



WORLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Worlingham Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 16th September 2025 at 6.30pm at Worlingham Primary School

*Present; Cllrs; Cllr Anderson, Cllr Kersey, Cllr Robbins, Cllr Saunders, Cllr W Summerfield
Also, Present - Mrs L Beevor parish clerk. ESC ward Cllr Plummer.*

Minutes

- 1 a) *To receive any apologies for absence.* Apologies were received from; Cllr Holman, Cllr J Mather, Cllr S Mather, ESC Ward Cllr Topping and Rumble, and SCC Ward Cllr Lever.
 - b) *To receive any Declarations of Non registrable interest regarding the agenda – Nil*
 - c) *To receive a Declaration of Other registrable interest.* Nil
 - d) *To receive any Declaration of Prejudicial Interest regarding the agenda.* Nil
 - e) *To receive any Requests for Dispensation on matters relating to the agenda* Nil
 - f) *To remind councillors to update the Register of Interests online.* Noted
2. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting.
The minutes of the previous meeting of August 2025 were approved by all.
3. *Meeting adjourned for public participation. During each meeting the council will adjourn for a period of 10 minutes for public questions. During this time, residents can put questions to the Chairman regarding matters on the agenda. Where possible, the Chairman will respond but the matter may have to be deferred and placed on a later month's agenda for discussion.*
- a) *ESC – monthly reports had been sent to all.*
Discussion about Warm Rooms – Cllr Plummer will find out whether Samford Court would be eligible.
 - b) *SCC – monthly report had been circulated.*
Sink Hole on Fairmile Close will be dealt with within 20 days.
Drains are blocked at end of Garden Lane – road sweeper needs to be sent to remove debris etc – ask ESC when this is next due.
Lowestoft Road – verging of the footpaths is required as the pavements are now very narrow.
 - c) *Public - Nil*

4 Planning

a) To consider new planning applications including

Dc/25/3121/SCO – No response required from the parish council.

DC/25/1365/Ful – Land west of Marsh Lane Worlingham – reconsultation. Members advised that they still had concerns about traffic volumes along Marsh Lane and the effect on local residents. There are also concerns about the information on the number of car parking spaces and how this does not correspond with the parking volume requirements described elsewhere.

Members noted that there appears to be 2 businesses operating a forest school from the site – and this needs to be clarified – what are their boundaries/ has a physical boundary been created for each within the site area?

Ref the schools – what are the insurance / safeguarding implications of not having planning permission whilst still operating as a school.

It was noted that SCC still needs to respond to the reconsultation.

Agreed by all to recommend that ESC refuse the application in view of the concerns above.

b) To receive ESC decisions – Scoping opinion - Land To West Of Ellough Road Beccles Suffolk

Ref. No: DC/25/2450/SCO – decided.

c) Other planning matters

Consultation on the latest version of the Local Plan for the Broads - end 26 September 2025
members to respond individually if they wish to.

East Suffolk Council is seeking feedback on how communities would like to be involved in the process of preparing planning policy documents such as Local Plans, Design Codes, neighbourhood plans, and planning guidance. Residents are invited to complete a short questionnaire, available at www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/planning-policy-consultations. Members to complete.

5. Chairs Report and update including;

- M P Visit – any matters to take up. No issues to consider further than those noted in Aug minutes.
- Mobile climbing wall – 27th August – There were 86 attendees on this date. Weather was lovely and it was a great success.
- Councillor vacancy – Cllr Anderson will promote this in the Grapevine, although it was acknowledged that the best way to recruit a councillor is through word of mouth.
- Joint working group with Beccles T C – The draft minutes of the meeting have been sent to the Chair.

The Terms of Ref had been approved.

BWGN - See ESC planning auth response re the asset/ community building. There had been a discussion that the sports clubs might be willing to take this on. It was suggested that a consultation be held with the sports clubs to see who might like to take this on – i.e. an athletics club. This to go onto the agenda of the next joint working group.

There may need to be some research requested about what is needed in the local area. Await date to meet with the DLP Consultants Ltd.

Re the Beccles Emergency Plan – this is being updated. SCC is assisting re information on rest centres.

Worlingham does not have an Emergency Plan – the major risk to Worlingham may be from a) traffic incidents on surrounding A Roads, b) businesses at Ellough, c) Bad weather – people getting stranded.

Discussion about whether Worlingham needs an Emergency Plan – it was suggested that a concise version might be worth creating, mentioning the matters above. To be considered further.

- SCC Highways – Discussion about new SIDS. It was suggested that it might be worth getting base data for traffic volumes/ speed along Lowestoft Road.
- Esc Community forum – Oct 2025 at Lowestoft College.
- SALC/ LGR workshops – Cllr Summerfield advised that a meeting had been held between the district councils and various town and parish councils to discuss what improvements local councils might wish for in during LGR. The highest demand was for a district council reporting tool similar to that of SCC. There was also comment that if community partnerships were to continue then greater governance and transparency was required as well as easier systems for grant bids.
- SALC Area forum – 25th Sept 2025 at 7pm online.

6. Play area updates

All Saints Green – new swings – being installed 4th – 13th Nov.

Werels Loke – new equipment – further quotes are awaited. Site meetings to take place.

Bluebell Way – works completed.

7. Finance and governance Matters including;

a) Authorisation of cheques for payment. A full financial summary of the Council balances, and the cheques for payment, was provided for councillors as attached to the main copy of the minutes and cheques as detailed in the Receipts and Payments. These were read out to the Council meeting. **It was RESOLVED by all that the payments as detailed could be made.**

b) To receive update regarding Barclays Bank account. All arrangements seem to have been made to make this account accessible. Cheque Book has been provided as well as Bacs facilities.

c) Insurance renewal – members considered the cover being offered and the premium. Renewal date is 1st October 2025. **Agreed by all to renew as per the details provided.**

d) Quote for Xmas trees – ESS have advised that the cost for the 2 trees will be £1575 for this year. Agreed by all to approve. Lights to be ordered from Cozens Lighting.

e) Councillor e mail addresses. Members were reminded that the councillor e mail addresses will be the sole e mail address used with effect from 1st Jan 2026.

8. Village matters

Bus stops – work carried out – feedback on this work has been very good.

Thanks received from residents for the parish council work on the play area at Bluebell Way.

Community Self Help – members considered whether to order equipment through the scheme. Discussion about where to store it. Request to be made to Worlingham Pharmacy to see if there are any facilities/ space available there. Alternatively, the church has a shed and a request could be made to them. The equipment would be hand or battery operated tools. Quotes would need to be obtained for the equipment and for these then to be signed off by SCC before items purchased. Flood Booms and law mowers can be included. Also, PPE. Also, items to include within roadside nature reserves.

Grit bins – Cllr Saunders offered to be assigned to the Pains Close bins.

Railings by bus shelter opposite Kempton Cross – SCC Highways are meeting contractors to ensure that the railings can be fitted along whole length with no gaps as at present.

9. Date of next meetings. Tuesday 14th October, 11th November 9th December – all at 6.30pm

DRAFT