

Thompson Parish Council (TPC)
Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting
held in Thompson Community Hall on Tuesday 17 March 2026

Present: Tony Snelling Chair of this meeting
 Ron Powrie Vice Chair
 Robert Garcia
 Duncan Gregory
 Jean Wagner
 Kim Austin Clerk

Also present: There were 3 members of the public present.

The meeting opened at 19.30

1. **To elect a Chairperson to chair this meeting. Declaration of acceptance of Office**
Cllr. Tony Snelling volunteered to be elected to chair this meeting. Cllr. Powrie proposed and Cllr. Wagner seconded this proposal. The vote was unanimous and Cllr. Snelling was duly elected. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed by Cllr. Snelling and witnessed and signed by the Clerk.
2. **To consider accepting apologies for absence**
Apologies were received from Cllr. Jo Shelton and Cllr Phil Cowen.
3. **To record declarations of interest from members in any items on the agenda**
There were no declarations of interest.
4. **To approve the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 20 January 2026**
The minutes had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Cllr. Garcia and seconded by Cllr. Wagner. The minutes were duly signed by the Chair, Cllr. Snelling.
5. **To discuss any matters arising from the minutes (Tuesday 20 January 2026) not on the agenda**
There were no matters arising.
6. **To adjourn the meeting for public participation, an opportunity for members of the public to raise any queries and concerns.**
The meeting was adjourned at 19:33.
Defibrillators. Karen Keen (KK) asked if a sign for the existing **Defibrillator** located at the school could be funded by PC as it is hidden behind a gate which states no unauthorised access. It was noted that the defib. at the school has actually been taken off the in-use register as the cabinet is locked and cannot be opened.
Item 10. To update on defibrillators - was brought forward to discuss at this point. JW confirmed she had applied to the British Heart Foundation and had been successful in being awarded a new fully funded defibrillator in non-lockable cabinet. The PC had discussed options as to where it should be sited, considering electricity supply and listed building consents etc. The Church were keen to host but were not able to do so, due to listed status of the buildings. DG had offered to site it on his barn wall and Richard at the Chequers public house had also offered to site on an external wall as they had, had the need for one at the pub a few times in the past. It had been decided to site at the Chequers. The unit had been delivered to JW and now awaiting installation. JW is contact. Theresa Blake has offered to take on the role of training. A weekly rota for checking equipment etc. would be produced. Battery would need changing in 4/5 years. PC would be responsible for it. Richard had agreed to absorb any electricity costs. JW was thanked for her hard work in securing a new defibrillator for the village.

Signage for the defibrillators would be discussed as soon as installation of new defibrillator had been completed at the Chequers PH and further discussion had with Theresa Blake regards defibrillator at the school.

New laptop. KK asked when the money for the **new laptop for the Clerk** would be spent.

The Clerk had received a quote from RLS Computer Services which the PC had approved. Spend would fall into the 2026-2027 financial year. Currently dealing with the new website first.

Ringfenced amounts held by Parish Council. KK queried why the PC was holding onto this money. The Clerk explained, as reported at every PC meeting the PC is holding £1746 allocated to Sports Equipment maintenance (TMG) and £1084.30 allocated to Footpath Notice Board - both from historical grants/projects. The PC is not holding onto the money as such, but it has to be spent for the purpose for which it was granted. Same for the Sports Equipment maintenance money for TMG. Bronwen explained, until now, with the footpath inquiry pending, a new map/notice board had been on hold.

See Item 12.

TMGCT Meeting of Trustee. KK asked when the next meeting would be held.

We previously agreed it would be beneficial to have TMGCT Meeting of Trustees after their financial end of year which is December. The last meeting was November 2025 where we had sight of the accounts to December 2024. The March meeting seemed too soon to have another meeting. Will not be held after May PC meeting as that is a double meeting already (AGM and Annual Parish Meeting). Earliest would be after the July meeting.

PC financial year end. KK asked if the PC year end was 31 March. The Clerk confirmed that it was.

