

BROME and OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Brome and Oakley Parish Council held at 7.30 pm on Monday 8 December 2025 at Brome and Oakley Village Hall.

PRESENT: Councillors Roger Broughton, Tom Pace, John Parry, and Ian Stockham. Seven members of the public were present.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absent were received from Cllrs Doe and Demangeat and accepted by the Council. It was noted that Kelly Keeley and Mark Prior had both resigned from the Parish Council and the chairman had thanked them both for their time on the council. All Councillors echoed this expression of gratitude for time served on the Parish Council.

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

Cllrs Broughton, Parry and Pace declared a registerable interest in matters relating to the Village Hall. Cllr Broughton had been granted a dispensation to participate and vote in matters relating to Eco Power.

Public Forum

Mr Mark Prior explained, as a landowner, he had put forward parcels of his land for inclusion in the proposed solar scheme. Mr Prior's intent was financial, but he was keen to point out that he had left a reasonable amount of land on the farm out of the scheme. All of his land is in environmental schemes and not food production and he had entered into these schemes fully. He had purposely selected south facing fields for inclusion in the solar scheme which are well out of view of his neighbours.

Questions were asked of Mr Prior about access to the site and if any discussions been had with Epower about this. Mr Prior confirmed only limited and brief about access and nothing confirmed. Mr Prior sought to limit impact on village and construction was a definite concern. Cllr Parry asked if there was any co-ordination between water pipes and solar panels and how the two developments could be coordinated. MP had shared contact details and hoped for co-ordination and had held meetings about the water pipe line which would go across his farm and had also suggested a less intrusive route.

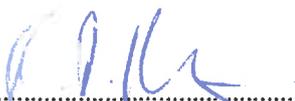
Mid Suffolk District Council – Cllr Tim Weller reported that he understood Essex and Suffolk Water and EcoPower Suffolk were in liaison, something he thought was critical. Cllr Broughton asked for the same dialogue between Mid Suffolk District Council and Essex and Suffolk Water regarding the potential housing development site near the airfield which Essex and Suffolk Water were suggesting as a site for the reservoir. The Chairman asked Cllr Weller about the 25% CIL payment due to the Parish Council if the 70 new houses were to be built, and if CIL would be applicable on all 70 or just on sites in adopted Diss and District Neighbourhood Development Plan. It was confirmed the 25% would be payable on all housing development.

Due to the members of public present, it was agreed to change the agenda order as follows:

7c. Eco Power Suffolk

The Environmental Impact Assessment was discussed at the last Eco Power Community Liaison meeting along with the latest land allocations being considered. All details were now on the EcoPower website. There were no statutory obligations to respond further at this stage, however, the Chairman considered it may be useful to submit further comments in relation to the new land allocations. It was agreed a further response would be formed at the January meeting and Councillors Broughton and Parry would begin to prepare this. In the meantime, it was agreed to submit initial comments on items for inclusion in the Environmental Impact Assessment which it was understood would be issued as a formal consultation in January 2026. The comments to be submitted were agreed as follows:

- An assessment of the impact of the building programme and not just the installation of the solar panels.
- The environmental impact of traffic programme; the lorries and trucks must not go through sensitive areas, and the days and times of movement of this traffic

Signed  Chairperson  Clerk

Date 12.1.2026

BROME and OAKLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Brome and Oakley Parish Council held at 7.30 pm on Monday 8 December 2025 at Brome and Oakley Village Hall.

- The socio-economic impact to our local community
- An outline of the de-commissioning plan and how this will become part of the long term environmental impact assessment.

Cllr Parry asked the District Councillor about the timing of the consultations (as discussed at this meeting) and Local Government Reform and how any community benefit may be impacted by changes in local government. Cllr Weller confirmed that a statutory instrument would move responsibilities into the new unitary authority.

7b. Essex and Suffolk Water

A response to the consultation on sites for a reservoir had been formed at the last meeting. Since then, it had been confirmed that any potential reservoir would be covered over and would not be able to have recreational use. It was agreed that it was important for the Parish Council to stress the need for liaison by Essex and Suffolk Water with both EcoPower and Mid Suffolk District Council regarding housing development allocation for the site specified in Brome.

7a. MHCLG Proposals for Local Government Reorganisation in Norfolk and Suffolk

The answers to the prescribed questions were agreed and the survey submission is appended to these minutes. It was agreed that the Parish Council is overall in favour of the principle of three councils instead of one. Disappointment at the publicity around this formal consultation and how residents may not be able to respond was expressed and would be included in the consultation response.

6. Finance

a. An application from Brome and Oakley Village Hall for CIL funding for new radiators to complement solar/battery system was considered. It was agreed to make a payment from the Parish Council CIL fund for £1,040.00 plus VAT.

5. Planning

- a. There were no planning determinations to note.
- b. Other planning matters – none.

4. Minutes of the last meeting

- a. The minutes of the meeting of 10 November 2025 were approved.
- b. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting of 10 November 2025 - it was noted that it had now been confirmed that the proposed reservoir could not be used for leisure purposes.

