



Minutes No:
2025/87

Necton Parish Council

Minutes Parish Council Meeting held

Monday 11th August 2025 at 7.00 pm held at Necton Rural Community Centre

Parish Councillors (7) present:

Chair Jean Bass, Councillors Malcolm Barnes, Alice Spain, Fraser Bateman, Thirza Hicks, Joe Sisto, and Zsolt Fejer.

Additional attendees:

Laurie Shepherd- Parish Clerk,
Members of the public – 3

Date: Monday 14th July 2025

Time: 7.00 pm

Place: Necton Rural Community Centre

1. To receive apologies for absence

Councillor Phil Hayton, Councillor Mark Jennings, and County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris

2. To receive any declarations of interest from Members & consider requests for dispensation

Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Necton Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

Councillor Barnes disclosed an interest in Item 12 due to his interest as a member of the Men's Shed who will be benefiting from the container. Chair Bass informed him that he will be able to take part in the discussion but not vote.

3. To approve minutes of Council meeting of 14th July, 2025

Proposed as accepted by Councillor Bateman, seconded by Councillor Fejer and agreed unanimously by all Councillors who were present at the July meeting.

4. Adjournment for public participation (10 mins)

This provides an opportunity for members of the public to raise questions about and comment on items on the agenda before the Council make decisions.

Nothing raised

5. Reports from:

Parish Clerk – The Clerk's report is attached to the minutes. Councillor Barnes asked that the Clerk maintain close communication with Flagship so the situation can be resolved

as soon as possible. Councillor Bateman asked to be kept in the loop as well as it is his area.

Norfolk County Council, Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris – Apologies received and noted. Report to be sent later in the week.

Breckland Council, Cllr Nigel Wilkin – No report given

Chair – The Chair's report is attached to the minutes. There will be an item on the next agenda to vote on the Ladies Lounge adorning the village signs with crocheted/knitted poppies.

Councillors

Councillor Bateman: The Festival process is complete with a little over £4,000 raised for charity. Although they faced some unexpected issues, it ran smoothly and was enjoyed by all.

Councillor Spain: Ashill have a bottle bank system which has provided an extra source of income for the Parish Council. There is a bottle bank at the Sport and Social Club but Councillor Hicks and Sisto are unaware if there is the potential for income with that. Clerk to research this as an option and put it on the next agenda for discussion.

Councillor Fejer: Nothing to report

Councillor Sisto: Nothing to report

Councillor Hicks: Nothing to report

Councillor Barnes: At the SNAP meeting, the Police said their main focus is concentrating on antisocial behaviour and speeding. He also informed the Council that residents surrounding the previous bench location between Hale Road and Mason's Drive have reported that antisocial behaviour has ceased following the removal of the bench.

6. To approve Bills made, to be made and approve late payments as necessary: To receive financial update and monthly reconciliation for consideration.

See separate payments list

Proposed as accepted by Chair Bass, seconded by Councillor Spain and agreed unanimously. Payments were signed off by Councillor Hicks and Spain. The financial update and monthly reconciliation were received and noted.

7. To receive the minutes of the NRCC meeting held on 4th August, 2025

Received and noted

8. To receive the monthly SAM II data and decide on any actions that may arise from this information-All Councillors

SAM Data for June 2025 – 2nd July 2025 – 4th August 2025

Location

North Pickenham Road facing into the village, near Necton Management

Total cars: 24,820

AADT (annual average daily traffic) 752.1

3,059 cars were travelling between 15 – 20 MPH

8,622 cars were travelling between 20 -25 MPH

8,714 cars were travelling between 25 – 30 MPH

2,404 cars were travelling between 30- 35 MPH

347 cars were travelling between 35 -40 MPH

50 cars were travelling between 40-45 MPH
8 cars were travelling between 45-50 MPH
1 car was travelling between 50-55 MPH
There were no cars going between 55 – 60 MPH.

Out of the 50 cars travelling between 40-45 MPH over the month of July, they were concentrated mostly between the hours of 4PM and 8PM with the highest number offending at 4 PM.
Out of the 8 cars travelling between 45-50 MPH, the majority were travelling between the hours of 5PM and 7PM
The car travelling between 50-55 MPH was at 6PM

Received and noted

Councillor Spain informed the Council that the Community Speed Watch coordinator is hoping to arrange Speed Watches that coincide with when speeding seems to occur most often.