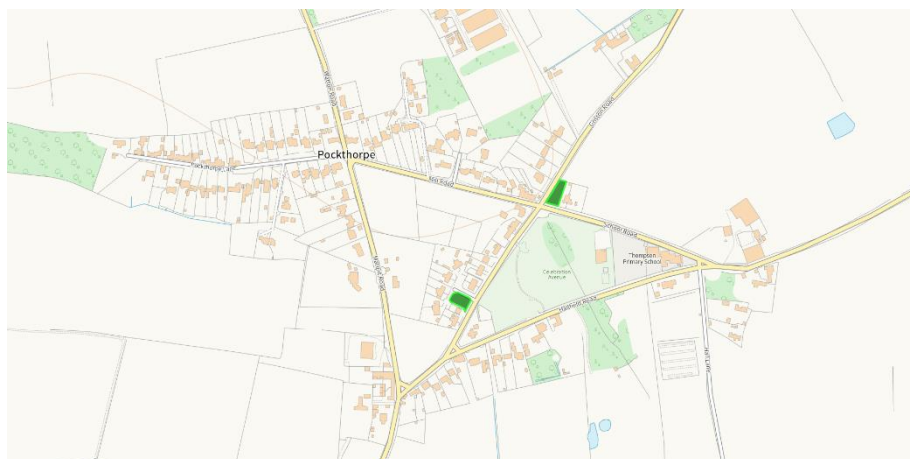
Budget/Forecast and Actuals. KK had asked by email - Why is the financial forecast not updated to reflect amounts received or spent? The Clerk didn't understand the question or it's purpose as Budget/Forecast and Actual figures are reported as part of the financial report at every PC meeting and updated where appropriate.

Committees. KW queried a comment made in the previous PC meeting minutes, where it was asked if the Community Hall and Millennium Green committees could merge ? KW thought this would not work as they were separate entities.

7. To discuss transfer of Breckland Community Land to Parish Councils

In summary: Breckland Community Land Transfer is to transfer parcels of land to Parish councils for them to maintain as Community Assets. The land is not for sale but is transferred at NIL value. Legal Fees would need to be paid. The PC would take on the responsibility of maintaining that land. T Thompson has two pieces of land. Plot 1 is at the junction of School Road and Griston Road and Plot 2 is to the left of the entrance to the Airey Houses off Tottington Road.

Cllr. Powrie attended a 'Breckland Land Workshop' on 30/1/2026 - a meeting of parishes. Plot 1 is complicated as it has a septic tank that serves numbers 1 and 2 School Road with a 50% share of costs between the homeowners and Breckland Council. It was agreed; the PC would not like to take this on. After some discussion a vote was taken and it was agreed not to accept the offer of land transfer for either plot. The Clerk would inform Melanie at Breckland Council of this decision.



8. Update on Woodland Trust Project (RG).

Cllr. Garcia had sent an email to the Woodland Trust regards the two points that were raised at the last PC meeting on 20/1/26. The Portaloo was not mentioned as it had since been removed and replaced and there had been operatives on site, so no longer appropriate. Email as follows:

At the last Thompson Parish Council meeting 20 January two matters were discussed with regard Thompson Wood that the Parish Council asked me to pass to you in my capacity as Liaison officer for Woodland Trust and as acting Chair of that meeting.

1. The Council understands the need for and the legality of culling hares by shooting. The Council is concerned however for the safety and tranquillity of parishioners and politely requests that signs be put up when shooting is taking place.

2. With regard the firebreak areas behind Hall Lane. It was understood that measures would be taken to prevent excessive brush growth but if these were taken, they have not been adequate. In summer 2025 the area was thickly covered by weeds which were a severe nuisance to the neighbours. Can Woodland Trust assure the Council that effective measures will be in place in 2026 and ongoing ?

They had replied regards the points raised:

1. Contractors will review the need for signage.

2. Staff do receive wildfire training. The area has been reseeded with Meadow grass and is now growing well.

TS said Woodland Trust would put sheep on the area but they had not done. They said it would be cut but this hasn't been done, saying there was a risk of fire due to the dry weather. It would be better managed if changed to pasture for animals. Neighbouring gardens are not easy to maintain now due to the amount of weed/seed dispersal in the area.

Cllrs. RG and TS would draw up a letter to send to Woodland Trust regards this matter.

Email update received from Woodland Trust (17/03/26).

