

FRECKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The Meeting of Freckenham Parish Council on
Monday 14th July 2025 at 7.30pm at Freckenham Village Hall

MINUTES

In attendance:

Cllr. Burrows
Cllr. McCoig
Cllr. A Smith
Cllr. S Smith
Cllr. Tucker

Also in attendance:

Clerk Naomi Alecock, District Cllr. Taylor, County Cllr. Stanbury and 11 members of the public.

1. Welcome

2. Apologies for absence & approval of reasons tendered

There were no apologies for absence.

3. Declarations of members interests and dispensations

There were no declarations of interests or dispensations.

4. To receive approval of minutes of the parish council meeting held on Monday 12th May 2025 from those members present at the meeting

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes from the parish council meeting on Monday 12th May 2025 with no changes. Proposed by Cllr. A Smith, seconded by Cllr. S Smith. All in favour.

5. To receive approval of minutes of the extra ordinary parish council meeting held on Wednesday 18th June 2025 from those members present at the meeting

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes from the extra ordinary parish council meeting on Wednesday 18th June 2025 with no changes. Proposed by Cllr. A Smith, seconded by Cllr. McCoig. All in favour.

6. Public Participation

A member of the public gave a report on speeding within the village. They have the forms for Community Speedwatch and need at least 6 people to set it up.

County Cllr. Stanbury joined the meeting at 7.31pm.

A question was raised as to why Cadent are not a statutory consultee on Sunnica applications due to the high-pressured gas pipeline that runs under the BESS site in Elms Road.

A request was made to the Parish Council to register The Golden Boar as an Asset of Community Value (ACV).

The Chair proposed to bring forward item 12.5, this was seconded by Cllr. Burrows and the item was brought forward.

12.5. To discuss an Asset of Community Value

The Clerk explained the process of registering a property as an ACV and the timescales involved. An application form detailing the current owner and supporting information would need to be completed and she would need some assistance with this. She advised that if The Golden Boar was registered successfully as an ACV and it became available on the market the Parish Council would not be in a position to purchase the property due to the precept being in the region of £16,000 and that it would be purely for the benefit of the community to provide them with the opportunity to raise the appropriate funds.

It was **RESOLVED** to set up a working group consisting of Cllrs. Tucker and Burrows and 1 member of the public Simon Cock to draft the application. Proposed by Cllr. Tucker, seconded by Cllr. Burrows. All in favour.

1 member of the public joined the meeting at 7.46pm.

7. District Councillors Report

Cllr. Taylor will be attending the WSC meeting tomorrow in which the Local Plan will be considered.

WSC are still working towards 3 unitary authorities and asked if the PC would consider WSC retaining the play area. Cllr. A Smith said this is something that he would not be in favour of.

8. County Councillors Report

Cllr. Stanbury has circulated his monthly report. He will be attending a meeting on the A11 corridor on 28th July. He is currently looking at refreshing white lines, signage etc; if there are any areas please report to him.

SCC are holding briefing sessions on becoming a unitary authority.

Locality funding is available for anyone needing assistance.

Due to the delayed County elections Cllr. Stanbury is in post for another 2 years.

Cllr. Stanbury receives a lot of reports from the public of speeding and suggested looking at village gateways. Phased speed limit signs have a lengthy process to implement. He requested data from the Community Speedwatch team.

County Cllr. Stanbury left the meeting at 8.08pm.

9. Planning Consultations

9.1 DC/25/0982/HH – Householder planning application – a. infill extension to front elevation b. single storey side extension to form garage and porch c. conversion of existing attached garage into living accommodation d. rear attached pergola including chimney, with existing roof eaves to connect e. changes to the existing fenestration including new window and door openings

f. 2 no. rooflights to the front elevation (removal of 1 no front dormer and 1 no. rear dormer) – Pendleton Lodge, Elms Road, Freckenham

It was **RESOLVED** to make **NO OBJECTIONS**. Proposed by Cllr. Tucker, seconded by Cllr. McCoig. All in favour.

1 member of the public left the meeting at 8.10pm.

10. To receive an update on Sunnica

An update was circulated to Councillors which reiterated the points made at the presentation received at the May meeting. A draft letter to District Councils requesting consultation on discharge of conditions from the SNTS group was discussed. It was **AGREED** to use this template and send to all 4 District Councils as requested.

