



Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council
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Clerk: Mike Mortimer, 1 Sycamore Close, Palgrave, IP22 1PF
Telephone 07795 802754

Monday the 26th of January 2026 at 7.15
Meeting of the Parish Council at the Village Hall

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Declaration of Interests**
- 3 To agree the minutes of the 24th of November**
- 4 Matters arising from the minutes**

10 minutes public speaking time

- 5 Co-option new Parish Councillor**
- 6 Report from County Councillor**
- 7 Report from District Councillor**
- 8 Emergency Plan**
- 9 Communications**
- 10 Planning**
- 11 Finance**
- 12 Village Entry Signs**
- 13 Vision Statement**
- 14 Website**
- 15 Footpaths**
- 16 Nature/Bio-diversity**
- 17 Allotments**
- 18 Parish Council land**
- 19 Bressingham School**
- 20 Any Other Matters**
- 21 Date of next meeting**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Mortimer', written over a horizontal line.

Parish Clerk



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Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council Minutes of the Meeting held on the 26th of January 2026

The meeting opened at 7.15pm

Present: Councillors, Chair, Mr M Edwards, Miss M Lanchester, Mrs K Le Grys, Mrs H Farstad McKeown, Mrs S Barton and Mr M Le Grys. Also present were District Councillor, Mr James Easter, County Councillor, Dr Catherine Rowett and the clerk, Mr M Mortimer

1 Apologies
None

2 Declaration of Interests
None

3 To agree the minutes of the 24th of November
The minutes were agreed.

4 Matters arising from the minutes
None.

Public Speaking Time

There were no public comments

5 Co-option of new Parish Councillor

Mr Mark Blee gave information about himself and explained why he would like to be a PC. He was co-opted and took his place on the council.

6 Report from County Councillor

Dr Rowett had sent a report which is in the minute book and on the website. She spoke about the shortage of foster carers, the May elections and gave an update on pylons.

7 Report from District Councillor

Mr Easter reported that the government grant for policing was the lowest in the country and explained about new waste collection arrangements. The report is in the minute book and on the website

8 Emergency Plan

Mrs Farstad McKeown explained that she was waiting for responses and suggestions from councillors to her outline plan. She intended to speak to the churches and the shop and had already spoken to the school about the possibility of using it as a safe place.

9 Communications

The clerk had circulated a number of emails and in response to one announcing a sustainable communities conference Mrs Farstad McKeown offered to go on behalf of the PC.

10 Planning

Refusal was recommended for 2025/3869 Chequers. Disappointment was expressed that though it might meet the licensing requirements it did not operate as a pub in the normal sense.



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- 11 Finance**
A report had been provided and was accepted.
- 12 Village Entry Signs**
The clerk explained that bids for the PP scheme would not be considered until March.
- 13 Vision Statement**
Mrs Farstad McKeown believed it was important to have one but some other councillors felt that if things needed to be done it was better to identify them individually and act on them.
- 14 Website**
Mr Edwards reported that he had spoken to Mr Claybrook about improving the website and they hoped to see changes in the coming months.
- 15 Footpaths**
The Footpath Warden reported overgrown footpaths and other PCs confirmed the situation. It was agreed that a precise location of problems would be helpful. Mr Le Grys suggested employing somebody on a permanent basis to clear them perhaps twice a year. Dr Rowett pointed out that NCC had responsibility for clearing some footpaths in the county and offered to check if any were in the B&F parish.
- 16 Bio-diversity Policy**
Mr Edwards had circulated a bio-diversity policy document for consideration. It was adopted with the proviso that it could be modified over time. The next review to be January 2027.
- 17 Allotments**
The Mr Edwards had spoken to members of the AA who were concerned about the gate to the site and the state of the hedge and ditch along the drive. Mr Le Grys agreed to look into repairs to the gate or the cost of a replacement.
- 18 Parish Council Land**
Mrs Farstad McKeown said she could not endorse the sale of the land. Mr Le Grys described the history of the decision to sell. The possibility of using the land for solar panels was considered as an alternative.
- 19 Bressingham School**
Mr Edwards explained that the school had decided to separate from the Acorn Alliance Trust. He hoped to speak to the Head in the near future.
- 20 Any Other Matters**
Mr Edwards reported that attempts to get the war memorial cleaned and repaired were not going well and the clerk was asked to approach the stone mason with a request.
- 21 Date of Next Meeting**
23rd of February at 7.15 in the Village Hall