

Minutes of a meeting of Carbrooke Parish Council held in Carbrooke Village Hall on 14 April 2026

Councillors present: N Defew (Chair), J Borrett, L Brazell, W Leport, D Page, L Poole, G Redfern.

In attendance:- N Hartley (Parish Clerk), Cllr H Crane (Breckland Council), P Arrowsmith (Manager of the Community Hub), one member of the public.

Public Participation

The Council was asked about the proposal for a Community Car Scheme. It was noted that this had been promoted in the Carbrooke Magazine to assess the demand and that no residents had come forward.

1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr P Bate (Breckland Council).

2 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Leport declared an interest in planning application PL/2026/0474/HOU as he lives in a neighbouring property.

3 Minutes

It was **RESOLVED** to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2026. The Chair signed the minutes.

4 Matters Arising

None.

5 Report from Breckland Councillor

A copy of Cllr Crane's report is attached to the minutes.

6 Planning

6.1 The Council considered the following applications:-

Land to north of Shipdham Road

PL/2026/0424/FMIN

Erection of five detached bungalows, garaging and associated external works

It was noted that the Parish Council had previously objected to application PL/2025/0730/FMIN for seven bungalows on the site. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council would reiterate its original objections and that it objected to the new application. The Council remained concerned by the increased risk of

flooding, as the ditches cannot currently cope with the amount of water. The Council was not satisfied that enough had been done to overcome the objections raised to the original application, which was refused. The property is outside the Settlement Boundary. The visibility onto the road is not good and any new properties would result in increased traffic through the village.

Davonne, Church Street
Replacement detached garage

PL/2026/0474/HOU

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council had no objection to this application.

6.2 The Council considered the following applications as a consultee:-

Units C1 & C2, Neaton Business Park, Norwich Road
Proposed continued B8 (storage and distribution) use of Units C1 & C2 with unrestricted 24/7 operation; the installation of external air-conditioning & ventilation plant with associated ductwork and minor elevation amendments including signage and formalization of staff and operational vehicle parking arrangements

PL/2026/0360/FMIN

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council had no objection to this application.

Units C1 & C2, Neaton Business Park, Norwich Road
Proposed continued B8 (storage and distribution) use of Units C1 & C2 with unrestricted 24/7 operation; the installation of external air-conditioning & ventilation plant with associated ductwork and minor elevation amendments including signage and formalization of staff and operational vehicle parking arrangements

PL/2026/0305/ADV

It was **RESOLVED** that the Council had no objection to this application.

7 Local List

The Council considered Breckland Council's consultation on the Local List. It was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council had no comments to add.

8 Finance

8.1 The following payments were approved in accordance with the budget:-

N Hartley, clerk's salary, £822
HMRC, clerk's Paye & Hub manager's Paye, £669.67
Norfolk Parish Training & Support, annual subscription, £636
Npower, street lighting, £147.02
R Poole, reimbursed costs of printing Carbrooke magazine, £603.09
Spartek Ltd, replace lights for dimmable fittings in Hub, £1,922.98
Norfolk Games and Frames, repairs to play equipment at Lancaster Avenue, £3,046.08
Norfolk Games and Frames, safety surfacing at Lancaster Avenue, £22,252.58
SCS Accounting Solutions, payroll services, £18

8.2 The following payments were made from the Commuted Sum:-

Marnick Landscapes Ltd, grass cutting at Blenheim Grange, £600

Top Garden Services, clearance of trees at Spitfire Drive, £960

Thomas Cary (RJT Waste Management)– removal of flytip at Blenheim Grange, £150

8.3 The Council noted receipt of the following payments:-

Carbrooke Parish Council (Hub account), payment for manager's Paye, £248.40

Barclays Bank, interest on account, £40

Grantscape, grant for safety surfacing Lancaster Avenue play area, £18,469

8.4 The Council's Internal Control Officer reported that he had carried out the latest checks and that everything was in order.

9 Payment of Salaries by Standing Order

The Clerk asked if his salary could be paid by Standing Order. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council agreed to this.

The Hub Manager asked if her salary could be paid by Standing Order. It was **RESOLVED** that the Council agreed to this.

10 Hub Manager's report

A copy of the report is attached to the minutes.

11 Hub's Finance report

A copy of the report is attached to the minutes.

12 Improvements to the bus stop near the Flying Fish

Cllr Poole said there was funding available from Norfolk County Council for improvements to bus stops, including new bus shelters. The approximate cost to the Parish Council will be about £1,000 per shelter.

It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Poole will carry forward investigations into changes to the bus stops near the Flying Fish and near Salmond Road. She will also investigate the cost of a TROD from Summer Lane to the stop near the Flying Fish to improve public safety.

13 Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Poole said that the Survey had been included in the Carbrooke magazine and that this had been delivered to residents. The Steering Group is meeting the contractor again on May 6 to carry matters forward.

14 Items for inclusion on the next agenda

None.

15 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at in the Village Hall on May 12 at 7pm.

The meeting was closed at 7.30pm.

Signed Chair

Date

Breckland Councillor's Report

Cllr Crane delivered the following report.

Local Government reorganisation -On the 25th March a letter was sent to the leader from the secretary of state for housing, communities and local government confirming the three unitary model for Norfolk. This means that for Breckland there will be a join up with Kings Lynn and West Norfolk and will also include 9 parishes from South Norfolk. As a Council we have been talking and meeting with both senior officers and cabinet members from Kings Lynn over the last few months as this was our hoped for outcome from something that we neither requested or wanted. I have always believed that local government should be local and although not what I personally would have wanted I will work to ensure that residents of Breckland have the best local outcome possible. The desire is that there should be no noticeable difference in the services that residents receive. Time will of course tell. As yet the boundaries have not been released from the boundary commission for wards within this model.

On the 13th march Breckland launched £100k grant for the 5 Market Towns. This is the new Pride in Breckland initiative and was approved as part of the Council's annual budget. One off grants to each of the 5 Market Towns will be assigned to deliver projects that benefit each town.

Additional support for the Armed forces community has been set out including a new grant scheme. £11,500 has been ring fenced for community groups to apply for grants of between £250 and £1,000. The new primate licensing came into effect and it will be illegal to keep a primate without a licence after the 6th April 2026. We have reached out to vets in Breckland to ensure that anyone known to keep such animals is aware of the new law.

The PSPO (Public space protection order) has been approved for Dereham. The PSPO can be enforced by police and also Breckland Council's street wardens.

Community Hub Report

Spartec have solved the problem of the dimmer lights buzzing the invoice can be paid.

Update A new beginners Fit steps group starts in March so anyone who is looking to start dancing it starts 7th March 9am. It is proving to be popular with some very positive comments being made about the new group.

All groups are running well and attracting more people each week.

Unfortunately, we have had more fly tipping off Fortress Road this is being removed ASAP.

The litter picking volunteers are continuing to do a great job.

The Hub delivered 800 Parish Council magazine which have proved very popular with the local community.

A new group will be starting after Easter 6-10years group and a 11+ group operated by the Fountain of Life Church.