

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

clerk@palgrave-pc.gov.uk

Present: Cllrs Collins (EC) Cooper (WC), Hollowday (SH), Pudney (VP), and late arrival Cllr Fausset (RF).

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

- 11.13.01 **Chair's Welcome:** Cllr Pudney welcomed everyone to the meeting which was not being recorded.
- 11.13.02 **Apologies for Absence:** Apologies accepted and approved from Cllrs Bremner (DB), Coulson (PC), and Whele (MW).
- 11.13.03 **Vacancies and Co-Option** of Councillors: Keith Charman (KC) was co-opted and welcomed back onto the Parish Council after an absence of several years. This leaves just 2 vacancies. KC signed his Declaration of Office.
- 11.13.04 **Declarations:**
1. There were no Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests declared and no requests for dispensations.
 2. Councillors were reminded of their obligations under the new Code of Conduct.
- 11.13.05 **Minutes:** The minutes of the meeting of 9 October were approved and signed by the Chair.
- 11.13.06 **Matters arising:** There were a few outstanding matters still being chased with TW and DB. Clerk will expedite again.
- 11.13.07 **Reports for Information:** No report from County Cllr Fleming. District Cllr Weller's (TW) report circulated ahead of the meeting and can be viewed on our website.
- 11.13.08 **Public Forum:** No members of the public present but 2 complaints received (i) illegal parking outside The Reading Room and (ii) abusive speeding cyclists on The Lows footpath. Resolutions were discussed on how to mitigate such incidents. **Action:** *Letter to be issued re the parked car and advice put in The Star re cyclists*
- 11.13.09 **Statutory Business and General Governance:**
- a) The following policies were updated and approved with no major amendments: Health and Safety; Power Specifically Delegated to the Clerk/RFO; ICO Model Publication Scheme
 - b) Consultations and any updates on previous ones: (i) Norwich to Tilbury Pylon scheme – registered with the Planning Inspectorate. Clerk to submit the necessary comments required as part of the registration process. Clerk acknowledged contact made from a group called SNORE – Suffolk & Norfolk Oppose Renewable Eyesores - they may be useful in assisting us with submission documents. (ii) Devolution update – awaiting Government decision. (iii) MSDC Joint Local Plan Call for Sites 2025 – note this is a new invitation for suitable housing sites over and above the sites already submitted in 2024. (iv) Notice of Community Governance Review – note we have submitted a request to reduce our Councillor requirement from 11 to 10. (v) Suffolk Water Recycling, Transfer & Storage Project – this project does not affect Palgrave so noted only. The nearest development will be a Western Service Reservoir near the Eye Business Park. More information can be found at <https://suffolkwaternetnetwork.co.uk>
- 11.13.10 **To consider matters relating to planning for Palgrave -**
- a) The following Application was considered: DC/25/03849; Demolition of existing storage barn and erection of replacement oak framed storage barn @ Blea Tarn, Low Water Lane. The Council voted to approve the application.
 - b) The following approved Planning Determinations were received from BMSDC:- DC/25/04072: Works to Trees in a Conservation Area @ 4 The Paddocks, The Green. DC/25/04070 – Construction of a 2-bay open cart lodge @ The Old Guildhall, The Green. DC/25/03576: Extension of existing dropped kerb @ Corner Cottage, Lion Road. Note various Discharges of conditions re Grange Solar Farm listed under 'c' below.
 - c) Solar Farms update: **Grange Farm** – MW advised site meeting on 26 November with PS Renewables (PSR). Site entrance signs on Lion Road and A143. Mud on Lion Road - MW keeping an eye on this. PSR have advised the road will be cleaned regularly. PC complained about the size of the stone debris on Lion Road – Note photos needed in future of the mud / debris filled road itself so we have evidence thereof. Need to educate PSR about keeping the road clean. Lorries are also coming up from Victoria Road - they should be accessing the site from the A143 / Lion Road. **Action:** *Clerk to investigate the Construction Traffic Management Scheme re above concerns*
- Pre-Development Task List: The photography club have completed their project, total of 777 photos cataloguing the site. Clerk obtaining all the data on Monday. RF suggested we need 2 lots of back up data. The PC would like to express their gratitude to everyone involved in photographing the site.

The following conditions discharged by BMSDC in regard to Grange Farm:

Condition 37- Construction Environmental Management Plan; Condition 38 – Internal Access Track Design; Condition 21 – Construction Surface Water Management Plan; Condition 20 – Drainage Strategy; Condition 24 – Archaeological Management Plan; Condition 6 – Construction Environmental Management Plan for Biodiversity.

Marsh Solar Farm (Aura) – no work anticipated until Spring 2027.

d) Planning enforcement response updates: No update from TW re removed hedge on Millway Lane.

e) Other planning matters for information only – DC/25/03607: Application for consent to install a Tourist Information Board with waterproof leaflet dispenser at land adjacent to BT phone kiosk on Manorial Waste Land south of Lion Road. This was approved under delegated powers due to it being our own planning application as part of the Out of the Box project. The Clerk wanted her thanks minuted to Phil Dyer for his assistance with the application documents.