- This winter 26,471 trees were planted in the northern section of Thompson Wood between Church Road and Griston Road.
- Planting was undertaken by a mix of contractors, the local community, the village school and our corporate partner volunteers
- We are beginning planning for phase two of planting this autumn with 45,000+ trees to be planted.
- We are progressing our plans for the car park with a hope of construction starting later in 2026
- There have been some delays to opening the final paths across the site however we hope these will be open in the next couple of months
- We are still getting issues with vandalism on site including the removal of brash hedges and signage across the site
- Deciding where dog poo bins will be placed. JW is picking up littered dog poo bags and would ask if the bins could be installed as soon as possible.

9. To update on flooding and drainage (TS)

It has brought to Cllr. TS attention that the situation with the flooding at 'bus stop corner' had become unbearable for the residents who live at numbers 1 & 2 school road. They share a septic tank, and they have to have it emptied more frequently than what would be regarded as normal. The cost of having the tank emptied is unsustainable. Cllr. TS had spoken to the resident Linda May and would also meet with her neighbour Sharon. He had written to Luke Denney at NCC Highways to escalate the problem.

Post meeting update: Highways attended to clean and inspect the pipework at Bus Stop Corner on 23 March. The ditch around the tank needs digging out and NCC Highways were asked to contact Breckland as the land belongs to them. See mention of Plot 1 in Agenda Item 7. (Breckland Community Land Transfer). Tony feels that they are making some headway and he has a better understanding of the issues.

10. To update on defibrillators (JW)

See update in item 6.

11. To discuss a National Year of Reading event/book sales (JW)

As this year is the National Year of Reading, JW is organising an event to be held on the Thompson Millennium Green on 18 July - to coincide with the second-hand book sale. The purpose is to remind children and their parents that it's fun to read, and hopefully to help enthuse them to keep reading during the holidays. Watton library, school and parents all liked the idea.

JW is looking to apply for grants for funding the event, submitting the application through the Millennium Green Charitable Trust. There is also another grant available, of £500 towards community events. A safeguarding document is needed. Templates are available.

The Parish Council were fully supportive of this initiative.

Post Meeting Note: Andrew Cooke has taken on the writing of the safeguarding statement.

12. To discuss new Footpaths Noticeboard.

Bronwen gave some background. The project was funded mainly by CPRE, but also UEA. Thompson was one of only 4 villages chosen in Norfolk to research ancient footpaths, partly for their historical significance but also for their flora and fauna as evidence of use and age. We had funding for the costs and outcomes agreed. We were given courses in IT and landscape studies at the UEA and other venues. Their professors regularly joined us on footpath walks and studies to pass on expert information. In our case outcomes were a full report, of which the PC should have a copy, and a tangible outcome to promote and celebrate the paths e.g. the map and board. The costs of getting the map designed and created have been paid for. They gave us the residue which the PC still holds, for the stand or board to place it in. At the time, one of those floor punted stands that slope slightly that you see at various tourist routes was planned as we then had no hall on the site. Now we have a hall we intend to site the board in the Community Hall porch so it is not subject to the weather and will last a lot longer.

This is now possible that the Pockthorpe footpath inquiry has concluded and the footpath is open, at long last. This can now be added to the map. Pingo trail also added.

Woodland Trust footpaths are separate as they are permissive rights of way. The O/S map will be displayed alongside the definitive map.

The **remaining funds, £1084.30**, are held by the PC. Funds to be used for printing costs (A2), O/S map and wall mounted cabinet. Thank you to Bronwen and team for all their hard work over the years and to Bronwen for the update.

13. To discuss village organisations and volunteers (JW)

Village organisations and events are only made possible by people volunteering. New volunteers are always required and sometimes hard to come by. Sometimes need to encourage and approach people for them to volunteer. JW had received comments that some people feel they are taken for granted, their help is expected and they feel they are not properly appreciated. Some organisations or groups may hold an annual event as a thank you to their volunteers.

JW had previously mentioned the idea to Jean Kaye who discussed it with the Community Hall committee. They were all supportive and are keen to run with it, possibly in September - people can showcase the different volunteering opportunities as well as thank volunteers. JW would liaise with the Community Hall regards the date, in the first instance.

It was agreed this was a good idea and Cllr. TS agreed to organise.

