

FRECKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

**The Meeting of Freckenham Parish Council on
Monday 14th September 2026 at 7.30pm at Freckenham Village Hall**

MINUTES

In attendance:

Cllr. Burrows
Cllr. F McCoig (from 7.31pm)
Cllr. A Smith (Chair)
Cllr. S Smith
Cllr. Tucker

Also in attendance:

Clerk Naomi Alecock, District Cllr. Taylor, County Cllr. Busuttil and 4 members of the public.

1. Welcome

Cllr. A Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence & approval of reasons tendered

No apologies were received.

3. Declarations of members interests and dispensations

There were no declarations of members interests or dispensations.

Cllr. McCoig joined the meeting at 7.31pm

4. To receive approval of minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13th July 2026 from those members present at the meeting

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes from the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 13th July 2026 with no changes. Proposed by Cllr. S Smith, seconded by Cllr. Burrows. All in favour.

5. Matters arising from the previous minutes

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

6. Public Participation

A parishioner presented a newspaper article from 1987 to members in which residents were campaigning for a footpath along Mildenhall Road. They asked for permission to include this in the Parish Pump to show residents the work that has been done to try and get this implemented.

There is another village clean up planned for Saturday as volunteers got as far as the memorial bench. They would like to see the memorial area lined with poppies and white stones and some bulbs planting. This will be added to the next agenda.

7. District Councillors Report

It was confirmed that bushes have now been planted at the dog park to hide the fencing.

There will be an update on the LGR tomorrow.

Hard plastic has been removed from recycling centres as there is no money in recycling this.

8. County Councillors Report

The judicial review on LGR has found a valid case to be made and as a result Angela Rayner has delayed the process review. This doesn't affect the election of a Mayor for Suffolk/Norfolk. There is uncertainty if there will be a general election.

Protests over RAF Barnham are still happening cross border.

SCC are challenging developments and industrial use on farmland, such as the Western Mildenhall development.

They are also pushing back on net zero.

Sunnica has been delayed due to them trying to find a buyer.

District Cllr. Taylor and County Cllr. Busuttil left the meeting at 8.11pm

9. Planning Consultations

9.1 DC/26/1216/TCA – Trees in a conservation area notification – one Cherry (marked on plan) fell – Brooklands, North Street, Freckenham

It was **RESOLVED** to make **NO OBJECTION**. Proposed by Cllr. S Smith, seconded by Cllr. Burrows. All in favour.

1 member of the public left the meeting at 8.12pm

10. Parish Matters

10.1 To receive a verbal update on the Village Clean Up

The village clean up took place on Friday 21st August and was attended by 1 RAF personnel and 6 parishioners; another date has been scheduled for Saturday 19th September to finish clearing by the memorial bench and paint the bus shelter.

1 member of the public rejoined the meeting at 8.14pm

10.2 To consider providing first aid training

The Clerk has been contacted by a resident following the update of the Emergency Plan asking if the Parish Council would consider holding some first aid training. She advised that the East Anglian Air Ambulance provides CPR and defib training free of charge. The Clerk was asked to contact the EAAA to enquire about the training and availability and then to publish in the Parish Pump to gather interest for the next meeting.

10.3 To consider the scoping consultation on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** to not comment at this stage but to request that we are kept informed during the process. Proposed by Cllr. Tucker, seconded by Cllr. S Smith. All in favour.

10.4 To confirm arrangements for Remembrance Sunday

It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the purchase of a poppy wreath from the RBL Poppy Appeal and for Cllr. Burrows to lay this at the Remembrance Service on 8th November. Proposed by Cllr. A Smith, seconded by Cllr. Burrows. All in favour.

11. Financial Matters

11.1 To note the 2026/27 pay award for the Clerk

It was **NOTED** that the 2026/27 NJC pay award increases the Clerks salary from £21.65ph to £22.37ph and will be backdated to April in September's pay.

11.2 To consider a home working allowance for the Clerk

The Clerk explained that HMRC no longer pay a home working allowance and this is now the responsibility of the employer. It was **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** a home working allowance at £6.00 per week. Proposed by Cllr. A Smith, seconded by Cllr. McCoig. All in favour.

11.3 To receive the monthly bank account balances

It was **NOTED** that there is currently £495.91 in the current account and £33,044.18 in the business account.

11.4 To agree payments and expenses

Retrospective approval of invoices (subject to 5.5(a) of the financial regulations)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
14/07/2026	Website		£0.00	£120.00
20/07/2026	HP Instant Ink	£16.66	£3.33	£19.99
20/07/2026	Bank charges	£4.25	£0.00	£4.25
27/07/2026	Clerk salary - July	£376.28	£0.00	£376.28
30/07/2026	MFG Downfields - card payment - A Smith	£34.04	£0.00	£34.04
03/08/2026	Microsoft 365	£1.99	£0.00	£1.99
18/08/2026	Bank charges	£4.25	£0.00	£4.25
19/08/2026	Clerk salary - August	£301.10	£0.00	£301.10
19/08/2026	HP Instant Ink	£10.41	£2.08	£12.49
27/08/2026	Home Bargains - card payment - A Smith	£3.99	£0.00	£3.99
		£752.97	£5.41	£878.38

To be approved

31/08/2026	Emails	£100.00	£0.00	£100.00
14/09/2026	Clerk expenses	£12.45	£0.00	£12.45
14/09/2026	Website	£150.00	£30.00	£180.00
27/07/2026	Dog poo bag dispensers	£42.75	£8.55	£51.30
		£305.20	£38.55	£343.75

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

12. Clerks Report

The Clerk reported that the new website will be going live on Wednesday 16th September with the current website expiring on 30th September.

13. Parish Councillors Reports

Cllr. Burrows objected to and expressed his unhappiness in the party politics at the meeting and would prefer to hear more about Freckenham and the funding that is available.

14. To discuss the content for the next Parish Pump

It was agreed to include the below in the Parish Pump:

- Village Clean Up event
- Dog poo bag dispensers
- New prices for advertising in the Parish Pump
- New SID
- Chairs Report

15. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

16. Date and time of next meeting – Monday 9th November 2026 at 7.30pm in Freckenham Village Hall, Fordham Road, Freckenham, IP28 8JB

The meeting closed at 8.36pm.