

## 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 10<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at 7.00pm

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

2 Members of the public were in attendance.

1. To receive apologies for absence with notified reasons

Cllr Morgan had sent his apologies

2. To record Declarations of Interest from Councillors in any item to be discussed

There were none

3. To agree and sign the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting 12<sup>th</sup> June 2025

All councillors agreed the minutes were a true record of the meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> June and they were duly signed by the chair

Proposed Cllr Bailey Seconded Cllr G Crawley

4. Matters arising from the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting on 12 June 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 Appendix 1

Catherine also commented Highways will be having a meeting on 22/7 along with her colleague Alison Thomas and highways and the proposal to do a meeting on that date and the road plans on FIELD. The highways officers will do a drive through on the route from Long Stratton to Great Moulton to see the road issues. This will include the officers driving the proposed route and parking at Carr Lane around 3.30pm and walk the route back were possible to get a full idea of the issues.

District Councillor Suzanne Wateridge sent her report Appendix 2

6. Finances

6.1 To receive account balances and reconciliation

Current account £9266.03

Savings account £22,097.55

6.2 To approve the attached schedule of payments Appendix 3

One payment to the Locum clerk for £268.88

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



Proposed Cllr Bailey Seconded J Crawley all approved

6.3 To appoint Sonya Blythe as our Internal Auditor for 2025-2026

It was agreed that Sonya Blythe would be the Internal Auditor for Great Moulton PC for 2025-2026

Proposed Cllr Timms Seconded Cllr Bailey

## 7. Planning Applications:

### **Determined**

## 8. Correspondence received –

Lots of emails on BESS scheme

Parish Partnership grant scheme

Lots of emails on Tasway Park

Emails to say Defib Used (it had not)

Defib Reloaded back on the circuit as okay

Bue shelter grant information received

Email from NPTS to see if we have filled clerk vacancy

NPTS autumn seminar details received

Assertion 10 details received and needs implementing asap

IT policy undertaken regarding assertion 10

East Pye Solar details received from recent meetings

Norfolk County Council local plan details received

Western Link Details received

Email regarding village hall but passed to chair to answer

Field Consultation attended by councillors

Field consultation had with parishioners, but they walked out after 10 minutes

BESS page added to website for all to see information received

Meeting with Harry Witt and Tivetshall PC on community fund still not agreed despite emails sent requesting information and what will the fund make-up be financially for both councils.

New bank signatories needed and paperwork ready

Request to support Long Stratton Town council on the non-demolition of South Norfolk House

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 including noting the receipt of the Planning application 2025/1689 for the above and to report on recent Public Consultation held at Great Moulton

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



It was noted that an Extra Ordinary meeting on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July to discuss our response to both East Pye and Field applications

10. To look at the bank signatories and agree new signatories asap

Cllr Negm confirmed he had signed into the system and was ready to use.

11. To note the progress on finding a paid Parish Clerk

No one has come forward on this. It was agreed we would advertise the position again despite it being on NPTS website

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

If there are significant points on East Pye and Field to bring on the night and these need to be done on planning issues only and we will get these on the website and planning asap

13. To discuss Parish Partnership and whether we would be applying under the scheme

Due to our Sam 2 being broken it was noted that we should apply for the 50/50% funding for a new SAM 2 machine.

Proposed Cllr C Bailey Seconded Cllr G Crawley

14. To receive a report from the Coronation Hall Appendix 4

15. To receive an update on Footpath, Tree and Wildlife issues Appendix 5

FP4 Wacton to Carr Lane which has a stile and a cattle grid at the crossing and a track that leads from Carr Lane to Wash Lane. This is noted on Peters report, and he feels that we should look at relocating this footpath in the future

The fallen signs have been reported and as, yet no new signs have been put up. These should be done asap.

16. To approve the date of the next ordinary meeting of Great Moulton Parish Council as Thursday in August to be agreed

The next normal Parish Council is on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at Coronation Hall at 7pm

It was also agreed that an extra ordinary meeting on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at Coronation Hall to only include the Field application and the East Pye solar application.

