

BROME and OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Brome and Oakley Parish Council held at 7.30 pm on Monday 22 September 2025 at Brome and Oakley Village Hall.

PRESENT: Councillors Roger Broughton, Isobel Demangeat, John Parry and Mark Prior. No members of the public were present.

1. Apologies for absence – apologies were received from Cllr Keeley and Pace and accepted. Cllrs Doe and Stockham were absent. Apologies were noted from District Councillor Weller.

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

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

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

Cllr Prior declared a pecuniary interest in Eco Power and would leave the meeting when matters relating to this interest were discussed.

Public Forum

No one present

4. Minutes of the last meeting

a. The minutes of the meeting of 14 July 2025 were approved. Cllr Parry asked for recollections if Robert Hobbs from Mid Suffolk District Council had discussed how housing allocation numbers may differ if the geography of the district was different following local government reorganisation. It was thought the numbers would be the same for the villages of Brome and Oakley regardless of how the governance of Suffolk was determined in local government reorganisation.

b. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of 14 July 2025 – 30 mph stickers for wheelie bins had been procured and were handed to councillors to pass to residents.

5. Planning

a. The following planning determination was noted:

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

b. Other planning matters – none.

6. EcoPower Suffolk Solar Farm development

19.34 Cllr Prior left the meeting. Cllr Broughton referred to a presentation given to the first community liaison meeting which took place in July which referred to the results of the non statutory consultation. The statutory consultation would now be Summer 2026 and there was unlikely to be any refinement to plans until then. Cllr Demangeat suggested central government policy may be changing and this could affect the viability of these type of projects. EcoPower had also talked about additional land parcels that had come forward during the non statutory consultation which could be assessed as being more appropriate land parcels i.e. lower agricultural quality or closer to a connection point. The Environmental Impact Assessment was currently being prepared and had to be completed by November 2025.

Cllr Parry who also attended the meeting reported that EcoPower had set down some precise numbers ie. distance from property and field boundaries, therefore, may have specific numbers in mind regardless of further consultation. Disappointment was expressed that there was no reference to deer and migrating mammals despite specifically being mentioned in responses to the non-statutory consultation. The next meeting was likely to be in November but to be confirmed.

19.42 Cllr Prior returned to the meeting.

Signed R.D.L. Chairperson Isobel Demangeat Clerk
Date 13 October 2025

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7. Local Government Reorganisation

Correspondence on proposals from Suffolk County Council and Mid Suffolk District Council (in conjunction with other districts in Suffolk) for reforms in local government across Suffolk and any implications for the Parish Council was noted. It was agreed no further discussion was necessary and it was understood there would be an opportunity to attend further meetings hosted by both the County and District Council.

8. Community Speed Watch

Cllr Stockham was not present to give a report.

9. Finance and Governance

a. The current financial position was noted as £6,885.88 in current account which included the second instalment of precept (£4,125.00) and VAT reclaim for the year ending 31 March 2025 (£260.15) and £4,097.07 in the business account.

b. It was agreed to make the following payments.

Amount	Payee	Details
£543.10	Sarah Foote	Clerk's salary August and September 2025
£182.10	Sarah Foote	Clerk's expenses August and September 2025
£435.21	HMRC	PAYE August and September
£45.00	Hoxne Parish Council	Printer
£175.82	Mid Suffolk District Council	Annual Bin emptying charge

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
10.09.2025	Mid Suffolk District Council	NSIP and large-scale energy developments update September 2025
10.09.2025	Mid Suffolk District Council	Electrical Recycling
15.09.2025	Suffolk Association of Local Councils	Mid Suffolk and Babergh Area Forum 30 September. Mid Suffolk and Babergh, Suffolk County Council and Ipswich Borough Council representatives to talk about Devolution and Local Government Reorganisation.

12. Urgent Matters and matters for report

The repainting of the telephone kiosk in Lower Oakley would be pursued via Cllr Stockham.

13. Date of next meeting – Monday 13 October 2025.

Meeting closed: 19.53

Signed  Chairperson  Clerk
Date 13 October 2025