

Please note that minutes are published in draft form until approved at the next Council meeting

MINUTES OF THE GRESSENHALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 1st SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 7.00PM IN THE READING ROOM

11610 Present: Councillor Beazley - Chair Councillor Crisp
Councillor Melton Councillor Reader
Sue Horton (clerk)

Also in attendance: Councillor Atterwill, Councillor Duffield, Councillor Dickerson

12 members of the public

11611 To receive apologies for absence – Councillor Keidan, Councillor Radford, Councillor Day.

11612 Declarations of interest – All Councillors in attendance declared an interest in The Swan Public House.

11613 To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4th August 2026 – The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 4th August were agreed by all Councillors present and signed by the Chairman.

11614 To report progress on items not on the agenda from the last meeting (information only) – Cllr Melton reported that a meeting with Cllr Day and Norfolk Woods & Hedges had taken place to discuss tree maintenance in the village. It was proposed to budget £400 quarterly to manage tree maintenance. All councillors present agreed.

11615 Open forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from members of the public – A resident expressed concerns regarding the unauthorised development on the land to the west of Longham Road, which included an oak tree being felled, the installation of a hard standing area and the entrance way being doubled in size. It was reported that Breckland Enforcement had received a planning view on the development. A draft Delegated Authority report had been sent to the Enforcement manager to enable the lawyer to compile the necessary enforcement notice which will require the land to be cleared and restored. Once drafted, two representatives from Breckland Enforcement will attend the site and serve the notice on the occupant. Cllr Atterwill will follow up with Breckland Enforcement at the end of the week.

Norfolk Players would like to use the Social Club for rehearsing the pantomime due to be held in the village. A representative from the Norfolk Players reported that £20ph was unaffordable and asked if a concession could be made. All Councillors present agreed that the Parish Council wish to support the Norfolk Players however costs involved in running the Social Club need to be met. It was agreed that a package would be discussed and put forward.

11616 Reporting of any Highways Matters including:

- To receive any highways defects – Nothing to report.
- To receive any water leaks to report – There are still a number of water leaks in the village. These will be listed and sent to Cllr Atterwill.

11617 Report from County Councillor – Cllr Dickerson reported that the new County Council CEO is now in post. It was reported that the Council are in the process of preparing the budget for 2027-28. It was also reported that the new JCB pot hole probe would be surveying the village in the coming weeks.

Cllr Dickerson left the meeting at 7.30pm

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- 11618 To discuss and consider update on The Social Club – The invoice for the Fire Risk Assessment had been paid. The Parish Council will agree a package with the Pantomime Group. The Auctions are taking place every Monday and the football team continue to train on a Tuesday. Cllr Beazley reported that the bin emptying had been reduced to once a fortnight and the contract would be reviewed next July. It was agreed to publicise the Auction evenings in the News & Views.
- 11619 Update on the Gressenhall Community Car Scheme – 1054 miles covered 27 journeys with a total of 29 passengers. Total cost = £474.30, fares received = £218.00, balance to pay = £256.30. Breckland payment = £131.75, Parish Council payment = £124.55.

It was reported that there are two new volunteer drivers.

- 11620 To discuss and consider issues on the Green – discussed above.
- 11621 To discuss and consider update on the allotments – One response had been received from an allotment holder. It was agreed that the parish council would conduct a further inspection of the allotments following letters sent to allotment holders concerning maintenance of the plots.
- 11622 To discuss and consider bus shelter – No further quotes had been received at present.
- 11623 Update on the Local Plan – dates of the various sessions are on the Parish Council website.
- 11624 Update on the Surveyors Pit – Cllr Beazley reported that the auction for the sale of the Surveyors Pit is 9th September with a reserve figure to be agreed prior to the sale.

Two emails had been received from residents concerning the need for tree maintenance on the Surveyors Pit. It was agreed for Norfolk Woods and Hedges to take a look.

- 11625 To discuss and consider planning matters - **ENF/244/25 – Land to the West of Longham Road, Gressenhall** – As discussed earlier - it was reported that Breckland Enforcement had received a planning view. A draft Delegated Authority report had been sent to the Enforcement manager to enable the lawyer to compile the necessary enforcement notice which will require it to be cleared and restored. Once drafted, two representatives from Breckland Enforcement will attend the site and serve the notice on the occupant.

To receive planning decisions: None

- 11626 Report from District Councillor – Cllr Atterwill requested a definitive list of water leaks in the village and this would be followed up with Anglian Water.

Breckland Council had confirmed that no fires or barbecues were allowed at the Campervan Live event. However, it had been reported that there was excessive noise and this had been reported back to the organisers of the event.

Cllr Atterwill reported that the Government have introduced a National Scheme of Delegation in respect of planning applications. Parish Councils will still have the ability to comment on planning applications.

Cllr Atterwill reported that he will be attending the Local Plan meeting in Kings Lynn Corn Exchange on 8th September.

- 11627 Financial Matters – to confirm payment made in August: - S Robinson (fire assessment report – Social Club) = £649.68

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To confirm payments for Aug: Clerk salary and expenses - £297.80, HMR&C - £12.20, Gressenhall Community Car scheme (Parish) - £124.55, Gressenhall Community Car Scheme (Breckland) - £131.75, Norfolk Woods & Hedges (tree maintenance) = £668.00, Reading Room (hall hire) = £20.00, TTSR (grounds maintenance) = £952.03, Wright Clear Pest Control (mole control) = £150.00.

It was agreed by all Councillors present to continue with quarterly payments to Wright Clear Pest Control for the mole control.

All Councillors present agreed to payment of the accounts. It was agreed Councillors Beazley and Cllr Reader would authorise the payments online.

To receive income for August: Breckland Recycling credit = £172.38

11628 Reports from Councillors (for information only)

11629 Correspondence (for information only)

11630 To confirm the date of the next Meeting of the Parish Council – **Tuesday 6th October 2026** at 7.00pm.

That being all, the meeting closed at 8.05pm.

Signed:.....

Dated:.....