

**Minutes of the Salhouse Parish Council meeting  
held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at 7.00pm  
in the Jubilee Hall, Lower Street, Salhouse**

**Present:** Bob Cooper (Chair), Wendy Browne, Andrew Peachment, Ben Hazell, Mark Baldock, Julie Redburn and Gary Browne.

**In Attendance:** Sarah Martin, Parish Clerk

**Members of Public:** 7

For the benefit of the public, all votes taken were by a show of hands and/or a verbal response from each individual Councillor.

**1. To receive and accept apologies for absence**

No apologies received - all Councillors present.

**2. To receive Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda and applications for dispensations**

None.

**3. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

The minutes were proposed to be approved, with no amendment, by Cllr. Hazell and seconded by Cllr. Baldock - all AGREED and signed by the Chair.

**4. Chairs report**

The Chair welcomed the new vicar Rev. Naomi Tuma to the Parish. PC projects for 2026/27 include: the Neighbourhood Plan, which is progressing well, and the recreation ground project following the survey to see what is achievable and affordable; GT16 planning is ongoing; reviewing The Reading Room Chairity and any other projects which may come up. There are currently 4 vacancies on the Parish Council.

**5. Public Participation and to receive District and County Councillor reports**

District Cllr. Martin Murrell reported on the new medical centre which should be open by the end of February 2026. Nothing further to report on the District Council.

District and County Cllr. Fran Whymark reported on the budget for County Council. It has had confirmed a 3-year settlement from Central Government, however this is based on the County Council increasing its council tax to 5% each year – this will be voted on and finalised in February.

A question was asked about a bus service from Salhouse to the new medical centre with a response From Cllr. Murrell that once the surgery opens this will be looed onto trying to be achieved. Rackheath PC looking into the possibility of finding a community bus. It was also asked if/how the 3-year government settlement will be affected by the unitary council/LGA - Cllr Whymark explained that this may have to be reviewed in 2028. Members of the public raised concerns for pedestrians on the footway at the corner of Mill Road/Lower Street where there have been a number of cars mounting the kerb, and requested a barrier be installed. They have been advised by Highways to raise this with the PC. Clerk to follow this up with Highways.

A member of the public spoke about the road between Station Road and Black Barn where there is no footway/path, only a sloped verge which is not safe for pedestrians to walk along. The Chair explained that this has been raised previously with Highways to

see if a trod/footway could be installed however advised that the width is too narrow. Clerk to raise again with Highways.

## 6. **Planning:**

### i) **To note planning report**

Circulated - Clerk to chase old planning applications outstanding for update.

Communications have been sent to BDC raising various issues around Black Barn Farm.

### ii) **To consider comments to the following planning applications:**

**20220663** - Land North Of Green Lane West Rackheath Norfolk - Proposal: Outline application for a mixed use residential led development with up to 3,850 dwellings (class C3); employment land, local centres and community facilities (classes Eg(i, ii, iii) , B2 & B8, C2, C3, E, F1, F2, sui generis); two primary schools, one secondary school (F1 (a)); cycle and vehicle parking for residents, visitors & staff, formal & informal open space, formal & informal landscaping, sports provision (classes E(d), F2(c) & (d), sui generis), orchards & allotments; utilities; energy centres, primary substation, substations, foul water treatment works and pumping stations, sustainable urban drainage infrastructure; internal access and pedestrian & cycle infrastructure, EV charging infrastructure with all matters reserved except vehicular accesses (and associated drainage infrastructure)

**Comment:** Due to Highways response only just being made public on the planning portal and as still awaiting the viability information, it was agreed to hold a further meeting to consider a response. Clerk to arrange meeting for Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026, 7pm and to request a large, printed map from the planning authority.

### iii) **To consider comments to planning applications received after the agenda published** None

## 7. **Playing Field and Recreation:**

### i) **To receive a report from working group, including tree steward**

No report from Tree Steward. Project this year to look at play equipment following recreation ground survey carried out in 2025. Working group to arrange meeting to analyse survey results. FC contract signed and rent received.

### ii) **To update on Salhouse United lease on recreation ground**

SUCT have received a reply from the Charity Commission re the lease of the playing field, and they state that there is no maximum term set by law, so longer leases are possible. Clerk to arrange a meeting with SUCT to discuss renewing/extending the lease.

### iii) **To consider pond maintenance**

Clerk to investigate group to carry out maintenance works and associated costs for PC to consider at next meeting.

## 8. **Highways**

### i) **To receive SAM2 data**

Data circulated. High speeds noted along Norwich Road. Clerks to investigate with Highways regarding signage.

### ii) **To receive update on Police priority meeting**

Cllr. Cooper gave brief update on meeting attended 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025. Most reported incident this period was Black Barn Farm Christmas fair and traffic issues caused. Crime rate in Salhouse remains low. Next meeting in March 2026.

### iii) **To discuss developments outside the Parish which affect infrastructure and knock on effect of Salhouse Parish, and to agree any actions**

Cllr. G Browne led a discussion on this item. It was highlighted infrastructure, amenities, sewerage and flooding issues, including within the Broads, caused by developments and not felt this is thought about in advance, and the detrimental effects on Parishes and

the environment. Cllr. Murrell explained the best way to raise this/object is through call for sites as local plans are already in place. It was suggested arranging a meeting with surrounding Parishes to collaborate all the issues to raise with Highways, County Council and planning authorities.

Cllr. Hazell left the meeting 20:01

**9. Neighbourhood Plan (NP)**

**i) To receive update regarding NP review**

Cllr. Baldock updated that the steering group have met to review the household survey results and started to pull together draft policies to be reviewed in February, along with design code work. Household survey results available on the PC website.

**10. Finance and Administration:**

**i) To note monthly bank reconciliation report**

AGREED by all.

**ii) To approve payments:**

S J Martin	December Salary - NET & Expenses	£1,027.52
The Norfolk Pension Fund	December	£333.28
Paul Green	Maintenance December 25 (1232)	£415.75

All payments APPROVED.

**iii) To approve Website Accessibility Statement**

Policy approved as presented.

**11. Budget 2026/27**

**i) To agree Budget**

Budget was AGREED as presented.

**ii) To agree General Reserves policy**

It was AGREED to set the general reserve at approximately 9 month precept.

**iii) To agree Precept**

Precept was AGREED at £33,848 for 2026/27. This is a 5.3% increase to 2025/26, which equates to £2.51 increase per band D property based on tax base 621. Clerk to submit request to Broadland District Council - the billing authority.

**12. To receive correspondence and agree response – all noted.**

- *General Correspondence*
- *Invitation to Jubilee Hall AGM Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026, 7.30pm – Cllrs. .... to attend to represent PC.*
- *North Norfolk Local Plan 2024-2040 - Formal Notice of Adoption*
- *Parishioner correspondence regarding dangerous bend on corner of Lower Street and Mill Road – PC would support this, however, to advise parishioner that this will be passed onto Highways for their view as their jurisdiction.*

**13. Any items for the Parish Council meeting on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

Pond maintenance