

Great & Little Whelnetham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held Wednesday 12 November 2025 at 7.30pm at Great Whelnetham Community Centre

Present	Councillors Peter Royce, PR, John Hepworth, JH, Paul Wallace, PW, Bill Atkins, BA, Tim Webber, Elaine Gorman, EG, Clerk.																																																							
1. Opening meeting	The Chair opened the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.																																																							
2. Apologies	a) Received from Cllr Lucy Allen. b) Council consented to accept the apology from Cllr LA																																																							
3. Declarations of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests	None declared																																																							
4. Minutes	Minutes of the previous meeting held 10 September (minutes as detailed on website), approved by JH and seconded by PW																																																							
5. Public Forum	The Chair's report had been circulated prior to the meeting. County and District Cllr Karen Soons' latest newsletter was circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk's report was circulated prior to the meeting. There were no questions from the public via email. Correspondence including play inspection reports for September and October, online policing meetings, SALC super forum meeting Tuesday 2 Dec and the Bid writing course, Thursday 4 Dec																																																							
6. Planning applications decided by PC since last meeting	-DC/25/1711/TPO, TPO 307(2001) tree preservation order – one ash (marked T1 on plan and within A2 on order) overall crown reduction by 2.5 metres, seven ash (marked T2, T3, T4, T6, T7, T8, T9 on plan and within A2 on order) and one elm (marked T5 on plan and within A2 on order) fell, Nunns Glebe, Parsonage Lane, Little W'ham, IP30 0DB, support on condition new trees are planted.																																																							
7. Finance	<p>a) Council received and noted payments and receipts since last meeting and approved the bank reconciliation.</p> <p>b) Bi-monthly statement received and approved. The current balance in the bank is £11,634.63 less the following payments to be issued</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="491 1236 1487 1644"> <thead> <tr> <th>Detail</th> <th>Chq No</th> <th>Net of VAT</th> <th>VAT</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>BMH Landscapes</td> <td>964</td> <td>1800.00</td> <td></td> <td>1800.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CAS</td> <td>965</td> <td>55.00</td> <td>11.00</td> <td>66.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WSC Bacs payment</td> <td></td> <td>3,209.62</td> <td>641.93</td> <td>3851.55</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SALC, payroll</td> <td>966</td> <td>45.00</td> <td>9.00</td> <td>54.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SALC, course</td> <td>967</td> <td>108.00</td> <td>21.60</td> <td>129.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>968</td> <td>14.20</td> <td></td> <td>14.20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>E. Gorman, exps</td> <td>969</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>137.38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>J. Hepworth, concrete</td> <td>970</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>22.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>6,075.23</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>c) Receipt noted of first half year (April to Sept) VAT reclaim for 2025/26 from HMRC for £942.01</p> <p>d) Council received and considered the Budget for 2025/2026 and the proposed budget for 2026/2027. Council resolved to finalise at Jan 2026 meeting.</p> <p>e) Council resolved to consider Precept at Jan 2026 meeting.</p> <p>f) Grass cutting quote for 2026/2027 considered and approved by JH and seconded by PW</p> <p>g) Council received and noted the External Auditor's report for 2024/2025 No actions required.</p>	Detail	Chq No	Net of VAT	VAT	Total	BMH Landscapes	964	1800.00		1800.00	CAS	965	55.00	11.00	66.00	WSC Bacs payment		3,209.62	641.93	3851.55	SALC, payroll	966	45.00	9.00	54.00	SALC, course	967	108.00	21.60	129.60	HMRC	968	14.20		14.20	E. Gorman, exps	969			137.38	J. Hepworth, concrete	970			22.50						Total				6,075.23
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	<p>h) Council received quote for new website, Gov.uk domain and WCAG compliant set up. Council resolved to proceed with setting up new website. EG to contact.</p> <p>i) The Clerk advised that the insurance claim has been settled and NGF have been asked to provide a date to complete the repair work to the children's play area wet pour surface.</p> <p>j) The Clerk reported SALC had issued an email notifying that it may not be able to fulfil its auditing obligations in 2026 and will keep councils updated.</p>
8. WSC Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme Consultation	Council noted the proposed changes.
9. Railway Walk	<p>a) Cllr JH gave an update reporting that the noticeboards had been installed on the Railway Walk.</p> <p>b) Cllr PR reported a 'thank you' had been received from a member of the public commenting about the recent developments.</p> <p>c) A discussion took place about the number of artists likely to attend the Activity Day. The Clerk to liaise with LA.</p> <p>d) SCC ecology provisionally agreed to attend and provide walking tour of flora and fauna on R/Wlk in spring 2026.</p>
10. Other Matters	<p>a) Speeding – PR summarised his report as follows: <b>30 mph Limit A134 Sicklesmere Road</b> – PR is given to believe that both Suffolk County Council and Suffolk Police are actively engaged in enforcement activities on A134, Suffolk County Council using the enforcement Camera Van, and Suffolk Police Handheld speed guns. <b>Stanningfield Rd</b>, has now been included on the schedule for Suffolk County Council enforcement. Recent Speed camera activity in Sicklesmere [albeit a brief visit in an obvious location resulted in 5 enforcement notices being issued to drivers. <b>40mph Limit A134 Sicklesmere Road</b>. Residents within the 40mph section of the A134 continue to be concerned with excessive speed along that section of road. We are unfortunately not permitted to use our VAS sign in that section and until recently, understood that due to similar safety concerns the Enforcement could not be used either. After many years of annual discussions, the Chair/Parish Council can now report that the enforcement team have determined a location where the van can be parked to monitor speed and carry out enforcement within that particular section of road, so hopefully it has been, or will shortly be included in the enforcement schedule, and in conjunction with the VAS signs placed in the 30mph section, help to raise driver awareness of the restrictions in this area.</p> <p>b) Picnic benches – TW to fit</p> <p>c) Pedestrian crossing – PR to contact highways re costs</p>
11. Matters for consideration at next meeting	a) Precept
12. Close of meeting	9pm
13. Date of next meeting	Wednesday 14 January 2026 at 7.30pm

Signed .....

Dated .....