Meeting closed at 8.02pm

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



Councillor report 4<sup>th</sup> July 2025, from Catherine Rowett

04/07/2025

### Progress report

The main issue at the moment across the division is the rash of problematic energy infrastructure planning proposals, including the pylons, vast solar parks (East Pye and Tasway proposals) and gross and ill-placed BESS storage units. Alongside parishes and district councillors and the MPs, I am working hard to ensure that we get proper assessment of the environmental impacts, proper consultation, proper attention to local residents, and correct reports concerning the quality of the land, to ensure that the planning system can do its job properly. But the situation is becoming truly overwhelming and in some cases we seem to be left powerless. I'm working with both the local MPs to address the weaknesses in the UK's national rules for planning, and to get strategic commissioning instead of the current free market for speculators. However the government's chief desire seems to be to slash protections for nature and heritage.

Watch my facebook for daily updates on what actions I've been taking on these things. I made a detailed submission to the consultation on the land use framework. I had a useful discussion and some correspondence with Ben Goldsborough MP, but as one of a myriad back benchers on the government side he has even less opportunity to raise questions about this than Adrian Ramsay. I attended, with Adrian Ramsay MP, a useful meeting with the Norfolk Fire Service team, to hear their assessment of the risks associated with large BESS storage schemes, and about how much say they have in the planning consultations. I've attended scheduled meetings with Field about the BESS proposed in Great Moulton (which will be decided at South Norfolk DC), and with East Pye Solar (about their mega solar farm plans) which will be decided in Westminster. I've got meetings set up with fellow councillors in neighbouring divisions and with the NSIPs officer at County Hall, and I'm feeding into the County Council responses, raising issues about roads, drainage and ecology etc.

At the May County Council meeting, I submitted a motion to address the concerns about these schemes. There was a Conservative amendment, but nevertheless the motion was still mostly intact, and it passed with a substantial majority. You can read the motion on my facebook page, and there is also a link to the recording where you can watch the debate.

Meanwhile I note that the government is 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](#). It is important to insist on this in any parish response to a proposal within the vicinity.

In other local work, I've been 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. We have some progress with the impassable section of Broadgate Lane in Great Moulton, but some questions about rights of way on Hundred Lane remain which I am still trying to get an answer on. We are looking forward to the completion of resurfacing on two of the important B roads in the division, at Tivetshall and the horrible pitted surface at Winfarthing/Shelfanger. I note that several roads have also been given surface dressing. There will be closures on the A140 during the weekend of 5<sup>th</sup> July for work to join up the new bypass at Long Stratton, and in August there will be an opportunity to walk, cycle or run on the new road when it opens for a community fun day.

### New community fund

Strangely, given our tight budget, Cabinet have opted to give councillors a new fund to spend on community initiatives. I can offer grants between £200 and £2,500 to support projects that



promote things like social inclusion, volunteering, and community engagement. This can include church groups if they serve the community.

Further details and how to apply are available on the county council website [here](#). Those looking for support should contact me on [Catherine.rowett.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.rowett.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk).

## Info from County Council

New ways of solving the NWL problem?

On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July Cabinet will decide to return to the drawing board, following the demise of the ill-fated Norwich Western Link road. Doggedly pursuing that scheme, despite overwhelming evidence of the environmental wreckage it would have caused, has wasted time and money. Now a lot more time and money will be spent searching for another option. The Council will be looking for new options, not just reviving old options. I'll be trying to ensure that the cabinet listens properly this time to local experts and ecologists and doesn't repeat the same mistakes. If you have ideas for how to reduce traffic, replace road travel with other modes of transportation, and protect villages to the West of Norwich from intrusive road schemes, let me know.

Norwich Castle Museum — Castle Keep opening date announced

Norwich Castle Keep will re-open on 7 August 2025. Priority booking with a Norfolk Museums Pass opens: Thursday 17 July. General booking opens: Thursday 24 July. Further information about the Norwich Castle, Museum and Art Gallery is available [here](#).

## National info

Future water shortage warning from the Environment Agency

The Environment Agency has [warned](#) that England will be short of five billion litres for public water supplies by 2055 unless the Govt takes urgent action. A further one billion litres per day will also be needed to generate energy, grow food, and power "emerging technologies".

Why the shortage? The EA cites climate change, population growth, and environmental pressures. Increased energy and food usage also require more water. The Guardian [suggests](#) that the AI boom could also be responsible, with significant uncertainties as to the scale of shortfall, since data centres do not currently have to report how much they are using to cool their servers.

Government strategies for industrializing everything

The Government has launched an [Industrial Strategy](#), which sets out plans to drive investment, support innovation, and retain the UK's competitiveness across eight core sectors which are Advanced Manufacturing, Clean Energy Industries, Creative Industries, Defence, Digital and Technologies, Financial Services, Life Sciences, and Professional and Business Services. I note that there is nothing about farming or tourism.

