

BROME and OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Brome and Oakley Parish Council held at 7.30 pm on Monday 13 January 2025

at Brome and Oakley Village Hall.

PRESENT: Councillors Roger Broughton, Isobel Demangeat, Charles Doe, Tom Pace, John Parry, and Kelly Keeley

1. Apologies for absence – apologies were received from Cllr Stockham and accepted.
2. Declarations of pecuniary and other interests from members on any item to be discussed and requests for dispensations

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

3. Public Forum

No one present.

4. Minutes of the last meeting

- a. The minutes of the meeting of 11 November 2024 were approved.
- b. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of 11 November 2024 – none.

Cllr Demangeat explained that she would not be available to chair the meetings in October and November 2025. It was agreed to keep to the meeting schedule and Cllr Demangeat would provide her apologies nearer to the time of the meetings.

5. Planning

- a. There were no planning determinations to note
- b. To receive an update on the grant of planning permission for residential occupation contrary to the Diss and District Neighbourhood Plan. District Councillor Weller had been asked to advise on this matter but was not at the meeting or had responded otherwise.
- c. Other planning matters – it was noted that application DC/22/00516 Land adjacent North Roundabout, A140 Ipswich Road, Brome (part Thrandeston) for erection of petrol and electric charging facility with associated shop; roadside restaurant with drive through facility; E(g) (formerly B1) and B8 starter units; HGV lorry parking facility for rest area and drivers' facilities as a phased development, would be considered by Mid Suffolk Planning Committee on 15 January and the comments previously submitted by the Parish Council would be taken into account at the committee.

6. Community Speedwatch Scheme – Cllr Stockham had provided a report recognising the need for a risk assessment to be provided to the Council and as the Scheme was operating under the auspices of the Parish Council, the scheme would also be added to the Parish Council's insurance policy.

7. Village Hall

Endorsement of the Village Hall Management Committee's application for grant funding for a solar PV/battery storage system from 1. Eye Wind Turbine Fund and 2. Progress Power Community Benefit Fund was considered. It was agreed that the Parish Council recognised the highly commendable work done in recent years, largely by local volunteers, in renovating and insulating the village hall and endorsed its application for grant funding for a solar PV/battery storage system as part of the continuing efforts to reduce the Village Hall's carbon footprint and enhance the building for community use.

b. There were no other requests for the Parish Council to consider, at the time of the meeting, for funding for the 2025/26 financial year.

8. Noticeboard for Lower Oakley It was agreed to place a noticeboard on the Low Road close to the dog waste bin that was already situated on the verge on the south side of the road. It was agreed to ask the Community Council if they would like to part fund the new noticeboard and have one side of the board for their use (as per other noticeboards in the villages). It was agreed that both sides of the noticeboard would need to be lockable and this would be confirmed with the manufacturer. Subject to Community Council approval, the purchase would be made using capital reserves. Cllr Prior was asked to liaise with the landowner for permission to place on aforementioned site.

Signed John Parry Chairperson Isobel Demangeat Clerk

Date 10 Feb 2025

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9. Finance and Governance

- a. The current financial position was noted as £7,366.97 in current account and £4,055 in business account.
b. It was agreed to make the following payments.

Amount	Payee	Details
£495.72	Sarah Foote	Clerk salary December 2024 and January 2025
£17.40	Sarah Foote	Clerk's expenses December 2024 and January 2025
£339.34	HMRC	PAYE
£10.80	Sword and Trowel	Payroll Service
£146.34	Community Heartbeat Trust	Defib pads

- c. 2025/26 Budget and Precept – the budget for the 2025/26 financial year was considered and agreed. It was agreed to raise a Precept of £8,250 and relevant forms were signed for submission to the Billing Authority (Mid Suffolk District Council).

10. Correspondence

The following items of correspondence were noted:

Date	From	Subject
08.01.2025	Mid Suffolk District Council	Joint Local Plan and Devolution
08.01.2025	Mid Suffolk District Council	Town and Parish Liaison meeting – 22 January 2025
05.12.2024	River Waveney Trust	Natural Flood Management schemes
		It was agreed to invite the representative to attend the February meeting of the Parish Council.
05.12.2024	Norwich to Tilbury Project	Project Update

11. Urgent Matters and matters for report

Further concern was expressed for hedges overhanging the highway, mainly in Lower Oakley and outside the rear of the Oaksmere. The Clerk confirmed Suffolk Highways had said they would attend in Lower Oakley and it was suggested to contact The Oaksmere directly.

12. Date of next meeting – Monday 10 February 2025. Apologies provided in advance from Cllr Doe.

Meeting closed: 20.16

Signed Jim Doe Chairperson Sarah Foote Clerk
Date 10 Feb 2025