11.13.11 **Finance:**

a) Payments totalling £2004.98 approved, signed by EC and VP, viewable on website

b) Receipts: £65 cemetery donation; £463 BMSDC Locality Grant from TW re cemetery bench. .

c) Bank reconciliation for the period to 31 October 2025 approved and signed by WC. Up to date accounts noted. Note: Work will commence on the 26/27 budget at the next meeting.

11.13.12 **Palgrave School:** Meeting arranged with Clerk, RF, WC and the school head and various governors on 17 Nov to discuss the playground project. Parking issues – RF will also discuss at this meeting.

11.13.13 **P.D.C.C:** SH confirmed various works carried out due to grant income: new lounge floor, drainage works nearly complete, and external flagstone work. Improvements to the outdoor patio to start soon.

11.13.14 **D.D.N.P:** DB not present so awaiting update from meeting on 21 October.

11.13.15 **To consider matters and any actions required for those relating to the Community of Palgrave -**

a) Highways & road related issues; (i) Works to the grass verge outside Malt House still o/s. (ii) Crossing Road blocked gully - Clerk has expedited again with all agencies and awaiting responses. Known blockage between the 2 gullies at Oak Tree Cottage and the next gully south caused by a Railway Level Crossing sign installed through the old drainage pipes as proven by a small team of volunteers who live nearby. Clerk reported this specific information to SCC Highways asking for urgent action - the blockage between the 2 gullies was first reported 12 months ago. County Cllr Fleming copied into this request. This issue has dragged on for over 18 months with several conversations held with nearby householders.

b) Speeding and associated matters: 20mph project – Public Consultation completed. **Action:** Clerk to chase for update and signage plans as discussed at the July site meeting. KC reported an illegal lorry using Crossing Road last week to the SCC Lorrywatch team with photographic evidence showing livery and registration number. KC advised a huge tractor blocked Crossing Road the same day for over ½ hour caused by a parked work van. The tractor couldn't get through because of its sheer volume. The overweight lorry was also stuck behind the tractor in the queue of vehicles. KC is keen to get the Speedwatch team up and running again. **Action:** Clerk to investigate if our existing speedgun can be recalibrated etc, and advertise in The Star

c) The Green update: Trees on The Green – Recommended works should be completed soon. The area around the pond being cut back. **Action:** Clerk to contact contractor and ask him to pause pond work for a month or two

d) Other Open Spaces: Manorial Waste Land: Removal of remaining debris by Highways - works ordered but no action to date. A parishioner has taken away some of the larger pieces.

Priory Wood / Jobs Lane: Letter being hand delivered to all surrounding properties next week.

Lows Footpath: Work party organised by Heribert once again cleared the path. Our immense appreciation to all the volunteers involved. **Action:** Clerk to expedite with TW the removal of the old barbed wire fencing near the bridge as quite hazardous

The Spinney and waterways: Himalayan Balsam still an issue. VP reports it can easily be removed by pulling it out as it starts to grow in the Spring or thereabouts. **Action:** Clerk to diarise for early 2026 for expediting once again

All missing / damaged / hidden footpath signs reported to PROW. New posts have been installed in most of the locations but QR codes not attached at the same time. **Action:** RF to recheck all at some future point

e) Churchyard & Cemetery: Replacement bench in situ at Cemetery. Thank you card received from the previous originator of the old bench. Bench still needs bolting to the ground. **Action:** RF to action asap

All agreed maintenance work of gates and benches completed.

f) Bins at Forge Close – complaint received about blocked access for BMSDC bin lorries. Reported to BMSDC. Not something the PC can resolve. **Action:** Clerk to update the 'Important Contact Information' for the reporting of various problems

11.13.16 **Out of the Box-** A local builder has agreed to try and level the phone box. No other physical work will be done until that is undertaken. Unsure as yet if it will be successful or not due to the buried cable. Meeting was due to take place earlier this week with our creative volunteer and the school. Awaiting update. We still need people to get engaged with this project.

11.13.17 **Village Clean Up** on 11 October went well. Concentrated on the churchyard and cemetery. Thank you to SH and WC for attending and providing guidance and refreshments. Our thanks and appreciation to all who participated. Next event will be the Spring Litter Pick, date to be confirmed.

11.13.18 **Correspondence:** All relevant correspondence distributed by email.

11.13.19 **Motion under the Public Bodies** (admission to meetings) Act 1960 – Staff committee meeting to be held at 7pm ahead of the next monthly meeting on 11 December. DB, VP and WC to attend.

Date of next meeting – Thursday 11 December 2025 at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 21.00 hours.

Caroline Emeny (Clerk to Palgrave Parish Council)

FINANCIAL REPORT – 31 October 2025

Current account Unity Trust Bank Account No. Sort codeStatement no's 080 & 033 dd 31/10/2025

Current account statement balance	£ 4141.51
Savings Account statement balance	£ 50,166.93
Overall Total Reconciles with Accounts Balance As Per Spreadsheet	£ 54,308.44