

BROME and OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Brome and Oakley Parish Council held at 7.30 pm on Monday 12 January 2026 at Brome and Oakley Village Hall.

PRESENT: Councillors Roger Broughton, Isobel Demangeat, Charles Doe, Tom Pace, John Parry, and Ian Stockham. Three members of the public were present.

1. Apologies for absence

None.

2. Declarations of pecuniary and other interests from members on any item to be discussed and requests for dispensations

Cllr Broughton had been granted a dispensation to participate in matters relating to the EcoPower application.

Cllrs Broughton, Parry and Pace declared a registerable interest in matters relating to the Village Hall.

3. Public Forum

Neither the District or County Councillor were in attendance.

4. Minutes of the last meeting

a. The minutes of the meeting of 8 December 2025 were approved.

b. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of 8 December 2025 – none.

5. Co-option

There were two vacancies on the Parish Council and two applications had been received for co-option. Both candidates were present and provided a commentary to support their applications detailing what they thought they could bring to the council.

A discussion took place around the geographical balance of councillors across both villages and the need to ensure a sufficient range of engagement across the whole community and the duty to be fully representative of the diversity of the people in the villages.

It was then proposed and unanimously agreed to co-opt Stephanie Dennis to the Council. For the second vacancy, it was proposed and unanimously agreed to co-opt Martin Liddell to the Council.

6. Planning

a. The following planning application was considered:

Reference	Location	Details
DC/25/05579	The Progress Power (Gas Fired Power Station)	Approval of Details reserved by Requirement 22 pursuant The Progress Power (Gas Fired Power Station) Order 2015

It was unanimously agreed to recommend approval of this application.

b. There were no planning determinations to note.

c. Other planning matters - there would be a DDNP review meeting during January which Cllr Liddell would attend. There would be an agenda item for next meeting to receive a report from this meeting.

District Councillor Tim Weller was now present and provided commentary to his written report which would be circulated to members. Cllr Weller gave an update on the County Council elections from the outcome of a Cabinet meeting at Suffolk County Council. Cllr Weller still had some money in his locality fund and applications were welcomed but had to be submitted by 23 January latest.

7. EcoPower Suffolk - Solar Farm and Battery Energy Storage System

A draft response of a proposed submission of additional comments, due to additional land parcels and residents comments, had been ad been prepared by the Chairman and Cllr Parry and circulated to members ahead of the meeting.

Signed  Chairperson  Clerk

Date 9.2.2026

BROME and OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Brome and Oakley Parish Council held at 7.30 pm on Monday 12 January 2026 at Brome and Oakley Village Hall.

Minor amendments were made to include risk to cyclists as well as pedestrians and to extend the area of pavement from that suggested in the first consultation responses. The Chairman asked for members to come forward with any comments they felt should be included but none were suggested. It was agreed (five votes in favour, one against) to make the submission to EcoPower, copying to local landowners and to make the submission public via the Parish Council website. It was noted that further comments would be submitted at the statutory consultation stage.

8. Community Speed Watch

Cllr Stockham reported that due to the holiday period there had been no operations and a further report would be received in April.

9. Finance and Governance

a. The current financial position was noted as £3,826.86 in current account and £4,109.02 in the business account. It was noted that the previously agreed £600 donation to the Church and the CIL expenditure (£1040) for Village Hall radiators were yet to be paid from the current account. The CIL balance was £2310.46).

b. The budget for 2026/2027 financial year was considered. It was noted that the Parish Council need to raise its level of reserves to meet audit recommendations and to review its future spending in order to maintain a level of reserves that was sufficient. It was therefore agreed to raise a precept of £9,325.00 which would equate to an increase in the Council Tax (band D) to £40.46.

c. It was agreed to make the following payments:

Amount	Payee	Details
£255.69	Sarah Foote	Clerk's salary January 2026
£171.76	HMRC	PAYE
£23.38	Sarah Foote	Clerk's expenses December 2025

d. It was noted that the current bank signatories were Cllrs Doe, Parry and Demangeat. It was agreed to appoint Cllr Broughton as an additional bank signatory.

e. It was agreed to retain funds in the separate Business Saver Account.

10. Correspondence

The following items of correspondence were noted:

Date	From	Subject
05.01.2026	Mid Suffolk District Council	Town and Parish Update
05.01.2026	Mid Suffolk District Council	NSIP and large scale energy tracker
06.01.2026	Mid Suffolk District Council	Have your say on Local Government Reorganisation

11. Urgent Matters and matters for report

None.

12. Date of next meeting – Monday 9 February 2026

Apologies were received in advance from Cllr Demangeat.

Meeting closed: 20.45

Signed  Chairperson  Clerk
Date 9.2.2026