

SHROPHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: David Napier

Vice Chairman: Andy Thornton

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SHROPHAM PARISH COUNCIL on Tuesday 24th June 2025 at 7.30pm at SHROPHAM VILLAGE HALL

Those in attendance: David Napier, Lesley Brown, Peter Bush
Wayne Linge, Rob Wylie, Cliff Allen

1. **Apologies for absence**
Apologies were received from F Eagle and A Thornton.
2. **To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 13 May 2025.**
The Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 13th May 2025 were approved and signed by the Chairman.
3. **To record any Declarations of Interest and to consider any requests for Dispensations from Council Members.**
None.
4. **Guest speakers (County Councillor/District Councillor)**
"District Councillor Report June 2025

Breckland continues to lead the response to the government's call for proposals for unitary authority status in Norfolk on behalf of 6 authorities, Breckland, Broadland, Great Yarmouth, Kings Lynn, North Norfolk and Norwich City. The proposal being developed would see three Unitary Authorities established for Norfolk centred on the three largest settlements, Kings Lynn in the West, Great Yarmouth in the East and Norwich in the centre.

This approach would establish a more manageable grouping in both population size and geography with, perhaps more importantly, more localised representation and knowledge of the 'patch' compared with the alternatives of a single or two Unitary model.

Whilst this work is undertaken in readiness for submission to the Minister in September, Breckland continues with business as usual; we are still mandated to provide all of the statutory services and by choice those more discretionary services to individuals, communities and businesses until the Minister advises that with the impending change and, significantly, the election of the new Mayor in May 2026 some of the duties and responsibilities are passed onwards to alternative service providers.

Breckland is ahead of the game with regard to domestic food collection; vehicles are on order as are the requisite containers for residents to collect food waste. This is a service yet to commence although our commercial food waste collection is already underway.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATED:

CLERK: Joanne Blackman, Daisy Barn, 42 Long Lane, Feltwell, Norfolk, IP26 4BJ
Tel: 01842 829821 Email: clerk@shrophamparishcouncil.gov.uk
<http://shrophamparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

At Cabinet today we reported that the year end figures for 2024-2025 showed a surplus despite challenging areas within the organisation such as a significant reduction in planning and building control income and higher costs associated with temporary accommodation and housing.

The local plan process continues apace with local communities being involved in the process so that we can draw on a bottom up approach to delivering the 903 house that the Minister requires us to provide year on year through the next local plan period.

Cllrs Sarah Suggitt and Phil Cowen
June 2025"

P Cowen went on to explain that it has been a rushed process to prepare a response to the Government's unitary authority status. It is possible that we will discover which way it will go by the end of 2025 but most likely more into the Spring of 2026.

From April 2027 to May 2028 a Shadow Authority will be put in place to start taking things forward. P Cowen advised that the County Council have acted alone and have not wanted to work with the District Council.

D Napier advised that he would be attending the meeting arranged to discuss the issues on the 11th June and again on the 2nd July.

5. **Planning – Applications**

- a. **PL/2025/0737/HOU** - Meadow View, Hargham Road, Shropham, Attleborough, Norfolk, NR17 1DS – Loft conversion with dormer windows to the front and one dormer window to the rear of the property.
After discussion, the Council agreed they had no objection to this application.
- b. **PL/2025/0489/FMIN** – Land Off Hargham Road, Shropham, NR17 1DS – Erection of 4 dwellings and garages (1 no. self build and 2 no. market homes).
Comments have previously been submitted in opposition of this application. Undecided.
- c. **PL/2025/0316/VAR** – Caravan, Rustic Lodge, Low Road, Shropham, Norfolk – Removal of condition 3 on planning reference 3PL/2023/0659/F.
- d. **PL/2025/0194/FMIN** – Rustic Lodge, Low Road, Shropham, Attleborough, Norfolk, NR17 1EH – Retention of existing workshop, stable and mobile home (retrospective application).
Comments in opposition of both c and d have been submitted. Undecided.
- e. **PL/2025/0268/OMIN** – East Cottage, Watton Road, Shropham, Attleborough, Norfolk, NR17 1DY – Erection of one self build dwelling.
The Parish Council supported this application. Application has been refused on several grounds which do not appear to be relevant and the Applicant has been advised to appeal the decision and to make it clear that this is a self-build project.
- f. **PL/2025/0072/HOU** – Linwood Cottage, Watton Road, Shropham, NR17 1DY – Propose 2 storey rear extension, to include demolition of the existing garage and conservatory.
Application has been Granted with Conditions.
- g. **Local Government Reorganisation, Devolution and Local Plan.**
This was deferred until after the 2nd July meeting. A response will be submitted in due course to include footpaths, wi-fi coverage and the types of housing.

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6. **Finance – to approve and report the following expenditure:-**

- a. To approve payment including holiday pay allowance to the Clerk, Mrs Joanne Blackman for the month of May in the sum of £416.47.
- b. To approve payment to Shropham Village Hall for hall hire on 24 June 2025 in the sum of £10.00.
- c. To approve payment to Roger Canwell for Internal Audit in the sum of £46.50.

All payments were proposed by D Napier and seconded by P Bush, all voted in favour.

7. **To discuss, propose and vote on the following subjects:-**

- a. To adopt Receipts and Payments Schedule, Balance Sheet and Bank Reconciliation for Shropham Parish Council for the financial year 2024/25.
- b. To approve, sign and complete the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/25.
- c. To approve, sign and complete the AGAR Exemption Certificate 2024/25.

Items 7a – 7c were proposed by D Napier and seconded by P Bush, all voted in favour.

7. **Matters to Report**

- a. **Financial Balances** - £9,440.92
- b. **Parish Land/Land Registry** – no update is currently available. P Bush will speak to A Thornton to see where we are.
- c. **Highways** – there is still no date for the installation of the 40mph speed limit. There were no objections to the 8th April consultation, the Police are in favour and it is currently with Solicitors.

A complaint was received from a resident in relation to the state of the footpaths. D Napier has responded accordingly referring them to the County Council.

8. **Any items to be noted for the next Agenda**

None.

9. **Correspondence**

The Clerk advised that the Parish Partnership Scheme has funding available for various projects on a 50/50 basis. Consideration will be given to this at our next meeting. Deadline for submissions is 1st December.

- 10. To agree date for next meeting: Tuesday 30th September 2025.

Meeting closed at 8.31pm

Jo Blackman
Parish Clerk

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