

Bromeswell Parish Council Meeting Minutes
Monday 24 November 2025 at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall



24.11.25.3	to contact Highways regarding advertising boards	IA/Clerk
24.11.25.6a)i	DC/25/3953/FUL submit comment	Clerk
24.11.25.6a)ii	DC/25/3704/FUL submit comment	Clerk
24.11.25.6a)iii	DC/25/3819/FUL submit comment	Clerk
24.11.25.6c)ii	to email RDA and Melton PC re ENF/22/0392/DEV	Clerk
24.11.25.7	to re-send concerns raised at the start of this project. VB to check what was sent to Active Travel	VB
24.11.25.9	to email East Suffolk Services re emptying charge for bin	Clerk
24.11.25.10	to send letter to Allen Turner	Clerk

Payments received since last meeting:

	none	
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Payments made/to be authorised since previous meeting:

1.10.25	ESC Inv 134468 General/Dog Bin	£526.18
1.10.25	ESC Inv 134469 empty charge	£52.20
28.10.25	CAS Inv 6890 website hosting	£66.00
7.10.25	VHMC Inv 184 (Sept hire)	£11.50
19.09.25	Lloyds bank charges (September)	£4.25
20.10.25	“ (October)	£4.25
18.11.25	“ (November)	£4.25
6.11.25	A J Turner Inv (bus shelter repairs)	£490.00

Attendance: Ian Abbott (IA) Chair, Tim Johnson (TJ) Vice Chair, Verity Brown (VB), Tracy Rogers (TR), Rory Burrow (RB), Verity Danziger (VD), Jenny Lloyd (Clerk), ESC Cllr James Mallinder, 1 member of public

1.	Welcome and apologies Sue Todd - accepted
2.	To receive any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI), Declarations of Interest from Councillors on Agenda items SALC quick guide to interests: VB - 6b)i, 6c)i, IA - 6a)i
3.	To receive Reports - SCC Cllr Reid - report was distributed to Cllrs and uploaded to website under Minutes section No comments raised - ESC Cllr Mallinder - Newsletter was distributed to Cllrs and uploaded to website under Minutes section

	<p>James summarised his activities, including the media and communications around Melton Crossing closure, and the huge impact it has had on the peninsula residents and loss of trade for local business'. The level of the crossing remains a concern. BPC continues to be included in joint correspondence. Thanks were expressed to The Warbler for keeping people informed. James put a question to the Cabinet Member for Planning to say that we don't want any more new housing until we've got the infrastructure.</p> <p>James has suggested 'reverse vending machines' - get a token for your empty bottle, and concerned that ESC have agreed to spend £350,000 on bin lids to reconcile the bin colour because of the homogenising of waste collections. Bin lids are not able to be recycled - James suggested either replace the bin or use a heavy duty sticker.</p> <p>James continues to support peninsular PC's, dealing with surfacing issues that ESC owns - and trying to get capital investment for the erosion at Bawdsey for the Yacht Club.</p> <p>Thanks were expressed to James for his continued support.</p> <p>PC Jacqueline Abbott has been in touch and continues to support Bromeswell Village. She advised BPC on the advertising boards that this is not a police matter and to contact Highways. - the advertising boards are an increasing problem and can be a distraction to drivers, especially on the Wilford roundabout. BPC to contact Highways to get proper guidance on handling for the future. Action IA/Clerk.</p>
4.	<p>Public Session</p> <p>Concern has been raised about hedge overhang around the village. It was suggested to use 6th December (bulb planting morning) to identify properties and check the edge of the road using a spade - i.e. in School Lane primarily. BPC can offer advice on cutting back. It was suggested to distribute the BPC proposal in The Warbler.</p> <p>It was noted that a car was parked at the letter box on the day of the refuse collection - the truck could not enter Church Lane, therefore properties did not have their rubbish collected. It was agreed to pop into the property and make them aware.</p>
5.	<p>Highways matters</p> <p>- Melton Road crossing was discussed, no road signs have appeared regarding the level, and it was noted the amount of water that is now collecting on the Melton side - frost, HGVs and large vehicles will soon rip up the surface. There were no business as usual or proper diversion signs BPC will monitor further works to be carried out in the next closure on 6 December.</p> <p>- School Lane drains and soakaway Thanks expressed to TR for reporting to Highways Ref: 00541192 severe flooding covering the road and entrance to VH - this was completed within 5 working days . It was noted that a digger was used for the soakaway in May 2020. It was agreed to keep a check on the soakaway. Action TR to contact the contractor.</p>
6.	<p>Planning</p> <p>a) To discuss Planning applications received since last meeting, and any coming forth</p> <p>i) DC/25/3953/FUL 6 St Edmunds Close - replacement dwelling (previously approved under DC/25/1674/FUL and DC/25/3155/VOC)</p> <p>BPC can see no change to the plan that was previously approved; the only difference is that the original property will need to be rebuilt. As this decision was imposed on the applicant by the condition of the original footings we have no objections</p> <p>submit comment by 25 November - Action Clerk</p> <p>ii) DC/25/3704/FUL The Five Winds - demolition of existing single storey dwelling, folly, workshop building and barn - erection of replacement two storey dwelling, new barn, bat lodge, single storey pool house</p>

There were many documents accompanying this application. The new development will create a large property within the Suffolk Coasts & Heaths National Landscape but will have a slightly smaller footprint to a development proposal that was approved by ESC in June 2023.