14. To receive reports

14.1 District Councillor (Phil Cowen - Executive member - Finance, Revenues and Benefits)

Breckland Council continues to provide all services, statutory and discretionary, pending the conclusion of the local government reorganisation process. In more detail we have highlighted some salient points since the previous report was prepared

Local Government Reorganisation (LGR):

- On 16th February, the Government announced it was reversing its previous decision to postpone local elections across the country, meaning that the County elections, and City elections, due to take place in May will now go ahead.
- Announced alongside the decision, was an additional £63m of capacity funding for the 21 areas undergoing LGR - it is unclear how this will be distributed. Comments made by the

Leader of Norfolk County Council following the decision suggested that the County Council's involvement in LGR and Devolution was to end. Despite these comments work continues at a County-wide level between all councils in Norfolk on collaborative work that is necessary, no matter the final option chosen.

- The early collaborative work has focused on efforts to collate important data, as well as understand positions around contracts and systems.
- Government timelines suggest that a 'minded to' decision will be made in March, however we still have no indication when exactly this will be. Given that parliament goes into Easter recess on 26 March and that elections are scheduled for 7 May a decision will either need to be made by the 25 March or postponed until 8 May. Given the amount of work to be undertaken a delay will put significant pressure on the process to arrive at a seamless transition.

Finance

- The Quarter 3 financial forecasts show a significantly positive position for the Council, with efficiencies for the year over-achieved and an underspend overall against budget. The full report was presented to Cabinet in January followed by Overview and Scrutiny Commission in March.
- The budget and council tax were approved in February, with a balanced budget for the next 2 years, with further savings required from 2028-29.
- The band D level of council tax levied by Breckland Council equates to £2.40 p per week for all of the services provided by Breckland Council and as 75% of our residents are banded in levels A-C they will pay proportionately less than this
- The audit of the 2024-25 accounts was signed off by Governance and Audit committee and Ernst & Young (the auditors) in February.

Car Park Transfers Project:

- Car park transfers are progressing collaboratively with all 5 Town Councils, and all have now accepted the transfer of all of the offered car parks. Watton, Swaffham and Attleborough Town Councils are reviewing Heads of Terms. Thetford and Dereham Town Councils are slightly further along in reviewing draft transfer contracts. The aim is still to complete all the transfers before the end of the financial year.

14.2 County Councillor (FE) No report received.

14.3 Community Hall report (JK)

No report received but KW reported that the Book Sale had been excellent. Parking can be an issue when there are events but RG confirmed Julian is happy for his field to be used as an overflow.

Reclaim the Rain No report received.

14.4 The Millennium Green report (JS)

No report received.

15. To report on financial matters

15.1 Financial position

Bank account balances at Tuesday 17 March 2026

Barclays Community Account	£	2715.33
Barclays Business Premium Account (Savings)	£	8640.76
TOTAL as per bank	£	11356.09

Summary (Including monies allocated)

Allocated to Sports Equipment maintenance (TMG)	£	1746.00
Allocated to Footpath Notice Board	£	1084.30
Thompson Parish Council	£	8525.79
TOTAL as per bank	£	11356.09

15.2 Money in since last meeting (20 January 2026)

25/2/2026	HMRC - Vat claim for 2024-2025	£	361.30
2/3/2026	Barclays Savings Account - Interest	£	21.82
TOTAL IN		£	383.12

15.3 Bank Reconciliation

Opening balance at bank, Current (Last meeting, 20 January 2026)	£	3319.43
Opening balance at bank, Savings (Last meeting, 20 January 2026)	£	8618.94 (£11938.37)
PLUS Money in since last meeting (as above)	£	383.12
MINUS Money out since last meeting (20 Jan 2026)	£	566.80
MINUS Money out this meeting (17 March 2026 - as below)	£	398.60
Closing balances at bank (This meeting, 17 March 2026, as above)	£	11356.09

The chair signed the Bank Reconciliation documents prepared by the Clerk.

