

WENDLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD
IN WENDLING VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 9th JULY
2026 AT 7.30 P.M.

Present: Cllr S. Warwick (Chair), Cllr M. Olley (Vice-Chair), Cllr S. Knight (acting as clerk) and Cllr D. Kemble.

Others Present: County Cllr T. Dickerson, Dist. Cllr R. Atterwill and 2 electors.

1. Welcome by the Chairman and to consider accepting apologies for absence.

The Chairman Cllr Warwick welcomed those present to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr C. Foster and Parish Clerk Griselda Hubbard, and these were approved and accepted.

2. To declare any Interests re items on the agenda.

No Interests were declared.

3. To confirm and accept minutes of the last Parish meeting held on 14th May 2026.

The minutes had been circulated. Cllr Kemble proposed the minutes of 14th May be accepted as true and accurate records of the meeting, seconded by Cllr Knight and carried. Cllr Warwick signed the minutes.

The minutes of the annual village meeting held on 14th May 2026 will be reviewed at the next annual village meeting in 2027.

4. To discuss any matters from the minutes of May 14th 2026 (not on the agenda).

No matters were arising from the last meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD

Our newly elected County Councillor Tom Dickerson introduced himself and gave updates from County Hall. Recycling for electrics has been restarted. The new County Hall leader David Bick has sent a letter to Ed Miliband stating opposition to four major solar farms planned for Norfolk. The membership fund previously in place for projects has been reallocated by the new Council and put back into highways. The membership fund was divided between divisions with £924k going back into Breckland highways team. Some projects can still be applied for but may take longer to turn around.

When asked if verges and hedges would be cut more frequently now, Cllr Dickerson said the intention was that things should return to 3-4 cuts/year, but that Parishes already varied on whether they wish these services to restart. Some like less verge cutting for the wildlife for example. He did say if places were deemed unsafe, they should be cut regardless and requested that if the Parish had any highways issues he was emailed directly by the Parish



Council. Cllr Atterwill asked if the Parish Partnership Scheme would continue and Cllr Dickerson said he would look into that and get back to Cllr Atterwill.

Cllr Atterwill reported that food waste collections will be starting in September. Households will receive a large blue bin and a container for food waste for use inside the house. The food waste is planned to go into biomass as fuel. He also reported that Breckland local plan documents are now available online for viewing.

A resident of Wendling enquired about the plans for the village pond project that has been started by the Parish Council. Cllr Warwick gave a brief outline of the historical pond appearance and use and said the aim was for the pond to become an area that, in time and only when all the work was done and any safety issues addressed, would return to being a pleasant amenity for the village. Cllr Warwick stressed that this would take time and that there was a lot of work to be done to get to this position.

The resident had brought two detailed drawings of his suggested way to proceed, and Cllr Knight said she would ensure these two drawings would be shared with all Parish Councillors. The resident finished by stating his willingness to engage and help with the Parish Council in moving this project forward.

This concluded the public participation period.

5. To discuss any necessary Correspondence.

There was no correspondence to discuss.

6. To get an update on the land transfer by Breckland Council idea.

Cllr Warwick had ascertained prior to the meeting that the Council has no plans for the piece of land currently owned by Breckland under discussion (that which adjoins a farmer's field where villagers are currently allowed to walk their dogs around or children can ride their bicycles). The villagers use this piece of Breckland's owned land as access to the field.

Cllr Atterwill pointed out that this field was not a public right of way and at the discretion of the owner.

If the access land value is less than £10k then Breckland will give it to the Parish Council for free, but registration of the land and solicitors fees are payable by the Parish Council, and the Parish Council would shoulder responsibility for the land going forwards. There is a time limit on this offer.

Cllr Olley will try to gather more information from Breckland Council and Cllr Atterwill gave Cllr Olley some contacts to try at Breckland.

Cllr Warwick felt this should be voted on when all Parish Councillors were present. In the meantime, he asked if Cllr Olley could try to get an idea of the numbers of villagers that use this land regularly.



The conclusion was more information would be gathered, and the Parish Council discuss it the next meeting in September if this was within the time constraints of Breckland's offer.

7. To discuss any Highways Matters.

Cllr Warwick had contacted highways about the foliage overgrowth on the footpaths especially leading to Greenbanks Hotel as raised at the last meeting. He is awaiting a response. Cllr Warwick will also now email Cllr Dickerson about this matter too.

8. To receive an update for Mr Pitt on footpaths along Swaffham Road towards the Greenbanks Hotel.

This was discussed under agenda item 7.

9. To discuss any Planning Applications received.

PL/2025/1005/PIP Land adjacent Lords Meadow House, Swaffham Road, Planning Appeal Decision – dismissed.

10. To discuss Solar Farm Updates, with new information, if any.

The County Council have sent a letter to Ed Miliband strongly stating their opposition to four major solar farms in Norfolk.

There was no local update other than this. Cllr Atterwill commented that connection points onto the grid are increasingly becoming an issue for projected solar farms.

11. To receive an update regarding the Village Pond.

Please see Public Participation Comments. Cllr Taylor and Cllr Olley are hoping to move this project forward later in the year.

12. To authorise financial payments.

Cllr Olley proposed the following financial payments be authorised, seconded by Cllr Warwick and carried.

Clerk's net salary £261.60	Clerk's expenses £50.20	HMRC Tax £65.40
Village Hall payment (for recycling) £122.53		

13. To receive a financial update from the Clerk.

The financial update had been circulated, and no one had any questions regarding this document.

14. To discuss any response from the Facebook post regarding speeding.

Cllr Olley received no online response to his Facebook post regarding speeding. He reported a couple of residents had talked to him about his post but no one has come forward yet to volunteer to be a speed gun operative.



15. To discuss Data Security

Cllr Warwick asked that this was discussed at the next meeting when more Councillors would be present.

16. To receive items for the next agenda.

Items requested to be on the next agenda included any solar farm updates, the village pond update, verge trimming as has been requested, to discuss more fully the potential land transfer from Breckland Council to the Parish Council and to discuss data security.

17. To confirm date, time and venue of the next Meeting.

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will take place on 17th September 2026 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall

As there was no further business to discuss, the Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 9 p.m.

Chairman 

Date 22-9-2026