1 member of the public joined the meeting at 8.11pm.

11. To discuss participation in the Parish Council Alliance for Sunnica

The Clerk has received an email from Chippenham Parish Council inviting the PC to join the Parish Council Alliance for Sunnica. It was **AGREED** that we would join and the Councillors would rotate in attendance.

12. Parish Matters

12.1 To review the emergency evacuation plan

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the emergency evacuation plan with the below changes:

- A photo of the new village sign on the front page
- Update the contacts to the current Councillors
- Update the First Aiders to Dr. Natalie Caves, Cllr. Tucker and Cllr S Smith
- Update the phone numbers
- Add information on the location of the defibrillator

Proposed by Cllr. A Smith, seconded by Cllr. McCoig. All in favour.

12.2 To discuss participation in a Parish Council network to tackle ongoing issues

The Clerk advised that she had been contacted by Moulton Parish Council who are keen to set up a network with neighbouring towns and parishes to try and resolve some of the same issues that we are all facing such as speeding. It is hoped that by working together and having regular meetings that we may be able to get the Police to attend to address issues en-bloc rather than them attending each individual Parish meeting. It was **AGREED** that this could be beneficial and the Councillors would rotate in attendance.

12.3 To discuss the telephone box library

A question was raised as to who maintains the telephone box library and it was believed that the person who used to do this is no longer in the village. It was **AGREED** for Cllrs. A and S Smith's daughter, Jenna Smith, to maintain this.

12.4 To receive an update on the SID's

Cllrs. Burrows and Tucker have replaced the battery in the SID at the end of the village but it is still not working. It was **AGREED** for the Clerk to obtain quotes for new solar SID's and to speak with Worlington Parish Council regarding which ones they have found the most effective for consideration at September's meeting.

District Cllr. Taylor left the meeting at 8.28pm.

13. Financial Matters

13.1 To discuss and consider quotes for the purchase of a long reach cordless hedge trimmer

Quotes for a long reach cordless hedge trimmer in the region of £200 were considered. It was **RESOLVED** for Cllr. A Smith to purchase this and be reimbursed by the Clerk. Proposed by Cllr. Tucker, seconded by Cllr. McCoig. All in favour.

13.2 To receive the monthly bank accounts

It was **NOTED** that there is currently £387.61 in the current account and £26,276.26 in the business account.

13.3 To agree payments and expenses

<u>Date</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
26/06/2025	SALC	Training - C Burrows	£66.00	£13.20	£79.20
09/07/2025	Clerk	Expenses	£60.31	£0.00	£60.31
			£126.31	£13.20	£139.51

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the above payments and expenses. Proposed by Cllr. A Smith, seconded by Cllr. Tucker. All in favour.

14. Governance

14.1 To review and adopt the Code of Conduct

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the Code of Conduct with no changes. Proposed by Cllr. S Smith, seconded by Cllr. Burrows. All in favour.

14.2 To review and adopt the Publication Scheme

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the Publication Scheme with no changes. Proposed by Cllr. Tucker, seconded by Cllr. S Smith. All in favour.

14.3 To discuss email addresses

The Clerk explained that it is now mandatory for all Councils to have .gov email addresses and this is subject to audit. The Clerk and Cllrs. Burrows, A. Smith and S. Smith already have these set up; however, Cllrs. McCoig and Tucker are still using personal accounts. The Clerk recommended that the whole Council now move to .gov emails due to data protection risks. It was **RESOLVED** for new .gov email addresses be set up for Cllrs. McCoig and Tucker. Proposed by Cllr. Tucker, seconded by Cllr. Burrows. All in favour.

14.4 To consider a quote for insurance

An annual renewal quote of £1,137.82 with our current insurance provider was considered; an increase of approximately £25.00 on last year. It was **RESOLVED** to **ACCEPT** this quote. Proposed by Cllr. Burrows, seconded by Cllr. S Smith. All in favour.

15. Exchange of information

Cllr. Tucker suggested compiling a list of volunteers within the village who can assist in an emergency. It was agreed to look into this with an aim to publish as a pull-out page in the Parish Pump.

16. Date and time of next meeting – Monday 8th September 2025 at 7.30pm in Freckenham Village Hall, 7 Fordham Road, Freckenham, IP28 8JB

The meeting closed at 8.39pm.