

# MONK SOHAM PARISH COUNCIL

## (Draft) Minutes of a meeting of Monk Soham Parish Council held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at the Bedfield Community HUB.

The meeting commenced at 19:30

### **11/25 - 01 Present**

- Graham Wigley (Chairman - GW), Charles Bagnall – CRB - Vice Chairman, Julian Sayer (JS), Caroline Berkley (CB), Katy Nette-Thomas (KNT) and Robert Stimpson (RS).
- Geoff Robinson (GR), as Parish Clerk.
- Mathew Hicks (MH - SCC and MSDC Ward Councillor for item 11/25 – 04 below).
- There were no members of the public present.

### **11/25 - 02 Public Open Session**

No members of the public were present.

### **11/25 - 03 Councillor Vacancy**

- There has been no response to the attempt to recruit for the councillor vacancy,

### **11/25 - 04 Apologies for Absence**

- None.

### **11/25 - 05 Report of District & County Councillor**

- The most recent report from MH had been circulated and posted to the website. He highlighted the salient points, which included SCC Budgets, Solar Farms and Fire Service inspections, especially for vulnerable people. He also mentioned potential for disruption nearby in Worlingworth during the construction of an underground water pipeline from Lowestoft to Eye. A significant result in white sales at the waste recycling shop was also mentioned at Foxhall, with the money going to charity.

### **11/25 – 06 Declaration of Members Interests**

- All councillors were reminded of the need to keep their declarations up to date for themselves and spouses/partners. JS submitted a revised application to GR.

### **11/25 - 07 Minutes of the Last Meeting (10th September 2025)**

- These were agreed and then signed by GW as an accurate record.

### **11/25 – 08 Action Points from the Meeting**

- JS had received the plans of the current village sign from David Whitham in connection with the possibility of a small sign at The Green. He will study them in detail.
- JS to ask Andrew Mutton for an estimate to provide a new post at the Bedfield end of Hungers Green.
- The new wildflower seeds had been received from MSDC and scattered.

### **11/25 - 09 Police Report**

- GR stated that the Police National Crime Map showed one crime of “Theft” at Kenton Low Road between July and September 2025, in September 2025.

#### **11/25 - 10 Planning Update .**

- DC/23/04453 (Primrose Farm – Smallholding, etc.). Refused and an appeal is still with the Planning Inspectorate against the enforcement notice.
- DC/23/04021 (Downham Care Farm – Conversion of Outbuilding to Dog Swimming Pool). No objection had been offered and has been approved by MSDC. A nearby resident had objected and been in touch, and a meeting with GR and GW offered, although nothing further has been received.
- DC/25/04387 (Rose Farm Kenton – Rifle Range) MSDC advised that previous approvals should be completed before any others were considered.

#### **11/25 - 11 Financial Update .**

- Payments since the last (September 2025) meeting have been £76.76, £799.68 and £187.92 for the Clerk’s first half year expenses, salary and PAYE respectively (HMRC), £324.48 for the 2025/26 Insurance renewal (CAS), plus £24.48. Bank charges £5.10 (NatWest).
- There had been no income during the same period.
- GR produced an estimate carry forward figure for 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 of £2,100.00. He also produced estimates for 2026/27, but emphasised that a lot could happen in the eighteen months to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2027. Based on increasing the 2026/27 precept by 4.56% to £3,400 from the current £3,140 would cover inflation and produce an estimate balance at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2027 of £2,465.00. The precept of £3,400 was therefore unanimously approved.

#### **11/25 - 12 cPAD For The Green .**

- An application to the BHT for a free cPAD to install at The Cottage Barn, Long Green had not been successful, but information on the purchase of an item had been received.
- MH offered to fund the purchase and installation, subject to the approval of the Grants Team at MSDC.
- CRB to obtain an estimate for its installation
- MH to check eligibility of the project with MSDC.

#### **11/25 – 13 Other Correspondence and Any Other Business**

- GR had circulated the draft Health and Safety Policy, to include agreed risk assessments, which had been adopted.
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#### **11/25 – 14 Date of Next Meeting**

- The next meeting will be Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at the Bedfield HUB, commencing 19:30.

The meeting ended at 20:30.

Signed.....