Five of the eight [sector plans](#) have appeared. It's probably worth looking at the clean energy one. I suppose life sciences means genetic modification and lab-grown meat or algae for food, to replace farming on real farmland. They haven't produced that sector plan yet.

Contact me

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

Catherine Rowett

4<sup>th</sup> July 2025



## Bunwell District Councillor Report July 2025

### Local Government Reorganisation – Public Consultation Opens

You will all be aware by now that under plans for local government reorganization, South Norfolk Council is the only district council proposing 2 unitaries (or two Norfolk councils) as being the best option both in terms of serving community and saving money when the district and county councils merge in two year's time. They are proposing a split along East/West lines and you can find the details by following this link which will also take you to the public consultation that has just opened and will run until 25<sup>th</sup> July. Make sure you have your say (especially if you want to be entered into the prize draw to win one of 6 £50 Amazon vouchers or a luxury food hamper from Norfolk Food Hall!)

[Your Voice, Your Future](#)

### Update on Energy Projects

If you couldn't make it to the East Pye public statutory consultation last week in Great Moulton, there will also be a webinar on July 21<sup>st</sup> from 6.30pm to 8pm, which Adrian will be attending. Adrian's Constituency Assistant Claire Stephenson also attended a private meeting before the consultation with myself and Catherine, and East Pye are still busy working on our long list of questions!

All details can be found on the website [Information Events — East Pye Solar](#) including details of other in-person drop-ins across the area, but the headline news (which they confirmed to us) is that now Station Road Solar has been given planning approval by SNC, East Pye will definitely be pursuing their alternative site for the National Grid substation, which would be to the south of Great Moulton. Their own substation and BESS will be situated to the south of this, running down to Tivetshall to the B1134.

Once Catherine and I have all the answers we have asked for, we will be sharing this with parish councils who can disseminate the information to residents. I will also post the information on my Facebook account.

**FIELD Long Stratton** hosted a disastrous public meeting about their huge 400MW BESS in Great Moulton two weeks' ago where they walked out after 15 minutes because one of the team didn't feel safe, following some rigorous questioning from residents. Great Moulton are joining forces with Wacton and residents are submitting their justified objections to SNC planning as we speak. I will be calling this in to committee if the council is minded to approve it. The deadline for submissions is currently 16<sup>th</sup> July, though this may be extended.

Finally, we must mention **Tasway Energy Park**, which plopped into my inbox a couple of weeks' ago. This is an NSIP and it's very early days but we must start amassing everything we can in the same way that Gillian Palmer did for her excellent Norwich to Tilbury submission report. I have already engaged with the Norfolk Wildlife Trust and a local ecologist and we will be walking the site in the next few weeks. Bunwell Parish Council are keen to team up with other parishes to work together on this so I am facilitating that.

Public consultations will open in Autumn or Winter this year. It is not confirmed yet whether this will connect to the new pylons or the existing line but most likely it's the former.

[Home - Tasway Energy Park](#)



Finally, we are continuing to try and engage National Grid to change the Norwich to Tilbury pylon route through Bunwell Hill, a battle being bravely fought by Grae and Sam Piercy.

#### **Items of interest at Full Council this month....**

##### **Village Clusters**

The agreed Village Clusters are finally go! After years of waiting, the sites have now been fully confirmed and building can commence (indeed, it's been so long that I know some projects have already got planning permission or in the process of getting it).

##### **SPD (Supplementary Planning Document) – Custom and Self-Builds**

There was a 6-week public consultation on this earlier this year. The SPD was passed at Full Council Meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> July and I will be sharing the details with you as soon as it's been released.

##### **SPD - South Norfolk Landscape Susceptibility in relation to Energy Generation, Storage and Transmission**

Back in 2006 SNC published a Wind Turbine Landscape Sensitivity Study – now they have commissioned The Landscape Partnership to carry out a similar study but with relation to solar, anaerobic digestion plants, BESS facilities, overhead power lines, underground cable routes and substations. There will be a public consultation opening shortly for six weeks relating to this study. Please do feed in to this – it's so important that we ensure that South Norfolk isn't disproportionately affected by renewable energy schemes. I will post the link on my social media pages and circulate it to parish councils as soon as it's released.