9. Planning matters – to note new planning applications and discuss.

REFERENCE	PL/2025/0987/DCA
PROPOSAL	Discharge of Condition 8 on PP 3PL/2022/1003/F
APPLICANT	Mr Christopher Unwin-Williams (NG Electricity Transmission)
LOCATION	National Grid Necton 400kv Substation, Off Norwich Road (a47), Necton

No need for the Parish Council to comment

REFERENCE	PL/2025/1066/HOU
PROPOSAL	Removal of large conservatory and store. Proposed rear & side extensions, with associated internal alterations
APPLICANT	Mr and Mrs K Schenn
LOCATION	4a Ketts Hill, Necton, Swaffham, Norfolk, PE37 8HX

No valid planning reason for the Parish Council to object

REFERENCE	PL/2025/1095/DCA
PROPOSAL	Discharge of condition 15 on 3PL/2023/0848/F
APPLICANT	Sacha Lloyd Rutherford (Statkraft UK Ltd)
LOCATION	Land South Of Necton Substation, Swaffham, PE37 8EG

No need for the Parish Council to comment

REFERENCE	PL/2025/1136/SCR
PROPOSAL	Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening Request for the construction, operation and decommissioning of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) with a storage capacity of up to 300 megawatts (MW)
APPLICANT	(none) (Zenobe Energy)
LOCATION	Land North East Of Necton Adj To A47, Necton, Norfolk

Councillor Bateman gave a report on this planning application pointing out several issues with the application. He and Councillor Spain have put together a response to Breckland asking for a full EIA. Chair Bass expressed thanks to Councillor Bateman and Spain for

their efforts in putting together this substantial submission. Chair Bass proposed to send the response. Seconded by Councillor Barnes and agreed unanimously. Clerk to action. Councillor Bateman and Spain to request that DC N Wilkin call this application in to be viewed by committee.

10. To discuss and decide on what action to take with the extra bench removed from Hale Road/Mason's Drive

After a discussion surrounding the legalities of ownership of the bench, Chair Bass proposed to sell the bench at a reasonable price to a resident who had need for a bench. Seconded by Councillor Spain and agreed unanimously. Price was agreed and Clerk to action.

11. To discuss and decide on purchasing a new bin for Chantry Court

There was a discussion clarifying that this would be a multi-use bin for rubbish and dog mess thus not taking away a dog waste bin location. Chair Bass proposed to purchase and install a multi-use bin in keeping with other new bins in the village. Seconded by Councillor Fejer and agreed unanimously. Clerk to action.

12. To discuss and decide on what action to take on purchasing a used container

After a discussion over the limitations of container companies sending photos of specific containers, Councillor Hicks proposed to proceed with the quote from Adaptainer. Seconded by Councillor Bateman and agreed unanimously. Councillor Barnes abstained due to his pre-declared interest. Clerk to action.

13. To discuss and decide on a statement to send to MP George Freeman regarding the Planning & Infrastructure Bill

After a discussion, Councillor Spain proposed to not send a statement. Seconded by Councillor Bateman and agreed unanimously.

14. To receive any updates and proposals from action plan working party

1. To discuss and decide what action should be taken regarding new play equipment

There was a lengthy discussion over the affordability of this project and what items would be most beneficial to the desired audience of the play equipment. After further discussion, Councillor Bateman proposed to obtain quotes from other companies and put together a survey to poll the community on a finite selection of items to determine interest. Seconded by Councillor Sisto and agreed unanimously. Clerk to action.

2. To discuss and decide what action to take regarding the low 30 mph sign on Hale Road

The 30 mph sign has always been low, but was reinstated lower upon the installing of the village gates. Not only is it unsightly, but also a danger to pedestrians. Councillor Bateman proposed that the PC contact Highways and ask that it be raised. Seconded by Councillor Barnes and agreed unanimously. Clerk to action.

3. To discuss and decide on purchasing and installing a new Perspex sheet to the bike shelter

After a discussion, Councillor Bateman proposed to purchase one sheet of Perspex to fix the broken panel. Seconded by Councillor Spain and agreed unanimously. Clerk to action

4. To discuss an upgrade to the CCTV Security System for the Necton Community Centre

There was a discussion over whether the CCTV system is the responsibility of the Parish Council or NRCC. The Parish Council is the Data Controller of the equipment. Councillor Bateman proposed that the Clerk obtain a few quotes for new equipment. Seconded by Councillor Spain and voted 6 for, 1 abstain, motion passed. Clerk to action.

15. To discuss and decide on authorising the Clerk to register for the CiLCA in September through Norfolk ALC

After a discussion, Councillor Spain proposed that the Clerk pursue registering of the CiLCA through whatever system is the best fit. Seconded by Councillor Hicks and agreed unanimously. Clerk to action.

16. Adjournment for public participation (5 mins)

This provides the opportunity for the public to raise awareness of an issue for discussion at the next Parish Council meeting

Nothing raised

Councillor Barnes informed the Council that the hedge on Chantry Lane has been cut back.

17. To confirm date and time of the next Parish Council Meeting are

Parish Council Meeting – Monday 8th of September, 2025 @ 7.00 PM

18. To approve a motion to exclude the press and public for the next item as their presence would be prejudicial to public interest due to the confidential nature. In accordance with Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 s1 (2) - Chair

Chair Jean Bass proposed the motion to exclude the press and public, seconded by Councillor Bateman and approved unanimously.

19. To discuss the discrepancy in boundary lines near the Queen Elizabeth Woods and decide what action to take

After a lengthy discussion, Chair Bass proposed a decision. Seconded by Councillor Spain and agreed unanimously. Clerk to action.