

# BROME and OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Brome and Oakley Parish Council held at 7.30 pm on Monday 14 July 2025 at Brome and Oakley Village Hall.

PRESENT: Councillors Roger Broughton, Charles Doe, Kelly Keeley, Tom Pace, John Parry, Ian Stockham. Robert Hobbs, Head of Strategic Planning (Planning Policy and Infrastructure) from Mid Suffolk District Council and District Councillor Tim Weller and County Councillor Jessica Fleming were also present. No members of the public were present.

1. Apologies for absence – apologies were received from Cllrs Prior and Demanget<sup>9</sup> and accepted.
2. Declarations of pecuniary and other interests from members on any item to be discussed and requests for dispensations

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

It was noted that Cllrs Broughton and Keeley had been granted a dispensation to participate and vote in items relating to EcoPower Solar Farm.

## Public Forum

Meeting closed at 19.31

Suffolk County Council, Councillor Jessica Fleming provided commentary to a written report she had supplied in advance of the meeting. Cllr Fleming had received communication from a resident of Norwich Road Brome regarding speeding within the 40 mph zone. Cllr Fleming would like to commission speed surveys and asked for the Parish Council's support for this which was given. Cllr Fleming reminded members of the responsibilities of the County Council and how the county council was best placed to continue delivering these responsibilities as part of local government reform.

Mid Suffolk District Council, Councillor Tim Weller provided commentary to a written report he had supplied in advance of the meeting. The District Council had petitioned Suffolk County Council on its policy on 20 mph speed limits.

Mid Suffolk District Council, Robert Hobbs explained the existing Mid Suffolk District Council Local Plan (part one) was adopted in November 2023 and stated a housing need of 535 dwellings until 2037. This Local Plan becomes out of date when five years old (November 2028). New National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and new standard method for calculation of housing need have resulted in a decision to review existing Local Plan (part one) instead of introducing a part two. The plan review will prepare for November 2028 when new housing numbers will come in and allocations will already be identified. Therefore, Mid Suffolk District Council should be able to tell government they are already meeting housing need. They would also do a further Call for Sites to follow on from one conducted in January 2024. The further Call for Sites would be aligned with Ipswich and its surrounding areas and would be for housing land and other land uses. Different options will be considered before any plan is consulted on and adopted. There would be an emphasis on social housing from central government and Mid Suffolk District Council would have to consider how this could be delivered.

It was noted the DDNP allocated two sites for a total of 12 houses and would have to be reviewed and examined against the current NPPF noting this had changed since the DDNP had been adopted.

Public Forum closed at 20.24 and the Parish Council meeting resumed.



## 4. Minutes of the last meeting

- a. The minutes of the meeting of 9 June 2025 were approved.
- b. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of 9 June 2025 – it was noted that the noticeboard in Lower Oakley was now erected.

## 5. Planning

- a. The following planning application was considered:

Ref	Location	Application
DC/25/02404	Heale Cottage, 42 Norwich Road, Brome	Application for Listed Building Consent – replacement of six windows.

Signed .....  ..... Chairperson .....  ..... Clerk

Date ..... 22.9.2025 .....

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It was agreed to recommend approval of this application.

b. There were no planning determinations to note.

c. Other planning matters – none.

## 6. EcoPower Suffolk Solar Farm development

a. The non-statutory consultation had closed and no further representations would be made at this time.

b. Community Liaison Group – the terms of reference had been produced and the first liaison meeting was due to take place this week but had yet been confirmed.

7. Local Government Reorganisation – proposals had been received from Suffolk County Council (One Suffolk) and the current five district councils combined including Mid Suffolk District Council (Shaping Suffolk Together). Cllr Parry gave a report of presentations he had received from the County Council and Mid Suffolk District Council. The District Council had made the key point of local responsiveness which could be delivered via three unitary authorities as opposed to the County Council's preference for one single unity authority. It was agreed that individual councillors would submit comments on the current surveys and noted that the overall preference of members was for the three authority model.

## 8. Community Speed Watch

a. Three new members had now been trained meaning there are now ten active scheme operators. Three speed watches had been run since the last meeting. Rates were between 5 and 10% of speeding vehicles being captured.

b. It was agreed to purchase approximately 250 30 mph speed limit stickers to be placed on residents' wheelie bins if they were so minded at a total budget of £200.00 maximum.

9. Rural Coffee Caravan – an approach to visit Brome was considered. It was noted that the caravan last visited in November 2022 and would be welcomed to visit again. Details would be passed to Cllr Pace to pursue.



## 10. Finance and Governance

a. The current financial position was noted as £5,081.42 in current account and £4,069.99 in business account. The bank reconciliation for April/May/June 2025 was accepted.

b. It was agreed to make the following payments.

Amount	Payee	Details
£247.66	Sarah Foote	Clerk's salary July 2025
£8.60	Sarah Foote	Clerk's expenses July 2025
£165.20	HMRC	PAYE June 2025
£165.20	HMRC	PAYE July 2025
£200.00	Trevor Brown CPFA	Internal Audit for year ending 31 March 2025
£294.59	Suffolk Association of Local Councils	Annual Subscription
£39.02	Huws Gray	Materials for installation of Lower Oakley Noticeboard
£16.20	Sword and Trowel	Payroll service
£216.00	Community Action Suffolk	9 email mailboxes for one year - renewal
£89.94	Community Heartbeat Trust	Defib Pads

c. It was agreed to allocate £477.00 of CIL funding to purchase new chairs for the Village Hall.

Signed .....  ..... Chairperson .....  ..... Clerk  
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## 11. Correspondence

The following items of correspondence were noted:

Date	From	Subject
02.07.2025	Mid Suffolk District Council	Town and Parish Update July 2025
07.07.2025	Mid Suffolk District Council	NSIP and large-scale energy developments update July 2025
30.06.2025	Suffolk County Council	Suffolk County Council Briefing on Local Government Reorganisation

## 12. Urgent Matters and matters for report

Phone Box paint to be purchased for Lower Oakley Telephone Kiosk.

13. Date of next meeting – Monday 8 September 2025. Cllr Pace and Cllr Parry provided his apologies in advance.

Meeting closed: 21.00

Signed ..... Chairperson ..... Clerk

Date ..... 22.9.2025 .....