15.4 Direct payments (Authorised)

13/3/2026	DP005 Clerk's wages x1 M11 Feb 26	£	283.40
13/3/2026	DP006 NALC Payroll 2025-2026	£	115.20
TOTAL OUT		£	398.60

THOMPSON PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS				INCOME						
				YEAR ENDED 31 March 2026						
Date	From	Description		PRECEPT	SAVER A/C INTEREST	RECYCLING GLASS & PAPER	GRANTS ETC	VAT	MISC	TOTAL
08/04/2025	Breckland Council	Precept 1 of 2	DIR	4,150.00						4,150.00
02/06/2025	Barclays	Barclays Saver A/C Interest	DIR		31.66					31.66
23/07/2025	Breckland Council	Glass recycling payment	DIR			97.39				97.39
08/09/2025	Barclays	Barclays Saver A/C Interest	DIR		31.74					31.74
24/09/2025	Breckland Council	Precept 2 of 2	DIR	4,150.00						4,150.00
08/12/2025	Barclays	Barclays Saver A/C Interest	DIR		25.40					25.40
25/02/2026	HMRC	Vat annual refund 25/26	DIR					361.30		361.30
02/03/2025	Barclays	Barclays Saver A/C Interest	DIR		21.82					21.82
				8,300.00	110.62	97.39	0.00	361.30	0.00	8,869.31

£8869.31

THOMPSON PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS 2025 - 2026				EXPENDITURE																
				YEAR ENDED 31 March 2026																
Date	From	Description	CHQ	CLERKS WAGES	POSTAL SERVICE	PAYROLL EXPENSES	COUNCIL TRAINING	HALL HIRE	PRINTING	INSURANCE	AUDIT	DONATIONS	SUBS	GRASS CUTTING ETC	WEB SITE	DEFB	MISC	CAPITAL	VAT	TOTAL
20/05/2025	Info Commissioner	Annual Data Protection Fee	849										52.00							52.00
20/05/2025	Wyndham garden	Internal Audit 'Plant Hamper'	850								35.00									35.00
20/05/2025	NPTS	New Councillor Training	851			135.00														135.00
20/05/2025	Zurich Municipal Insur	Annual Insurance	852							264.00										264.00
20/05/2025	TTSR Limited	Grass cutting 1 of 4 (25%)	853										476.18					95.24		571.42
20/05/2025	Kim Austin Clerk	Clerk's wages M1, M2 Apr/May 25	854	549.12																549.12
15/07/2025	TTSR Limited	Grass cutting 2 of 4 (25%)	855										476.18					95.24		571.42
15/07/2025	Kim Austin Clerk	Clerk's wages M3 June 25	856	274.56																274.56
31/08/2025	TTSR Limited	Grass cutting 3 of 4 (25%)	857										476.18					95.24		571.42
30/07/2025	NPTS	Training New Cllr. (Tony Snelling)	858			65.00													13.00	78.00
16/09/2025	Annual donation	St. Martin's grass cutting (On inv)	859									507.46								507.46
16/09/2025	Kim Austin Clerk	Clerk's wages M4/M5 July/Aug 25	860	557.96																557.96
16/09/2025	Kim Austin Clerk	Clerk's wages - backpay	860	35.36																35.36
16/09/2025	Annual donation	Thompson Community Hall	861									350.00								350.00
16/09/2025	Annual donation	Wayland Partnership	862									350.00								350.00
16/09/2025	Annual donation	Millennium Green - TMGCT	863									550.00								550.00
31/10/2025	TTSR Limited	Grass cutting 4 of 4 (25%)	864										367.69					73.54		441.23
18/11/2025	Kim Austin Clerk	Clerk's wages M6/M7 Sept/Oct 25	865	566.80																566.80
08/11/2025	Kim Austin Clerk	Clerk's wages M8 Nov 25	866	283.40																283.40
30/11/2025	Kate Winslow	Reimburse TPC Xmas Tree	DP001																55.00	55.00
09/01/2026	NPTS	RG - Chairing meetings training	DP002				90.00													90.00
09/01/2026	NPTS	RG - Code of conduct training	DP003				72.00													72.00
20/01/2026	Kim Austin Clerk	Clerk's wages M9/M10 Dec25/Jan 26	DP004	566.80																566.80
13/03/2026	Kim Austin Clerk	Clerk's wages M11 Feb26	DP005	283.40																283.40
03/03/2026	NALC	Annual payroll services 24/25	DP006			96.00													19.20	115.20
				3,117.40	0.00	96.00	0.00	362.00	0.00	0.00	264.00	35.00	1,757.46	52.00	1,796.23	0.00	0.00	55.00	0.00	391.46
																				7,926.55

