

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday
10 July 2025 at 7.30 pm in the Community Centre**

palgravepc@gmail.com

Present: Cllrs Bremner (DB), Collins (EC) Cooper (WC), Fausset (RF), Hollowday (SH), Pudney (VP), and Wheele (MW).

Also in attendance: The Clerk; and one member of the public.

- 07.10.01 **Chair's Welcome:** Cllr Fausset welcomed everyone to the meeting which was not being recorded.
- 07.10.02 **Apologies for Absence:** No apologies, all present. Ongoing apologies from RF for late arrival.
- 07.10.03 Vacancies and Co-Option of New Councillor: Peter Coulson, after giving a brief résumé of his experience, was welcomed and co-opted onto the Parish Council and signed his Declaration of Office. This leaves 3 vacancies.
- 07.10.04 **Declarations:**
1. Cllr Bremner declared a Pecuniary Interest in agenda item 07.10.10a and signed the register. No other declarations or dispensations.
 2. Councillors were reminded of their obligations under the new Code of Conduct.
- 07.10.05 **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting of 12 June 2025 were approved and signed by the Chair.
- 07.10.06 **Matters arising:** There were no matters outstanding not elsewhere on the agenda.
- 07.10.07 **Reports for Information:** No reports received except the monthly Mid Suffolk briefing note. Apologies received from both County and District Councillors who were unable to attend.
- 07.10.08 **Public Forum:** No members of the public present.
- 07.10.09 **Statutory Business and General Governance:**
- a) The following policies was approved and adopted: IT Policy. A Tree Management Policy including risk assessment to be reviewed in September. A biodiversity policy was considered and deemed not necessary at present. The PC owns the Cemetery and The Green which are both well managed. The two solar farms will have to produce Biodiversity statements which we will closely monitor.
 - b) Consultations and updates: (i) update re Norwich to Tilbury Pylon scheme- archaeological trench digging has started across several sites. MW monitoring. No other update. (ii) Devolution update – Clerk gave the latest update, detailed information is on our website.
- 07.10.10 **To consider matters relating to planning for Palgrave -**
- a) The following Application was considered. *Cllr Bremner left the room.* DC/25/02818 @ Elm Vale Cottage, Denmark Hill - Regularisation of design amendments during construction & retention of part change of use of approved stable block from tack/feed room/grooms accommodation to 2 x 1-bedroom holiday lets. The PC voted unanimously to make a comment requesting a condition be written into any granted planning permission that the accommodation is not sold off and turned into residential use. *Cllr Bremner came back into the meeting.*
 - b) The following Planning Determinations was received from BMSDC ; DC/25/01568 Discharge of approved conditions 3,4,5 and 6 @ Garnet Gouse, The Green re DC/24/05378.
 - c) Solar Farms update: Cllr Wheele confirmed communication made with PS Renewables (PSR). Meeting to be held soon. Some construction will begin in October, the major construction will begin in January 2026, completion due autumn 2026. A Parish Liaison Scheme document was drafted by PSR for approval. To be signed and returned to PSR. MW will be the primary lead. MW/RF working on the Pre-Development Project. *NB: Post meeting*, the landowner has confirmed that he will allow access to the land should this be required to log any information, take photographs etc.
 - d) Planning enforcement response updates: Response received re Jewson's buildings on the north of the River Waveney stating case closed due to time lapse from original construction. Lion Road Woods- more information required re any remaining caravans. **Action:** VP to investigate
 - e) No other planning matters for information only.
- 07.10.11 **Finance:**
- a) Payments totalling £2419.21 approved and signed by Cllrs Wheele and Fausset, viewable on website.
 - b) Receipts: £65 cemetery donation; £75 cemetery fees; Bank interest £255.43; Uk Power Networks annual wayleave payment £150.24.
 - c) Bank reconciliation for the period to 30 June 2025 approved and signed by Cllr Bremner. Up to date accounts for the first quarter distributed to all and noted.
 - d) Annual additional Cloud storage for security and back up agreed for purchasing by the Clerk at £19.99 p.a.

