

**Cllr Suzanne Wateridge**

**Member for Bunwell Ward, South Norfolk Council**

**m: 07943 180556 [suzanne.wateridge@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk](mailto:suzanne.wateridge@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk)**

Schedule of Payments for the Meeting of 12 June 2025

Date	Payee	Details	Nett	VAT	Total
June 2025	Mrs E Alexander	Clerk's Salary to leaving date 22 May 2025	£302.36	£0.00	£302.36
	HMRC	Tax on Clerk's Salary	£75.60	£0.00	£75.60
	Norfolk Pension Fund	Clerk's Pension May 2025 (Employee and Employer contributions)	£113.99	£0.00	£113.99

<b>£491.95</b>	<b>£0.00</b>	<b>£491.95</b>
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**£491.95    £0.00    £491.95**

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Append. x c

Appendix A

Report from the Aslacton and Great Moulton Coronation Hall for the meetings of the  
Parish Councils of both Aslacton and Great Moulton  
Dated : 12<sup>th</sup> June 2025

## Recent Events :

**Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> May** – VE Day 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This event (free to attend) took place with over 150 people joining us at the hall between 1pm and 5pm. Afternoon tea was provided and Sarah Mai provided 1940s music at the event with additional music from local musician Emily Burnell.

This event attracted a lot of local interest and was very kindly supported by a range of local businesses and other groups either with cash donations or by providing raffle prizes etc or the loan of equipment for the event.

All of those who supported the event have been formally thanked by the Trustees and their names and logos will remain on our Sponsors Board until our next main event takes place.

1. South Norfolk Council
2. Aslacton Charities
3. Gore Farm Tyres
4. Devlin Plummer Stained Glass
5. Chapel Doors
6. Katherine's Kitchen
7. Hunters Lodge Holiday Accommodation
8. The Fox and Hounds
9. Simpsons Malt
10. Moulton Windows
11. CTS
12. TESCO

As a result of this single event, we have now been approached by other companies to offer further ongoing support to the hall.

We managed to raise approximately £1000 for the hall.

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May** – Coronation Hall Bake Sale at The Fox and Hounds – this took place on the same day as the Tour de Pub and was very well received by pub goers and some regular hall attendees who also came to support.

Thanks went to all of our bakers for their various contributions to the bake sale. We raised approximately £200 after paying for ingredients etc and all proceeds went to the Coronation Hall.

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May** – regular maintenance morning with a focus on the garden and hedging.

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June** - Rock and Roll Supper – this took place and was another great evening event of 1950s music and dancing raising approximately £400.

## Upcoming events :

Regular coffee mornings continue to run on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month and are followed by the monthly Trustees Meetings.

<b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Summer Quiz Night – we have added a food offering back to this popular village event and tables are selling well already with 9 teams already booked and a month still to go.
<b>Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August</b>	Village Fun Dog Show - kindly hosted by The Fox and Hounds with all proceeds to the hall. This partnership between the 2 community organisations is proving to be worthwhile and positive.
<b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September</b>	60's Music Night
<b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Autumn Quiz Night
<b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November</b>	Xmas Community Lunch
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	Children's Xmas Party with Santa Claus and Grotto

We have additionally reached out on various social media channels to find out from the local community what they would like to see at the hall and will be taking these suggestions back to the next Trustees meeting for discussion.



## Footpath Warden Report June 2025

I apologise for not attending this meeting.

Walking the paths locally one realises how fortunate we are to have a good selection of paths, notably Hundred Lane and Narrowgate. Our other paths include Cross Field paths. In my February report, I wrote:

*The only footpath problem is FP11 which zigzags its way from Gore Lane to Hall Lane across what is now a single large field so the path has no boundaries to follow and no signposts beyond the two end points and a worn out sign on a plank bridge over a ditch. I have previously reported this to NCC and have now repeated it but given what has happened before I don't expect much to happen now.*

I tried to walk FP11 again today but the field is covered with a wheat crop, the Gore Lane signpost is hidden in the hedge and the sign on the plank bridge where FP11 and 12 meet is illegible. I followed tractor tracks and field boundaries but came nowhere near the two stands of trees which are a feature. This path must be considered as "at risk". NCC say its scheduled for action but I'm not optimistic.

There are other specific points where vegetation is crowding the path and the sign post at Muir Lane junction of FP2 remains broken (NCC are aware) but aside from that the paths are walkable. Except for the two paths where the crop is chest high oil seed rape (FP's 9 & 12); I have walked both recently but got very wet. Once the crop is in these paths will return to use.

Thank you

Peter Cotes