The existing property has a resident population of bats that need to be protected.

It was agreed no objection to this proposal subject to appropriate action to protect the resident bat populations as recommended by the Bat Survey Report. - submit comment no objection by 25 November - Action Clerk

- DC/25/3819/FUL (DC/25/2122/P3Q) additional curtilage The Barn Spencers Field
This application was received just prior to this meeting, therefore the BPC will consider over the next few days. It will abut 3 and 4 School Lane. Action Clerk - comment to be submitted by 15 December

b) Current status of Applications

i) DC/24/3348/FUL - reconsultation two new dwellings Land of East Bowfield Old Farm Sandy Lane - Response received from Planning 'The panel were made fully aware of both sets of comments from the Parish Council. They considered that the determination process route should be one of delegation to the Head of Planning and Building Control, as in their view there were insufficient material planning considerations to justify referral to planning committee.

In terms of the first set of comments from the Parish Council, which made reference to policy SCLP5.3, it appeared that the Parish Council may have mis-understood the requirements of the policy. This policy requires schemes to meet one of the points listed (i.e. A, b, c etc), it doesn't require proposals to meet all of the points listed. In this particular case the scheme meets SCLP5.3 part b) because it accords with the requirements of Local Plan Policy SCLP5.4 (Housing In Clusters in the Countryside).

This matter and the other points raised by the Parish Council, including explanation of those that are not material planning considerations, are in the officers report which will be published online when the decision notice issued (expected to be within the next few days). They will both be published in the documents tab of the application page which can be accessed via [DC/24/3348/FUL | Two new dwellings \(Self-Build\). | Land East Of Bowfield Old Farm Sandy Lane Bromeswell Suffolk.](#)

c) Enforcements

i) ENF/23/0235/USE Sandy Lane (DC/23/4614/FUL) Church Barn containers
It was noted that the containers are still present and have not been screened by laurel. It has been 5 months since the withdrawal notice. BPC has not received any notification. Action Clerk to email Enforcement for an update.

ii) to discuss ESC response to ENF/22/0392/DEV Landing at Wilford Bridge
It was noted a private property notice has been erected part way down to the river and a portaloo is on the land.

IA has emailed Enforcement 'As chair of the Bromeswell PC I would first like to extend my thanks to you and your colleagues for looking into this matter and for taking the time to conduct site visits. We note from your response that the construction of the jetty, ladder, sleepers and other works would require planning permission. The land owner was given time to submit a planning application but this was not presented. We also note that the works require a permit from the Environmental Agency and that the Environmental Agency can prosecute and issue fines to landowners who complete the work without the required permits.

	<p>Bromeswell PC recognises that any prosecution or other enforcement action by ESC and the Environmental Agency would need to be balanced with the public interest. Nevertheless, Parish Councillors and the parishioners present all expressed their deep frustration at the outcome whereby no further action will be taken by either department. Our principal concerns are that this outcome:</p> <p>a) Significantly undermines planning enforcement – particularly in respect of developments on a riverbank at a RAMSAR site and at the entrance to the Suffolk Coast and Heaths National Landscape.</p> <p>b) Could be viewed by the landowner as a ‘green light’ for further development of the jetty and river access. Bromeswell PC has seen a significant increase in the use of the river this summer from paddle boarders, canoeists and other activity. Launch sites have primarily been from the Melton side of the river which is concreted. However, the lack of enforcement for ENF/22/0392/DEV has the real potential to encourage additional public use from the Bromeswell side which would cause further damage to the natural environment.</p> <p>c) Will discourage residents and parish councils from raising future concerns about unauthorised land use, especially those connected to the riverbank.</p> <p>Please can you reply to the above points, paying particular attention to b) and how ESC would respond to further development of the jetty or damage to the natural environment'</p> <p>No reply received. BPC to monitor any further damage. Action Clerk to email River Deben Association and Melton PC with the disappointing response BPC has received from Enforcement, for their information.</p>
7.	<p>Communications received</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ESC New Planning Documents Published Housing Position Statement and Suffolk Coastal Local Plan 5 year Review Assessment - distributed to Cllrs - ESC Local Plan Call for Sites - 20 October to 9 January 2026 www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/new-local-plan - Active Travel proposal was discussed - The views of the public are being sought on the next round of proposed town centre traffic improvements for Woodbridge.the change of one way traffic up Quay Street and turn right and to widen pavements on Quay Street https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/council-news/consultation-into-next-phase-of-active-travel-woodbridge-gets-underway?fbclid=IwVERTSAN2AgJleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHjanOWXEwuh2WtSO4wnZeZb_I3lzEWdc2bpCPF7zyZ78qjxU-8Dkyogn5Miv_aem_rruJIXY-wH-Q7pttonFFxg&sfnsn=scwspmo BPC would encourage everybody to complete the consultation. BPC to reiterate our views with a letter on behalf of BPC. VB to check what was sent and report back to Clerk and Chair. Action VB - ESC bulbs - thanks to VD for organising - to meet on Saturday 6 December at 10.30 a.m. at the VH. Suggested spots are Sandy lane, main road end of School Lane and Common Lane and at all Bromeswell signs - Treecycling 2026 - 7-12 January collections available - poster circulated in The Warbler and displayed on both Noticeboards. - ESC - Avian Influenza notification was circulated

