

Kirton & Falkenham Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Recreation Ground Pavilion on Monday 3rd March 2025 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs J Cade (Chair, JC), J Fothergill (JF), J Shaw (JS), D Jacobs (DJ), D Ward (DW), J Sheeran (JonS), P Lickert (PL), L Bullard (LB), J Durrant (JD); G Walker (Clerk); District Cllr L Reeves (LR); One member of the public

Item No.	Comments	Action
1.	Apologies Cllr M Paul (MP), County Cllr P Mulcahy (PM), District Cllr M Ninnmey (MN), T Hatrick (PTO)	
2.	Minutes of last meeting The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3 rd February 2025 having been previously circulated were taken as read, approved and signed.	
3.	Declaration of interests No new declarations of interest were recorded.	
4.	Public Open Forum <i>Parishioners questions:</i> No new items were raised during the Public Open Forum. <i>County Councillor's report:</i> A report had been received and circulated prior to the meeting <i>District Councillor's report:</i> District Cllr L Reeves described their proposal for devolution which is essentially an east/west split of the County, with each representing approximately 420 thousand of population. Under the proposal Ipswich would be in the "east". The alternative being put forward by the County Council is for a single Unitary Council covering the entire county. The District Councillor also reported their support for a £5k contribution to the insulation of the Village Hall main roof. Mr Hatrick (PTLO) reported no current issues for discussion.	
5.	Matters arising i) Local History recorder (Kirton): No update ii) EA3: No update iii) RG substation proposal: The Clerk reported that UKPN have proposed running an underground high voltage line along the inside of the hedgerow, which has been agreed by the Rec Ground Committee. The Clerk is awaiting feedback on their preferred access solution through the gate to the Rec, especially for emergency access, before finalising the agreement via our solicitors. The installation is likely to happen towards the end of 2026 iv) Joint Parish Group: No update v) Felixstowe Peninsular Partnership: Cllr Colvill reported back on the FPP, outlining the grant funding for a number of organisations and activities, including: Suffolk Family Carers; Music workshops; Literary sessions at Felixstowe Library. There is a focus on Day Care in Felixstowe, which will continue	

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	into next financial year, as will a focus on improving the air quality around schools. Regarding the latter, screening hedges are being planted at Colneis and Langer Schools. Cllr Colvill also reported the concern over the siting of the new Trimley School from an air quality perspective vi) VE 80th celebrations (beacon lighting 8/5/25): The Tree Warden has advised there should be no issues regarding the proposed beacon lighting for the 80th VE day Celebrations, on 8th May. Plans for lighting and safety were agreed, as well as discussions on options for possible musical entertainment and refreshments. The Clerk to propose items of bunting to purchase. Cllr Jacobs advised that the Risk Assessment had been updated and would be put on the website. The Clerk will advise the Insurer. vii) Play area inspection: Cllr Lickert reported that there remain a few minor repairs needed on the RG Playground, although Cllr Jacobs reported that it appears that the webbing on the trampoline surround has been deliberately damaged and may need repair viii) Phone box removal: The Clerk reported that the complaint regarding the phone box removal had now been escalated to the Ombudsman, although they have replied saying that it won't be assessed before the start of June. ix) Flooding Falkenham Rd drain connection. No update x) Devolution: The Parish Council indicated a preference for the east/west split proposal. There is also a public consultation on the proposed Mayor for Suffolk and Norfolk, of which the Parish Council felt there was no need, and would result in few benefits. xi) Gov.uk email account: The Council agreed that the Clerk should further investigate the pros and cons related to the offer of a gov.uk account from Suffolk.Cloud xii) Annual Parish Meeting 7th April (confirmation of speaker): Cllr Lickert advised that Raynet were unable to attend and present so the Council agreed that he should contact either The Plunkett Foundation, or possibly another local organisation who've been involved in the purchase of Community Interest buildings xiii) Clearance of land at Bucklesham Rd: As Cllr Paul was absent from the meeting, this item was discussed in this section of the agenda. The Clerk has been advised that he access to the land to the rear of 31-37 Bucklesham Road has been made secure.	AP1/03.25 /Clerk AP3/01.25 /PM AP2/03.25 /Clerk AP3/03.25 /PL
6.	Finance i) Financial and monitoring reports (on website) ii) Invoices authorised: G Walker salary - £479.59; Clerk expenses (Broadband etc) - £35.90 (SO); D Cope (VG hedge) - £200. iii) Payments due for authorisation: G Walker salary (circa £480) iv) The Clerk reported that VAT reclaim submissions had been made for both the Recreation Ground and Parish Council, however, as yet these remain unpaid.	
7.	Planning Nothing to report	
8.	Environment Nothing to report	

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9.	Recreation Ground Nothing to report	
10.	SALC Report Nothing to report	
11.	Matters for inclusion in future agenda Local History recorder; EA3; RG substation proposal; Joint Parish Group; Felixstowe Peninsular Partnership; Play area inspection; Phone box removal; Flooding Falkenham Rd drain connection; Gov.uk email account; Meeting dates for 25/26	
12.	Clearance of land at Bucklesham Rd Discussed under item 5 xiii).	
13.	Date of next meeting: Annual Parish Meeting, Monday 7 th April 2025 at 7.30 pm	
	There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.45pm. Signed..... Chairman Date.....	