

Swainsthorpe Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on
Wednesday 10 September 2025 at 7.30pm

In Attendance: Cllr Ann Chandler, Cllr Geoff Curran, Cllr Annette Cooper, Cllr Andy Haggith and Cllr Joe Casey.

Also present: 7 members of the public

1. To consider apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllr Nicki Craft and Cllr Margaret Robins and District Councillor John Cook.

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

3. Minutes

3a. The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9 July 2025 were agreed.

4. Public Open Forum including reports from District and County Councillors

4a. John Cook reported that he had been investigating a new junction at Newton Flotman and the proposed solar farm at Saxlingham. Devolution and LGR was still being discussed at South Norfolk and Broadland and would continue to be for the next year.

4b. Residents commented that the private contractor vans working on the solar farm site needed to obey the speed limit when they travelled through the village in the early hours of the morning.

5. Planning

5.1 Update on Local Green Energy Applications

The Chair gave an update on the green energy sites which would be posted on the website. Bollards been put along millennium green by EDF to prevent trucks from going on the green. The entrance to the site has started and cabins have been moved. Banksman will be at the entrance to the site but it has been reported that there will not be banksmen in the village. Due to a burst water main caused by the lorries, 4 lorries had to turn round in the village or back on to Ipswich Road.

5.2 Consider new planning applications

- 2025/2062 – 11 Brian Lane, Change of use of land from equestrian to private residential curtilage – The Council **AGREED** to seek more information.
- 2025/2491 - Brambles Briar Lane Swainsthorpe Norfolk NR14 8PX – Single storey side extension and carport garage: The Council **AGREED NO OBJECTIONS**

6. Correspondence

6a. There was no correspondence to consider.

7. Finance

7.1 The financial statement was agreed.

7.2 The following payments were approved;

- i Nicola Ledain – clerk salary: £419.42
- ii SNC – dog bin emptying £333.60
- iii Charles Carron-Brown – fuel for grass cutting: £53.40
- iv Norfolk County Council – village gates: £2346.32
- v Westcotech – SAM Unit: £4264.80
- vi David Ashley – Cowan £1931.50

8. Village gates

The clerk was awaiting news from Highway regarding the date of installation for the Village gates. An invoice had been received.

9. Neighbourhood Plan

Elaine Parkinson reported that the group were currently finalising the section 'Green spaces and Heritage Assets' which the community to be maintained and protected. The section 'Protected Views' had nearly been completed. All was progressing well.

10. Jubilee Garden and Village Green

The contracted groundsman had been doing a good job in keeping the areas tidy.

11. Play Area

The council had been successful in applying for the Awards For All grant from the National Lottery and had received £20k. Action Play ad Leisure would be carrying out the work for the new playground and it was estimated to provisionally start on 10th November 2025.

12. Website

The new website would be live by the next meeting.

13. Cllr Training

Norfolk ALC no longer provided training so Norfolk Parish Training and Support had been contacted.

14. Speedwatch and SAM2

Geoff reported that there had only been 3 sessions since the last meeting due to the water leak, unrepaired drain and road closures, which have all stopped or slowed traffic down. Five drivers had been caught on the most recent session, but no one was caught on a previous session. One driver has also been caught with no tax. He also reported that he was going to apply for another site to conduct sessions from.

15. Items for next agenda

Speed limit past the Vale, TT Jones lightbulbs, fruit trees in Jubilee garden, bridleway Briar Lane.

16. Dates of next meeting

The next meeting was arranged for Wednesday 12 November 2025.

Meeting finished at 8.45pm.