8. Correspondence

The following items of correspondence were noted:

Date	From	Subject
25.11.2025	Suffolk Association of Local Councils	NSIP Update November 2025
29.11.2025	Suffolk Wildlife Trust	River Waveney survey and event (12 February)

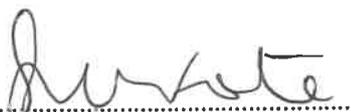
9. Urgent Matters and matters for report

None.

10. Date of next meeting – Monday 12 January 2026

It was noted there would be an agenda item to appoint additional bank signatories.

Meeting closed: 20.45

Signed  Chairperson  Clerk
Date 12.1.2026

Response ID ANON-7YE8-K549-T

Submitted to Consultation on Proposals for Local Government Reorganisation in Norfolk and Suffolk
Submitted on 2025-12-20 14:01:13

Tell us about yourself

1 What is your name?

Name:
Sarah Foote

2 Are you responding as an individual or providing an official response on behalf of an organisation?

Official response on behalf of an organisation

3 Have you been invited to respond as a named consultee?

Yes

4 In which council area is your address? (if you are responding as an individual this is your home address. If you are responding as an organisation this is your organisation address)

Suffolk County Council

5 If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please let us know the organisation's name:

Organisation:
Brome and Oakley Parish Council

6 If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please let us know your position within the organisation:

Position in organisation:
Clerk

7 If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please select the type of organisation from the options below:

Local government - parish/town council

8 What is your email address?

Email Address:
clerk@bromeandoakleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Personal Data

1 Please read and tick the box before proceeding with the consultation

The sections for each proposal in this consultation include free text boxes where you can explain your answers. Please tick this box to confirm that you will not include information which may identify an individual in these boxes

Consultation on the Proposal from Suffolk County Council

1 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal suggests a council that is based on sensible geographies and economic areas?

Dropdown answers:
Somewhat disagree

2 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed council will be able to deliver the outcomes they describe in the proposal?

Dropdown answers:
Somewhat disagree

3 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed council is the right size to be efficient, improve capacity and withstand financial shocks?

Dropdown answers:
Somewhat disagree

4 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed council will deliver high quality, sustainable public services?

Dropdown answers:

Somewhat disagree

5 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal has been informed by local views and will meet local needs?

Dropdown answers:

Strongly disagree

6 To what extent do you agree or disagree that establishing the council in this proposal will support devolution arrangements, for example, the establishment of a strategic authority?

Dropdown answers:

Neither agree nor disagree

7 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal enables stronger community engagement and gives the opportunity for neighbourhood empowerment?

Dropdown answers:

Strongly disagree

8 If you would like to, please use the free text box to explain the answers you have provided to questions 1-7 referring to the question numbers as part of your answer. You may also use the box to provide any other comments you have on this proposal.

Text box to add further comments:

Brome and Oakley Parish Council would like to express disappointment to the extent this consultation has been made available to the electorate. We believe many of our parishioners are unaware of the opportunity to engage in this consultation. The views of the Parish Council have been submitted above.

9 I confirm that I have not included any information that identifies an individual in the free text box.

Yes

Consultation on the proposal from Babergh District Council, East Suffolk District Council, Ipswich Borough Council, Mid Suffolk District Council, and West Suffolk District Council

1 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal suggests councils that are based on sensible geographies and economic areas?

Dropdown answers:

Somewhat agree

2 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils will be able to deliver the outcomes they describe in the proposal?

dropdown answers:

Somewhat agree

3 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils are the right size to be efficient, improve capacity and withstand financial shocks?

dropdown answers:

Somewhat agree

4 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposed councils will deliver high quality, sustainable public services?

Dropdown answers:

Somewhat agree

5 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal has been informed by local views and will meet local needs?

Dropdown answers:

Somewhat agree

6 To what extent do you agree or disagree that establishing the councils in this proposal will support devolution arrangements, for example, the establishment of a strategic authority?

Dropdown answers:

Neither agree nor disagree

7 To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal enables stronger community engagement and gives the opportunity for neighbourhood empowerment?

Dropdown answers:

Strongly agree

8 If you would like to, please use the free text box to explain the answers you have provided to questions 1-7 referring to the question numbers as part of your answer. You may also use the box to provide any other comments you have on this proposal.

Text box to add further comments:

Brome and Oakley Parish Council would like to express disappointment to the extent this consultation has been made available to the electorate. We believe many of our parishioners are unaware of the opportunity to engage in this consultation. The views of the Parish Council have been submitted above.

9 This proposal is accompanied by a request that the Secretary of State considers boundary change. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the proposal sets out a strong public services and financial sustainability justification for boundary change?

Dropdown answers:

Neither agree nor disagree

10 If you would like to, please use this free text box to explain your answer to question 9.

Text box to add further comments:

No

11 I confirm that I have not included any information that identifies an individual in the free text boxes.

Yes