

MINUTES OF ASHMANHAUGH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held in the Preston Rooms on Tuesday 13th January 2026 at 7.00pm

Parish councillors present:

Cllr. H. Buxton (Chair), Cllr. C. Phillipo, Cllr. N. Coleman, Cllr. H. Casey, Cllr. C. Ramsbottom and Cllr. A. Naylor-Clements.

Members of the public present 3 - (inc. District/County Cllr. Nigel Dixon)

1. ATTENDANCE:

Attendance noted. Apologies received and accepted from Cllr. S. Buxton (personal).

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUEST FOR DISPENSATIONS FOR THIS MEETING:

Cllr. Ramsbottom declared an interest in item 6i as property owner.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th November 2025 were proposed as a correct record without amendment by Cllr. Naylor-Clements; seconded by Cllr. Phillipo - AGREED by all and signed by the Chair.

4. PUBLIC SPEAKING

4.1. To receive a report from County and District Councillor

District/County Cllr. Dixon reported on the Local Government Reorganisation and the mayoral election for Norfolk and Suffolk which has been delayed by Government until May 2028; Norfolk County elections currently still scheduled for May 2026 – Norfolk and Suffolk to respond to Government by 15th January 2026 outlining problems a delay to these elections may cause; District Council election scheduled for May 2027; North Norfolk Local Plan formally adopted December 2025 – changes which may affect Ashmanhaugh relate to building property outside the settlement boundary may be permitted if adjoining the last property, also annex's may become more difficult if not joined to an existing building if demonstrating a separate driveway will not be supported.

Cllr. Dixon also updated on the Brooke Park phase 2 exhibition held November 2025 – challenges raised regarding 'independent living' properties; speed moderation suggestions along the Tunstead Road proposed accesses; traffic impact on the A1151; environmental issues close to edge of countryside and road linking Stalham Road and Tunstead Road.

4.2. To receive questions from the public relating to local issues.

A member of the public spoke about Precept in the Parish and comparable to other Parishes in the County and believed Ashmanhaugh relatively high, although this was explained it is down to scales and number of properties/precepts charged in the different areas.

A member of the public questioned the Council considering an increase on Precept and what costs the Parish Council has – a brief discussion explained payment headers and increased costs borne to the PC along with reserves held.

4.3. To receive a report on any matter not covered on the agenda

- It was noted Cllrs. H. Buxton, S. Buxton and A. Naylor-Clements attendance during November at Councillor training session held with Sloley PC.
- Complaint received regarding dog fouling on permissive footpath at Dairy Farm. Clerk to contact NNDC to see if they have any signage which can be put up and then monitored.

5. CORRESPONDENCE – all noted.

- General correspondence
- Norfolk ALC Bulletins and updates
- Norfolk: Local Government Reorganisation – Consultation (closed 11th January 2026)
- Publication of the Inspectors Report - North Norfolk Local Plan Examination
- North Norfolk Local Plan 2024-2040 - Formal Notice of Adoption

- Police priorities meeting invitation – Thursday 5th March 2026, 7pm – online
- REMINDER: SECOND CONSULTATION - Local Plan for the Broads - Regulation 19 version (closes 4pm 16 January 2026)
- Upcoming Temporary Closure of U19171 Crowgate Street in the Parish of Tunstead due to new duct installation works (my ref NTRO10532) (19th to 28th January 2026)

6. HIGHWAYS, PLANNING, LAND AND ASSET ISSUES

Cllr. Ramsbottom left the meeting.

6.1. To consider any planning applications received:

PF/25/2713 - St Swithins, School Road, Ashmanhaugh, Norwich, Norfolk, NR12 8YN - Single storey rear extension to dwelling

PC comment: No Objection. To raise dark sky policy to be considered for any external lighting.

Cllr. Ramsbottom rejoined the meeting.

6.2. To receive an update on the Hoveton Brooke Park Phase 2 exhibition on November 24th and to agree any actions

Cllr. H. Buxton gave a brief update on the exhibition mentioning St Peters Church as a Heritage site and the dark sky policy in Ashmanhaugh as developments are getting closer to the Parish, also raised septic issues and viability of the waste-water treatment plant at Belagh with all the proposed developments around the area.

6.3. SAM2 - to receive data for November and December 2025

Data circulated. High speed recorded of 60mph during December 2025 along Stone Lane.

7. FINANCIAL & ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7.1. To review this period's financial position and sign the bank reconciliation

AGREED by all.

7.2. To approve the following payments:

Sarah Martin (expenses inc. Poppy Appeal donation)	£ 72.49
Payment AGREED.	

7.3. Noted payments made by standing order:

Sarah Martin - salary November 2025	£ 229.40
Sarah Martin - salary December 2025	£ 229.40

7.4. Noted clerks' successful completion of FILCA qualification

Congratulations given to the Clerk on completing this qualification.

8. BUDGET

8.1. To agree the Budget for 2026/27

It was voted 5-1 to AGREE the Budget as presented.

8.2. To agree General Reserves Policy

The General Reserve Policy was AGREED – to hold approx. 6 months Precept.

8.3. To agree the Precept for 2026/27

It was AGREED (voted 5-1) to increase the Precept to £5,458 (approx. 5%/£260 increase). This will result in a Band D reduction to 70.42 which is a decrease of £6.36 per Band D property due to Tax Base numbers increasing from 67.7 to 75.5.

9. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA – Tuesday 3rd March 2026 – Parish Council Meeting

No new items raised at this time.

Meeting closed: 19:57