£7926.55

15.5 Budget Vs Actuals

Thompson Parish Council Budget Vs Actual			
AT 17/3/2026	Budget	Forecast	2025 - 2026
	2025/2026	2025/2026	Actual to date
	2025/2026	2025/2026	2025/2026
INCOME			
Precept	8,300.00	8,300.00	8,300.00
Recycling	100.00	100.00	97.39
Interest (Barclays Saver)	10.00	10.00	110.62
VAT	350.00	350.00	361.30
Total	8,760.00	8,760.00	8,869.31
			AS ACCOUNTS
EXPENDITURE			
Staff Costs including PAYE	3,294.00	3,294.00	3,117.40
Payroll services	96.00	96.00	96.00
Internal audit fee	35.00	35.00	35.00
Postage	25.00	25.00	0.00
Insurance	264.00	264.00	264.00
Grass cutting	1,904.70	1,904.70	1,796.23
Training	150.00	150.00	362.00
Printer/consumables	35.00	35.00	0.00
Website	187.40	187.40	0.00
Capital	100.00	100.00	0.00
Defibrillator (Batts/Pads)	200.00	200.00	0.00
Miscellaneous/Contingency	200.00	200.00	55.00
Donation - St. Martin's Church	500.00	500.00	507.46
Donation - Wayland Partnership	350.00	350.00	350.00
Donation - Thompson Community	350.00	350.00	350.00
Donation - Thompson Millenium G	550.00	550.00	550.00
Subs - Norfolk ALC	155.00	155.00	0.00
Subs - Info Comm Registration	52.00	52.00	52.00
VAT	300.00	300.00	391.46
Total	8,748.10	8,748.10	7,926.55
			AS ACCOUNTS
PRECEPT £8300	Budget	Forecast	Actual to date
2025/2026	2025/2026	2025/2026	2025/2026

15.6 To appoint Internal Auditor for end of year accounts 2025-2026

The Clerk proposed Michael Corrie as Internal Auditor again this year for the accounts. There was a unanimous agreement by the councillors in support of this proposal.

Clerk's notes and finance notes.

Clerks Wages.

The Clerk was not able to set up a standing order ? Not sure why - so paid by Direct Payment.

End of year accounts.

Parish Council end of year is 31st March. The Clerk will complete the accounts and submit for internal audit to be done in time for the May meeting where they will be signed off.

Bank Mandate.

Cllr. Gregory has not received a pin sentry card reader/pin number. Clerk to investigate. Cllr. Powrie is able to authorise. Cllr. Wagner should be able to authorise direct payments already set up by the Clerk.

VAT. VAT claim submitted for year 2024-2025 for £361.30 and money now received into bank account.

Co-opt a new Parish Councillor.

The Clerk had completed a Notice of Vacancy and returned to Breckland dated 25/02/2026. The due date for receipt of requests to hold an election is 17/03/2025. Breckland will confirm if/when we are able to co-opt. May be able to co-opt at May meeting if we have any applications.

Cllr. Powrie had an interested party who works at The Chequers PH and is moving into the village next week. It is a requirement that a candidate has resided in the Parish for at least 12 months. The Clerk will check if they are eligible to become a Councillor, based on their working in the Parish.

Thank you to Karen Keen for her time on the PC as a Parish Councillor.

Website. Online registration form submitted to RLS Services (13/3/26), confirming address as www.thompsonparish.gov.uk and preferences for web design as, **Theme 2 and Rural Green.**

Photographs of the Parish local area to be sent to RLS for incorporating into the website. Photos should ideally be landscape, and as large quality as possible. RLS ask, if you include landmarks such as buildings etc please ensure there is some space around them on all sides as the images are automatically resized

for mobile and desktops. Photos from Katharine Wolstenholme (church photos), Phil Weedon (events), Ron's photo of Chequers in the snow and JW has some photos too.

Chair role.

If anyone wishes to take on the position of chair on a permanent basis, they should let the Clerk know.

16. To consider planning applications

16.1 Planning outcomes since last meeting (20 January 2026)

No outcomes since last meeting.

16.2 Applications pending outcome

No applications pending outcome.

16.3 New applications since last meeting (20 January 2026)

No new applications.

16.4 Appeals

No new appeals.

16.5 Enforcements

Pockthorpe Lane ENF/016/25turning head update (KA)

This has been pending since August 2025. The Clerk has been requesting regular updates from Breckland Enforcement. The latest update from Steve Hunt (Assistant Planning Enforcement manager) is as follows.

