

DENNINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting held on Monday 6th July 2026 at 7.30pm at Dennington Village Hall



1. Councillors present

Robert Wardley (Chair)
Matt Lunn
Faye Shirmer

John Calver
Vashti Mouncer

Nick Hopewell- Smith
Kevin Shelver

Cllr. Sam Steward sent his apologies (working) and these were accepted.

Also in attendance

Lydia Kindred (clerk) 1 member of public County Cllr. Stephen Molyneux (until item 6)
District Cllr. Langdon-Morris sent his apologies.

2. Declarations of interest

None

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on 11th May were approved as a true record.

4. Matters arising

None

5. Public Forum

The County Councillor introduced himself and explained that he now represents an area previously covered by two County Councillors. He advised that he is attending as many Parish Council meetings as possible to meet local councillors and residents and offered his support with any issues affecting the parish. His written report had been circulated in advance, and he provided further updates on some of these items.

A resident advised that he intends to cut back hedges that are encroaching onto the public highway. The hedges had previously been left to grow to help protect the village verges.

6. Chair's report

The Chair reported on a battery failure within the defibrillator at Owl's Green and reiterated the ongoing costs associated with running defibrillators. The battery has now been replaced and the unit is in service again.

7. Clerk's report

SALC's AGM will be held on Thursday 9th July.

All AGAR documentation has been submitted to the external auditor and published online. We are currently in the public rights inspection period, which is running from 3rd June to 14th July 2026.

HMRC has increased the approved mileage rate to 55p per mile.

Councillors may now remove their home address from the public Register of Interests and replace it with the prescribed Localism Act statement. Other property interests must still be declared.

Suffolk County Council has voted to challenge the Government's Local Government Reorganisation proposals of having three Unitary Councils. Updates are available on SCC's website.

Planning application DC/26/0977/FUL (Harvest Barn, Church Farm, Clay Hill) has been approved.

Consent forms and waivers have been obtained for the installation of pedestrian warning signs on privately owned land and Cllr. Hopewell-Smith will pass these to the clerk for the Council's records.

The Council's Mailchimp mailing list has now increased to 14 subscribers. The clerk has written articles for the Summer Newsletter to report on recent updates and news including the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme, community website and Mailchimp communications.

East Suffolk Council's 'Better Recycling' rollout has experienced some initial issues, including the food waste collection contractor difficulties. Residents are encouraged to use the ESC app for collection information and service updates.

8. Responsible Financial Officer's report

a) The following payments were considered and approved:

Amount	Payee	Details
£239.20	HMRC	PAYE to 05.07.2026
£1,034.83	L. Kindred	Pay to 30.06.2026
£20.00	Dennington Village Hall	Hall hire July
£267.60	First Rescue Training & Supplies	Replacement Defibrillator battery
£360.00	ProTimber	Installation of poles at Owl's Green

b) Receipts since the last meeting were noted:

Interest of £45.28 and £12.26

c) The bank balances, statements and bank reconciliation as at 30.06.2026 had been circulated and were reviewed and signed by Cllr. Shirmer as a non-banking mandate Councillor in the absence of the Examining Councillor.

d) The year-to-date financial statement was reviewed, and this was in line with the budget.

9. Current and ongoing highways and footpaths issues in the village

A resident has raised safety concerns about cars parked on Saxtead Road near Swainston Way and with the verges here not being cut low enough to see safely. This causes a particular problem at this time of year with a number of agricultural vehicles using this road. The verges can be cut by volunteer mowers and the Chair will send the County Councillor details of the issue, and SCC's response to our request for an extension to this layby to help alleviate these parking issues.

Some potholes at Clay's Hill have been repaired and some white lines in the village have been refreshed.

10. Correspondence:

East Suffolk Council- Scoping Consultation on preparing a new Local Plan in East Suffolk. Deadline 29th July 2026 – this was noted and Councillors are invited to respond as residents

Framlingham Town Council- Consultation on draft Amended Neighbourhood Plan.

Deadline 31st August - this is available to view and comment on online or at the Town Council Offices.

Stradbroke Parish Council- Invitation to People's Emergency Briefing screening- the Clerk attended Greener Fram's viewing of this film in May.

11. New Residents Welcome Pack

Cllr. Mouncer will email this to all Councillors.

12. Councillor Reports on actions and updates

Cllr Wardley reported on a successful fete organised by the Sports Club.

13. Matters to be raised at the next meeting

14. Next meeting

The next meeting was confirmed as being on Monday 14th September 2026.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.25pm.

Signed **Date**
Chair