- 07.10.12 **Palgrave School:** SLG Meeting notes distributed. (i) Contractor not yet appointed re play area - awaiting to hear about funding. The Clerk has emailed CIL Expenditure with detailed information as to a possible bid and expecting response next week. Clerk had conversation with auditor re the legality of the project if it is in the PC's name and the consequences thereof. (ii) Following a request, it was agreed to ask the school to park the Mini bus at the secure location in Gislingham during the summer holiday. (iii) No further update re school parking project. Parking permits not currently being used. Final questionnaire still outstanding. **Action:** RF to action / finalise both matters for new school year.
- 07.10.13 **P.D.C.C:** SH confirmed the fete went well but involved a lot of work for little monetary reward. Latest Bingo event cancelled due to lack of interest.
- 07.10.14 **D.D.N.P:** Update from DB - In person meeting held this week. The huge number of Solar Farms are the main concern. Members at the meeting asked who is responsible for accountability if planning conditions are not adhered to, and if the land is not put back to the pre-solar state when the leases expire. Is a commitment needed in advance from BMSDC confirming any concerns will be dealt with immediately and won't take over 500 days (as in a recent enforcement issue) to be acted upon. It was resolved to write to District Councillor Weller (TW) with our concerns so we can have confidence that any issues will be dealt with as a matter of urgency. DB would like a.n.other on the DDNP alongside him. **Action:** DB to write to TW. Clerk to re-advertise for a member of the public to come on the DDNP
- 07.10.15 **To consider matters and any actions required for those relating to the Community of Palgrave -**
- Highways & road related issues; (i) Works to the grass verge outside Malt House still o/s. (ii) Environment agency to be expedited re Crossing Road drain – nothing has transpired to date. (iii) Overhanging hedges outside the 2 houses as minuted last month have been written to. (iv) Scaffolding lorry is using Crossing Road again as a frequent shortcut. **Action:** Clerk to contact company again requesting all drivers adhere to the weight restrictions and do not use Crossing or Priory Roads
 - Speeding and associated matters: 20mph project – the site meeting held last week went well. Entire area walked through re signage, restrictive line markings etc. RF satisfied that we may lose some signs and gain some but overall signage should not be more than we currently have. Next step is receipt of their design plan for our consideration. ANPR camera should have been in situ earlier in the week, Clerk to query what happened.
 - The Green and pond updates: (i) Trees in pond – Removed by local farmer as requested. (ii) Clerk updated the pond risk assessment. (iii) Trees - Tree assessment being carried out imminently. A Tree Risk Management Policy and a Tree Risk Management Report to be drafted by the Clerk for approval in September.
 - Other Open Spaces: Himalayan Balsam issue as minuted last month – no response to date. **Action:** Clerk to expedite again. Priory Wood: Household has been written to re fir tree waste being put in the wood.
 - Churchyard & Cemetery: Clerk to readvertise for help to tidy up the Cemetery. Replacement Bench with plaque to be discussed at next Cemetery meeting in September.
 - Village sign stand: Work completed last week. Looks good. This project is now complete.
 - BT Kiosk and Manorial Waste land– Clerk updated all. Listed Building Consent application submitted with supporting documentation to upgrade the phone box, awaiting outcome. Pride in Your Place application submitted covering the Phone Box and a Historic House Trail with A3 tri-fold footpath map on one side and trail on the reverse side. Clerk showed a similar flyer for the Laxfield trail. Clerk has also made enquiries with the National Grid through their Community Grant Programme. Awaiting outcome of both funding enquiries. Clerk has a local person willing to work with us and the school to transfer the images onto the larger panes of glass. Awaiting confirmation from the school that they are on board with the project. Historic House Trail / Information Board work restarted by the Clerk. All households surrounding the Manorial Waste land have been written to. The 2 benches both need attention, one very urgently. Quote received for £164 to clean down and treat these 2 benches as well as the wooden bench near the pond. The work was unanimously approved by the Parish Council.
 - Village Clean Up morning agreed for 11 October 10 – 12 noon, to meet at the church. **Action:** Clerk to make arrangements with the church, advertise etc.
- 07.10.15 **Correspondence:** The Clerk gave a brief update on Martyns Law and its implications.
- 07.10.16 **Motion under the Public Bodies** (admission to meetings) Act 1960 – Nothing to report.
- Date of next meeting** – Thursday 11 September 2025 at 7.30pm. Note this will be preceded at 7pm by a Cemetery Meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Caroline Emeny (Clerk to Palgrave Parish Council)

FINANCIAL REPORT – 30 June 2025

Current account Unity Trust Bank Account No. Sort codeStatement no's 076 & 029 dd 30/6/2025

Current account statement balance	£ 4,608.90
Savings Account statement balance	£ 39,924.11
Overall Total Reconciles with Accounts Balance As Per Spreadsheet	£ 44,533.01