The case is with the Council's Principal Lawyer who has set out various options for progression. The case is complex and is awaiting a meeting between, the LDC Director of Planning, the Principal Lawyer, myself, and the Planning Enforcement Manager. A meeting will then be set up to give a clear path forward. All parties involved in the case will be formally updated.

The Clerk has been keeping Cllr. Eagle informed as Breckland insisted the delay rests with Norfolk County Council Highways Team. Cllr. Eagle recently asked which NCC Highways Engineer was dealing with this.

Post meeting note: Breckland responded to Cllr. Eagle saying Rachel Line is the Highways Engineer working on this but also said it wasn't Highways causing the delay.

Griston Road encroachment/Boruch application (RG)

At the last meeting, after some discussion, it was agreed RG would write to Highways to let them know the PC would not be writing to the landowner as they had mixed views and would prefer Highways to deal with it. RG sent an email to Highways, just this morning, so any response can be discussed at the next meeting.

17. To discuss any correspondence.

There was no correspondence not already discussed.

18. AOB - To receive items for the next agenda.

Consolidation of local event advertising. During the discussion about the new PC website and links to other village organisations, an observation was raised that events pending within the Parish (and relevant other organisations) were being publicised on a variety of websites and in different publications. It was suggested that a consolidation of these in a centralised location might be beneficial.

With the pending roll-out of an updated Parish Website, it is seen as an opportunity to establish a consolidation of pending Local Events, pulling together related entities such as: Community Hall, Millennium Green, Waylander Magazine, Wayland Partnership, St Martin's Church, and local enterprises, etc. Cllr. RP agreed to put together a rolling Forecast of Events that brings all the above together in a 'One Stop Shop' to be available on the new website and hopefully can be readily updated as required.

Post meeting note: Cllr. RP has emailed both Word and Excel files to all councillors for comment.

Community Hall and TMGCT accounts. It was noted that Jean Kaye will be leaving the village. It was asked if she would continue to do the accounts for the hall and TMGCT? It was assumed JK would give notice if she was not able to continue doing the accounts.

Litter Pick. JW said there is a small number of volunteers for this task and a large number of bags of rubbish collected. It was noted that Kate and Geoff Winslow would be stepping down as volunteers. They were both thanked for their time and effort that had been much appreciated over the years. Cllr. DG agreed to take on the organisation of these events going forward. Kate agreed bagged rubbish could still be left at her house as normal on land adjacent to the driveway. Thank you Kate. They are held twice a year (March and November). Maybe consider road sign cleaning at the same time ?

Post meeting note. Duncan has been provided with a very comprehensive set of Litter Pick Organiser notes produced by Cllr. JW, which the Clerk will keep on file. Thank you to JW.

Glass recycling. Need to advertise that if glass bottles/jars are placed in the Glass Recycling containers at the Chequers Inn, the PC receives an annual payment (currently ~£100) rather than in household recycling bins.

Post Meeting Note: Bottles collected from the Litter Pick could be placed in the glass recycling containers at the Chequers Inn instead of Household rubbish to contribute to the annual glass payment to the Parish Council. Could try next time. There is also a paper recycling collection point at Chequers for which the church receives an annual payment from Breckland for the quantity recycled.

Parish noticeboard. The wooden noticeboard needs oiling. Cllr. TS volunteered to oil it.

Free Septic Tank upgrades. The Clerk had circulated an email regards free septic tank upgrades to all councillors.

Post meeting note: Upon investigation it was found that Thompson is not situated in an eligible area.

Daffodils. Would be lovely to plant more daffodil bulbs around the village to create a display like in Merton.

19. Resignation of newly elected chair

Cllr. Snelling resigned as chair of this meeting.

20. Date of next meeting - Tuesday 19 May 2026 in Thompson Community Hall - starting at the earlier time of 7.00pm. This is the Annual Parish Meeting and will be immediately followed by the AGM - Annual Parish Council Meeting.

Cllr. Tony Snelling and Cllr. Ron Powrie would agree which one of them will chair the May 2026 meeting.

Post meeting note: Cllr. Robert Garcia would chair the May 2026 meetings.

Meeting closed at 21.23