



Meeting of the Parish Council

In the Pavilion

Following the Annual Parish Meeting, Monday 18 May 2026

MINUTES

Present: Councillors Christine Ashdown, David Bromley, John Davis, Ben Falat, Brian Keller, Sandie Keller, Jo Turner and Val Wickard.

Also in attendance: Michaela McGoun (Clerk). 2 members of the public. 0 District Councillor.

1. Welcome

2. To appoint a Chair

Cllr. Bromley proposed John Davis, seconded by Cllr. Falat, all in favour.

2.1 to sign the declaration of office form

The form was duly signed and witnessed by the Proper Officer.

Cllr. Falat thanked Cllr. s Keller for Charing for the past year, he would also suggest we update the Standing Orders to state that a Chair can only be in office for 3 years maximum.

3. To appoint a Vice Chair

Cllr. Bromley agrees with Cllr. Falat but suggests that Cllr. Davis will need a mentor, so he proposed Cllr. S Keller as Vice-Chair, seconded by Cllr. B Keller, all in favour.

4. Announcement on Reporting

Councillors and members of the public will be reminded that in the interests of openness and transparency, the law permits filming, recording or other means of reporting of meetings.

5. To receive and consider acceptance of apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllrs. B Keller, Bragg, Carver and Besford-Land.

6. Declarations of Interests and dispensations

4.1 Receive Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests from councillors on items on the agenda. None

4.2 To receive and consider written requests for dispensations for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. BF & DB Trustees of WOBYC.

4.3 To note any dispensations previously granted. BF – Yacht Club and Trustee for Water Sports. DB also Trustee for Water Sports.

7. To agree the minutes of the previous meeting held on 20 April 2026

Proposed by Cllr. Falat, seconded by Cllr. Ashdown, 2 abstentions, 6 in favour.

8. Outstanding actions: To note actions taken from last meetings which are not detailed on this agenda.

None

9. Chairman's Report:

Due to the Chair having only just accepted the position, Cllr. Falat raised a few points.

Water bill – received a very high monthly water bill, due to the meter serving all businesses on the park, we are looking into having water meters fitted to all outlets.

Personal Damage – recent claim for ripped trousers, which was agreed in the office.

Oli Foods – complaints of drainage overflow and strong unpleasant smell – reported to Environmental Health.

Slipway / Watersports – reports of rats. To be investigated further.

EDF Electric – Large bill received for the office of around £11,000.00. This has been raised with them and is ongoing.

10. Public Forum and Public Service Reports:

An opportunity for members of the public to make comments on any matters on this agenda. This forum will include **receipt of any written District Council, County Council reports.**

No reports received

11. To receive an update from FoNEP and agree any necessary action.

I would like to say Congratulations to John.

Voluntary hours for April were 169. FoNEP AGM recently and the committee were re-elected. Ivans tree has been replaced, and discussions are taking place with the family regarding the plaque. Geoff thinks it would be a good idea to draw up a planned replacement tree schedule looking further into the future. They would like to thank Cllr. Bragg for the donation of plants. Clerk to send Geoff a copy of last year's green flag report.

Chair thanked all the FoNEP volunteers.

12. To note the Parish Council still holds the General Power of competence.

Noted

13. To receive a Finance & Projects Brief.

- Box up – Relocated but not yet operational
- Parish Press – Royal Mail delivery quote was a fortune so it's cut our losses or find another form of delivery. GY Leaflet Distribution was discussed, and it was agreed to get them to deliver it.

- Padel – Indication that it will not proceed due to the cost of levelling the court.
- Tennis Courts – cleaned but overhanging trees causing a danger. Planning has been sought for tree works with Broads Authority.
- Leisure Centre – A highly positive presentation by the new sub-lessee who runs other businesses and appears very conscientious to work with us.
- VAT Refund – A welcome refund awaiting but not yet received.
- Internal Audit – Last financial years internal audit was noted for its complimentary report and welcome low cost to us.

14. To approve financial year's 25/26 AGAR forms as below and agree any action:

14.a Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2025/26 (page 4 of AGAR)

14.b Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2025/2026 (page 5 of AGAR)

14.c Review and agree detailed 1A report (page 3 of AGAR)

These were distributed to the Councillors and discussed and all agreed.

Proposed by Cllr. Ashdown, seconded by Cllr. Bromley, all in favour.

15. To discuss working with disadvantaged Children.

Cllr. Bromley explained that disadvantaged children is a problem that we know exists. Working with Lowestoft Rotary Club, and we have, now, joined forces, the three clubs, with Lowestoft Town Council. A councillor by the name of Andy Pearce, Lexington Councillor, and we are discussing some initiatives.

- The first initiative is a Christmas initiative.
- And we're doing a scheme this year for... called Coats for Kids.
- Now, it's a terrible thing. A lot of kids in Lowestoft have not got coats.
- We gave 200 teddy bears, virtually, to kids that didn't exist last year.
- Obviously, when you're looking at disadvantaged kids here, you've got to be very careful of what you do, what you say, how you do it. I won't give you the full detail, but I can assure you, it's all in hand in a very sensitive way.
- And that is being controlled by Lowestoft Town Council, who are specialists in this sort of thing.
- We'll also look again at Christmas. As Santa again on the sleigh doing the Ho Ho Ho bit, all the way around the town.
- But everything I'm doing, I'm also mentioning this council.
- Because I am the council, part of the council, so what I do reflects on here.

To note the next Parish Council meeting and committee meetings: Finance Committee 11 June, Full Council 15 June 2026.

16. To resolve that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded from the Meeting on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted:

- **To discuss a grant application.**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 19.00pm.

Signed by the Chairman..... Date.....