8.	<p>One Suffolk business case meeting</p> <p>IA attended the zoom meeting on 15 October and summarised SCC’s proposal for Suffolk ‘The first key point is around the creation of a number of Area Committees. This will effectively break Suffolk down into manageable areas with each area having a similar size in terms of population. As I understand it, each Area Committee will be represented by dedicated councillors. If approved, that will mean our region will expand beyond just the Deben Peninsular, will include Woodbridge and will extend to the outskirts of Ipswich. It was unclear as to how many Suffolk Councillors we would have in each area. There was discussion about us all being represented by two councillors. SCC are also proposing that Suffolk should have 140 councillors which again suggests each Area Committee will have more than two. The main unitary authority (i.e. Suffolk) will keep control over core responsibilities like highways and special education needs so I suspect that will take up a number of councillors.</p> <p>Devolution of assets and services to Town and Parish Councils</p> <p>The second key point is around a point made in SCC’s email stating that some services would be devolved to Town and Parish Councils.. It was made very clear during yesterday’s call that devolving services will not be compulsory and that Suffolk will maintain control over all services that we don’t want to take on. This is something we can discuss if and when the OneSuffolk bid is approved but my recommendation for Bromeswell is to leave all services and assets in the control of Suffolk. That stance would be in keeping with Suffolk’s thinking as they are only expecting the larger Town Councils (Lowestoft, Felixstowe, Ipswich etc.) to take on these services etc. Even then, they are only expecting those councils to take on one or two services. If BPC did want to take on a service, one option available to us would be to link up with neighbouring PCs - for example, link up with Eyke and Sutton to cut grass verges. If we did that (with others or on our own) we would receive a pro-rata amount from Suffolk to finance the activity. There was some discussion on what the approval process would look like for appointing contractors’</p> <p>Thanks were expressed to IA for relaying the information.</p> <p>A wider Government Consultant is underway until 11 January - you can take part here: Consultation on Proposals for Local Government Reorganisation in Norfolk and Suffolk - Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government - Citizen Space</p> <p>SALC continues to keep BPC informed of latest developments.</p>
9.	<p>BPC Budget and Assets</p> <p>Last year’s Budget Statement and spreadsheet was discussed. The Lloyds bank charges of £4.25 per month was noted as a new expenditure, also the emptying charge for the bin. Invoice received for £52.20 until end of December is very expensive. It was quoted £1.50 per empty charge. Action Clerk to make enquiries re annual charge.</p> <p>BPC Assets were looked at in regards to future maintenance. Budget to be adjusted for the next meeting - Precept submission required by 26 January</p>
10.	<p>To review matters arising from meeting 15 September 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - public footpath from VH - cleared and completed thanks expressed to ST - bus shelter repairs - completed by contractor as follows: two rotten soffits taken down and replaced with exterior grade 6mm ply, some repairs carried out to a couple of tatty edges on the roof felt Two of the roof plates had some rot on their ends but were otherwise sound. A local engineer made two large steel brackets that basically bypassed the rot and should give several more years out of the timbers. Thanks were expressed to VD for organising. Action Clerk to send Thank you letter to Allen Turner from BPC. - Asset Register has been updated with the VH bin and signed for uploading to the website. Monitoring form and information has been sent to Grants by the Clerk.

11.	Approval and signing of minutes 15 September 2025 Agreed and signed - Clerk to upload and replace draft on the website	
12.	Finance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) to note authorised payments made, and to be made since last meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ESC Inv 134468 General/Dog Bin £526.18 - ESC Inv 134469 “ empty charge £52.20 - CAS Inv 6890 website hosting £66.00 - VHMC Inv 184 (Sept hire) £11.50 - Lloyds bank charges (September) £4.25 - “ (October) £4.25 - “ (November) £4.25 - A J Turner (bus shelter repairs) £490.00 b) to note any payments received since last meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - none c) to agree accounts as at 24 November 2025 - signed and uploaded to Finance Reports on the website d) to note redeclaration with The Pensions Regulator - completed 	
13.	Date of next BPC meeting 12 January 2025	Meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

Signed Chair Date: 12 January 2025