

Minutes of Great Bealings Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 11th May 2026 commencing at 8.15pm at Bealings Village Hall

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

In attendance: Mrs Dee Knights, Clerk to the Council (DPK)

1. Election of Chairman

SP was elected as Chairman, proposed by CH and seconded by RL. SP signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were accepted from Caroline Saunders and Elaine Bryce

3. Declarations of Interest

NRI, District Cllr – CH.

4. Declarations of Lobbying and Responses to Lobbying - None

5. Election of Officers:-

Vice Chairman – John Carter-Jonas – proposed by CH, seconded by SP

Tree Warden – John Carter-Jonas, proposed by SP, seconded by CH

Village Hall Rep – Trevor Harris – proposed by SP, seconded by JCJ

Footpath Officer (North) – Regan Scott – proposed by SP, seconded by CH

Footpath Officer (South) – Caroline Saunders – proposed by SP, seconded by CH (elected subject to acceptance at next meeting)

Environmental Officer (rivers) – Regan Scott – proposed by SP, seconded by CH

6. To approve the Minutes from the Meeting held on 16th March 2026

The minutes were approved and signed

7. Clerk/Councillor Updates:

Self-Help Scheme – The Lodge Road Bridge has been cleaned and the holly cut back from around the village sign.

8. Public Participation Session – None

9. Planning Applications:

(i) No new applications

(ii) Decision Updates – DC/25/4167 –Field Sidings – appeal dismissed, DC/25/3410 & 3338 – Hakewill House, plus DC/26/0177 – Cherry Tree Cottage are all awaiting decision by ESC.

10. Other Planning Matters – None

11. Village Fete – the focus will be on raising funds for improvement of the safety of the playground and play equipment. Several stalls have signed up, CH suggested asking for the Police tractor. CS has volunteered to promote it on social media.

12. Highways and Footpaths

(i)**SID** – This has now been moved to Hall Farm Road and Julian Haywood-Smith is monitoring the data

(ii)**Other Highways matters** – none

(iii)**Footpaths** – The damaged footbridge on FP12 is still awaiting repair and SCC have extended the closure notice until 16th October, although there are no longer any physical barriers. The Clerk will contact SCC to express concern.

13. Environmental Issues – RS is awaiting a reply from Anglia Water to his concerns about the flooding at the Sewage Treatment Works. At the Annual Parish Meeting, SP had mentioned that the Deben pollution monitoring group are asking for funding for water pollution testing equipment. SP asked RS to provide more information about this for discussion at the July PC meeting

14. Review of Procedures

The following documents have all been reviewed and were approved and accepted by Cllrs:

- Model Code of Conduct – amended 2022
- Freedom of Information – Model Publication Scheme – amended 2021
- Model Standing Orders – updated 2025
- Financial Regulations – updated 2025
- Sexual and Harassment Policy 2025
- Data Protection Policy – subject to amendment to email address
- Retention Schedule

The Risk Assessment needs updating and will be reviewed at the July meeting

15. Finance and Admin

(i) Authorisation of payments

The following payments were authorised, proposed by CH and seconded by SP:

Payee	Description	Amount £
Mrs D P Knights (dated 28.05.26)	May salary	340.43
HMRC (dated 06.06.26)	May PAYE	85.00
Mrs D P Knights (dated 28.06.26)	June salary	340.43
HMRC (dated 06.07.26)	June PAYE	85.00
Bealings Village Hall Trust	Annual Donation	750.00
Fynn-Lark News	“ “	200.00
Mrs D P Knights	Annual Working from Home Allowance	312.00
Mrs D P Knights	Office Expenses	71.58
SALC	Annual Subscription	183.76
Greenbarnes Ltd	New Noticeboard (net)	711.73
Greenbarnes Ltd	VAT on Noticeboard	142.34
Rural Services Partnership	Subscription	66.16
Westcotec	Brackets for SID	79.80

(ii)**Annual Internal Audit Report 2025/26**– This was accepted, proposed by JCJ and seconded by CH. SP expressed thanks to Eric Barnett for auditing the accounts and to the Clerk for her work in preparing them.

(iii) Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 - This was approved for signature, proposed by CH and seconded by JCJ.

(iv) Accounting Statements 2025/26 and Certificate of Exemption - The Accounting Statements and the Certificate of Exemption were approved by Councillors. CH proposed that we accept these and this was seconded by JCJ. The hard copies of the AGAR forms were signed.

(v) Other Finance and Admin matters

(a) Precept – The complete annual precept of £9,100 has been received

(b) Annual Bank Reconciliation – This was approved and signed

©Other - None

18. Correspondence

(i) Fynn Lark News – It is the turn of GtB to produce the lead item for the July magazine. SP has asked Paul Finch from the Community Tech Hub to provide some input.

(ii) Rural Services Network membership – Members confirmed that they found the regular publications interesting and agreed to continue the subscription

(iii) Grundisburgh Community Tech Hub – Following the interesting talk given by Paul Finch at the Annual Parish Meeting, Cllrs agreed that the Clerk should become a member on behalf of the PC at an annual cost of £50

19. Date of next meeting: Monday 13th July at 6.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed
Chairman