This will then help inform renewable energy companies who are thinking of submitting a planning proposal and provide a strong framework for the planning team at SNC. I only hope it has teeth – I have yet to read the full survey but again, I will be able to feed back on this at our next meeting. From what I have had time to read so far though, it brings up the Great Moulton Farmland Plateau as a key area of medium to high risk of damage to the landscape from these projects, so that is encouraging. [Supplementary Planning Documents for South Norfolk Council | Broadland and South Norfolk](#)

##### **Community Action Fund is now Closed!**

I submitted two funding applications for the Carleton Rode Social Club and Village Hall (a new car park) and Aslacton & Great Moulton Youth Football Club (new perimeter rabbit-proof fencing). The panel meets next month so we should hear whether they have been successful by the end of August.

**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
July 2025	Mr A Arber	Locum Clerk salary and expenses June 2025	£268.88	£0.00	£268.88
			<u>£268.88</u>	<u>£0.00</u>	<u>£268.88</u>



Appendix 4

**Report from the Aslacton and Great Moulton Coronation Hall for the meetings of the  
Parish Councils of both Aslacton and Great Moulton  
Dated : 10<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

Another busy month at the Coronation Hall which has seen us continuing to host our regular hirers and also the 2 consultation evenings for the proposed solar and BESS projects.

Our regular coffee morning continues to run on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month and are followed by the monthly Trustees Meetings. Now the summer months are here we have held our coffee morning outside. We have added more water bowls for dogs outside and we are now finding more dog walkers taking a seat and catching up with neighbours and friends.

We are also continuing to operate our regular monthly work mornings and the most recent saw the garden being tidied up and some hedges being managed by our volunteers.

We have now added a cycle rack to the exterior of the hall and this is being utilised by local cyclists attending coffee mornings etc.

We have also prepared and submitted a number of bids in order to hopefully raise sufficient funds to allow us to refurbish the kitchen and also the bar area in terms of providing new equipment to allow both the kitchen and bar to be more efficiently operated during events (eg a new range cooker, a glasswasher and a range of crockery, glassware, catering sized pots and pans etc)

So far we have submitted bids to the Lady Hind Trust for approximately £7k.  
We have a bid ready to submit to the Adnams Community Trust for approximately £2k.

We have had our first success and have received a £300 "Keep it Going" grant to allow us to set up a monthly "soup and sandwich" type lunch which will run initially during the winter months. This funding will be spent specifically on soup bowls, side plates and a soup kettle. A small sum but it will be well utilised.

We are continuing to operate a dedicated fund whereby we hold back 20% of profit from any events we run to go towards capital projects to benefit the hall. We also hope the addition of better kitchen and bar facilities will make the hall more attractive to hirers and therefore more sustainable in the long run.

Following on from a recent post we placed on social media asking people what they would like to see happening at the hall we generated along list of possible events and classes that people would like to see.

These included :

Table Tennis Club	Crafting Club	Corn Hole	Pétanque
Darts Team	First Aid Course	Northern Soul Night	
Table Top/Car Boot Sale	Line Dancing	Antiques and Collectables Day	
Flower Show	Vegetable Show	Charity Bingo	
Open Mic	Country Music	Games Night – with bar open etc	

We will do some more research ahead of our event planning meeting in January 2026 and start to plan for some of these events hopefully.



**Upcoming events :**

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July**

**Summer Quiz Night** – we have added a home-made food offering back to this popular village event and we have 10 teams taking part. The quiz will now run on Fridays going forwards.

**Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July**

**Coronation Hall Bake Sale** – our 2<sup>nd</sup> bake sale will be held at The Fox and Hounds Pub to coincide with their regular Tour de Pub event.

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> August**

**Village Fun Dog Show** - kindly being hosted by The Fox and Hounds with all proceeds to the hall. We have 8 classes and all have been sponsored by local people and some businesses. A representative of each company will be judging the event they have sponsored.

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September**

**60's Music Night** – a departure from our usual Rock & Roll Evening to encourage a wider audience.

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October**

**Autumn Quiz Night**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November**

**Xmas Community Lunch** – proved so popular that we are running this a second time.

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December**

**Children's Xmas Party with Santa Claus and Grotto** - we have the offer of a professional Santa Claus and thought it too good to miss so we are in the early stages of planning this event for the families in the 2 villages and the students who attend the local primary school.



## Footpath Warden Report July 2025

I will try to attend the July meeting but send my apologies if I cannot.

