

**Minutes of the meeting of Great Bealings Parish Council held on
Monday 10th November 2025 at Bealings Village Hall at 7.00pm**

Present: Sue Prentice (Chairman) (SP), Colin Hedgley (CH), John Carter-Jonas (JCJ), Regan Scott (RS) Trevor Harris (TH), Rachel Lamb (RL), Caroline Saunders (CS)

In attendance: Mrs Dee Knights (DPK) – Clerk to the Council, Elaine Bryce (EB) – Suffolk County Councillor, Rob Munn (RM) and one member of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence – None.

2. Declarations of Interest

NRI, District Cllr – CH.

3. Declarations of Lobbying and Responses to Lobbying

None

4. To approve the Minutes of Meetings held on 1st September and 13th October 2025

The minutes were approved and signed

5. Clerk/Councillor Updates not on agenda:

BT Phone Box – RM reported that the broken glass has now been replaced. Cllrs expressed thanks to David Munn for carrying out this work.

6. Public Participation Session – none

7. Reports by:

(i) **County Councillor Elaine Bryce** – A report has been received and will be attached to the minutes on the website. EB reported verbally that the Devolution proposals are being considered by the Government and it is hoped there will be a decision soon. Candidates have been nominated for the mayoral position which will be voted on in May 2026. The SCC 2026/27 Budget Consultation is now open – at present 77p of every £ collected is spent on statutory services, leaving only 23p for everything else, including highways. The consultation for Westerfield Quarry has now closed, and a decision is not expected until March 2026.

(ii) **Dan Clery and Colin Hedgley**

Two reports have been circulated to Cllrs and full copies are attached to the minutes on the website. CH verbally reported that a “Call for Sites” has been launched by ESC asking for suggested locations which could be considered for future development. Details of accepted sites will be published. The ESC Planning Committee have been criticised by the LGA for the way in which Planning meetings are held. Restrictions will now be placed on members of the public permitted to attend, and the number of objections is to be reduced. CH considers that this is not good for Democracy.

8. Planning Applications:

(i) **DC/25/3774/ARM – Land east of Adastral Park, Martlesham Heath – Approval of Reserved Matters, compliance with conditions and partial discharge of conditions**

It was decided that the PC does not wish to make any comments at this stage

(ii) **Any Application coming forth** – none

(iii) Decision Updates :

The following applications have been permitted by ESC:

DC/25/0547/FUL & 0548/LBC – Bealings House, **DC/1733/FUL** – Land at Lodge Road, and **DC/25/2992/FUL**- Ivy Cottage

The following applications are awaiting decision by ESC:

DC/25/1962/FUL & 1963/LBC – Rosery Farmhouse, **DC/25/2670/CLE** – Cherry Tree Cottage, **DC/25/3380** – Croft House and **DC/25/3410/FUL & 3338/LBC** – Hakewill House.

CH said that Croft House has gone to the referral panel and so he believes it will be turned down

9. Other Planning Matters – none**10. Community Self-Help Scheme**

RM reported that strimming and de-vegetation work has taken place around the Lodge Road Bridge fence. More work is needed but this will require the hire of a mechanical digger which would be expensive. He advised Cllrs that the PC Noticeboard in Lower Street has rotted beyond repair.

Flood prevention work is continuing and has already made a big difference. The Water Meadow has not flooded for 18months. A design for work on Lodge Road has been completed and paid for by SCC. It will provide for 9 x 900mm culverts under the road to enable flood waters to escape under the road and away downstream, thereby not backing up to reach property levels. It is hoped to get the costing for this next week.

11. Highways and Footpaths

- (i) **Damage to Annesley House** – Cllrs discussed the recent damage caused by a large vehicle to the front wall. Cllr Scott will contact the homeowner regarding some possible options.
- (ii) **Village Gates** – The Clerk has been in touch with Scottish Power who have said they will be replacing the gates in December. New white plastic ones have been asked for. JCJ offered to be the contact regarding the exact positioning of the gates.
- (iii) **Other Highways matters** – none
- (iv) **Footpaths** – The post has been removed on the footpath that runs from Hasketon Rd diagonally across the field to the parish boundary with Hasketon. This has been reported once by SP and RS will also report it.

12. Environmental Issues

- (i) **Water quality in River Lark** – RS summarised the response received from Anglian Water (AW) following the questions he had raised. He has been invited to sit in on a forthcoming meeting with AW to discuss quality issues in the River Deben.
- (ii) **Other matters** – none

13. Finance and Admin:

- (i) **Authorisation of payments** – The following payments were authorised; proposed by SP and seconded by JCJ:

Chq No	Payee	Description	Amount £
-	Mrs D P Knights	Office Expenses	55.35
-	Mrs D P Knights (dated 28.01.25)	November salary + extra hours	402.92
-	HMRC (dated 06.12.25)	“ PAYE	100.80
-	Mrs D P Knights (dated 28.12.25)	December salary	333.17
-	HMRC (dated 06.01.26)	“ PAYE	83.20
-	Suffolk Cloud	Parish Council website annual fees	240.00

(ii) Draft Budget 2026/27

The Clerk had circulated a draft budget which showed a shortfall of income over proposed expenditure of £500 if the precept remains the same, as well as the transfer to reserves. A final budget will be decided in January.

(iii) Provisional Precept Discussion

The Clerk has circulated the council tax base figures supplied by ESC, together with some calculations showing the effect of various increases in the precept. A final decision will be made at the January meeting.

(iv) Emergency Notifications via WhatsApp

Details have been circulated to residents and SP confirmed that the emergency Broadcast Channel is working successfully and a number of residents have signed up.

(v) Other Finance and Admin matters:

(a) **Bank Reconciliation-** This was approved and signed

(b) **Other matters** –None

14. Correspondence – none

15. Dates of meetings for 2026 at 6.30pm unless where stated

Monday 12th January

Monday 2nd March

Monday 11th May at 7.00pm – Annual Meetings

Monday 20th July

September to be decided

Monday 9th November

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed.....

Chairman