I await the oil seed rape harvest so I can sensibly walk footpaths FP 9 and 12 – I expect that will happen very soon. I have contacted the County Council about missing or broken signs on FP 2, 17 and 11 but nothing has been repaired so far. I have also repeatedly complained about their failure to cut/clear footpaths in Aslacton, some of which connect directly to our paths – again nothing has been done – it's a familiar lack of anything from NCC.

I would like to raise questions about the future of FP4. This path extends from Hall Lane in Wacton to Carr Lane and as such is an important route – and forms the northern boundary of the possible BESS site. However the details of this path deserve to be challenged as there are duplications with other paths and safety risks at the pedestrian crossing of the railway near the intersection with FP3. FP4 has recently been cut (from FP3 to Carr Lane). I challenge the benefit of the section from FP3 to the railway crossing. Close to this potentially dangerous crossing is the Betts Cattle Arch on FP3. The cattle arch is close to the level crossing and is totally safe – going under the railway, rather than over it via two styles. Both paths meet up again in the grass field to the west of the line. Whilst not officially footpaths, there are walking routes all round this field. I believe that in the long term we should abandon FP4 from the junction with FP3 to the west side of the railway – in the interests of safety and to reduce the cost of grass cutting which NCC always cite when asked to cut or clear any paths. Network Rail would be saved the cost of maintaining the crossing so I'm sure they would help on this!

After leaving this field FP4 goes alongside a hedge to Carr Lane and has again recently been cut. Parallel to this path and the other side of the hedge is a wide farm track which later forms FP3. It strikes me as pointless to maintain FP4 parallel to an existing farm track and I suggest we should move FP4 to the track and again save on the cost of cutting/maintaining whilst keeping a better route for walkers. I enclose a photo of the short section of FP4 from FP3 to the railway crossing and a marked photo of the field to the west.

Thank you

Peter Cotes



## Footpath Warden Log

Date	Journey	Footpaths	Comments	Report to NCC
6.6.25	Burstead Green	FP3>4>5>6	ok	
7.6.25	Forncett School	FP3>2>1>3	ok	
8.6.25	Aslacton loop	FP3>2>8>10	ok	exit at Woodrow becoming overgrown FP8
9.6.25	Wacton Common	FP4>3	ok	
10.6.25	Burstead Green	FP3>4>5>6	ok	
11.6.25	Hall Lane/Frith Lane	FP11>19>18	FP11 not signed	
12.6.25	Broadgate loop	FP8>15>18	ok	
13.6.25	Burstead Green	FP3>4>3	ok	
14.6.25	Forncett School	FP>3>2>1>3	ok	
17.6.25	Wacton Common	FP4>3	ok	
18.6.25	Burstead Green	FP3>4>5>6	ok	
19.6.25	Broadgate loop	FP8>16>17>19>18	ok	
20.6.25	Aslacton loop	FP3>8>10	ok	
21.6.25	Forncett School	FP3>1>3	ok	
23.6.25	Frith loop	FP13>14>18	ok	
24.6.25	Broadgate loop	FP8>17>21>19>18	ok	FP sign at Broadgate/FP17 broken. Stephanie Frost rang to complain about grass height on FP17 Signpost 7870-0005-4326-6591, grass 0595-3655-6138-1031
25.6.25	Wacton Common	FP4>5	ok	
28.6.25	Forncett School	FP3>2>1>3	ok	Signpost still down at Muir Lane; FP3 cut earlier this week
29.6.25	Burwell loop	FP3>2>7	Ok	Paths have recently been cut but leaving two impassable sections Aslacton/Burwell Burwell FP21/Aslacton FPS 8986-9411-6689-9825 Aslacton FP8 0578-7919-0025-5206      Reply - logged for action (email 30/6)
30.6.25	Wacton Common	FP4>3	ok	
2.7.25	Burstead Green	FP3>4>3	ok	
3.7.25	Broadgate loop	FP8>15>18	ok	
4.7.25	Burwell loop	FP3>2>7	ok in GM.	Aslacton FPS 5875-5357-7900-1152 and 9307-9309-0936-0461 as not enough space to report fully on one reference Aslacton FP 8 9089-8921-2492-4672 both with photos FP4 recently cut
6.7.25	Carr Lane loop	FP3>4	ok	
7.7.25	Forncett School	FP3>2>3	ok	
8.7.25	Wacton Common	FP4>5>6	ok	