

# Great and Little Plumstead

## P a r i s h C o u n c i l

**A Meeting of Great & Little Plumstead Parish Council was held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7.00pm at Little Plumstead Village Hall**

**PRESENT:**    **Mr J Wiley (Chairman)**                      **Mr S Vincent (Vice-Chairman)**  
                    **Mrs M Bullen**    **Mr A Cawdron**  
                    **Mrs L Carty**    **Mr G Edwards**  
                    **Mr R Heath**    **Mrs J Jones**  
                    **Mr R Rice**  
                    **Mrs T Scott (Clerk)**

- **Police Report** – December 2024 - Thorpe End –2, Little Plumstead –1, Great Plumstead -2
- **County Councillor Report** – The signage from Thorpe End to the NDR is due to be replaced in the next few weeks, there is a large number of new signs on order. Councillor Mackie urged the Parish Council and parishioners to continue to write regarding the street lights which have been switched off, especially near Thorpe End from the top of Dussindale. This is a trial period and the more that write the more likely that these lights will be switched on to at least part night lighting, off at midnight. Norfolk has been awarded £15m towards road repairs, £1.5m will go into directly filling potholes and the rest will be patching a maintenance to avoid potholes in the first place. Councillor Mackie has been in correspondence regarding the ongoing parking on the paths. The main route is to keep up the pressure on the owners to transfer the road to Highways. Norfolk has been included in the government priority programme for a new devolution deal, this is in partnership with Suffolk and a joint mayor will be elected in 2026. This will transfer money and powers in the areas of housing, skills, infrastructure and much more. This is the devolution that is long overdue and will help us to direct more resources where needed. To be on the priority list, one of only a few county councils, we had to postpone our county council elections until 2026, saving around £1m. The reason for postponing is so the government can work with councils committed to devolution programme and avoid the cost of electing members to a council that may end in 2026. All councils will be written to by the government asking them to reform and recommend new Unitary Councils of around 500,000 people. This will be the biggest change to all councils since 1972. To read more please visit [www.norfolk.gov.uk/devolution](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/devolution). It is expected that there will be a 4.9% increase, including a percentage for adult social care. The rise in National Insurance, living wage and increases in demand for services such as child interventions and transport have added to the budget pressures already faced. The council had expectations that Norfolk would be in the government Rural Support Grant funding pool, however we are not, and are £15m short by government, this has come as a major blow. The Council were united, other than the Labour Group, in writing to the government to ask that this is reversed, and Norfolk gains its fair share of rural funding from the £600m allocated. The County Council budget remains robust with more money going into adult social care than ever before. Norfolk CC is also expecting a Care Quality Inspection soon, we have a good record on delivering adult care in testing time to over 30,000 every day.

- **District Councillor Report** – Work is continuing on the Medical Centre. The requirement to deliver the foot/cycle path prior to occupation of the 40<sup>th</sup> dwelling remains in place, Councillor Harvey has asked again if this could be changed as the new applications come forward they may be able to revisit the issue. Heath Farm, Little Plumstead has been called into the planning committee and due to be heard on the 26<sup>th</sup> February. The planning application for the pharmacy and care hub, land opposite Gatehouse, Broad Lane is pending further updates, the consultation period ends on 25<sup>th</sup> February. Concerns have been raised on the traffic and parking. Councillor Harvey is awaiting confirmation from Broadland DC that they have conducted a site visit to the woodland on The Glade, Little Plumstead and that they are working with Mr Edwards regarding the ongoing maintenance of woodland and grassy areas. A meeting has been scheduled for February after which it is likely the management plan will be updated. The Leader of BDC, Councillor Sue Holland, has made her position clear that she opposes a single county unitary and has made the point that the cancellation of elections should only be for area where there is a plan in place for local government reorganisation and that is not the situation in Norfolk. BDC is reviewing the NCC Norfolk Economic Strategy 2024-29. The strategy aligns with the Broadland Economic Growth strategic Plan and supporting growth and investment, quality locations and infrastructure, skills development and innovation. BDC is reviewing the Member Ward Grant and Community Grant Scheme. In the year 2023/24 a total of £41,396 was spent through Members Ward Grants on 72 projects in the district. Also in 2023/24 a total of £50,000 was allocated to 7 larger projects through the Community Grant Scheme.
- **Public Participation** – A parishioner reported speeding issues on Salhouse Road, Little Plumstead. It was confirmed that the SAM2 sign can be positioned on this road. One of the road signs on Salhouse Road, between the hill and the Brick Kiln PH has been damaged, this will be reported to Highways. The pathway between the Brick Kiln PH and the top of the hill still needs to be cut back, the Clerk will put a note on the gate in the hope that this will be passed to the owner of the land. If this is not cut back soon, it can be reported to Highways as a matter of urgency and they will seek to recover costs from the landowner.

## **AGENDA**

### **1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Councillor Knowles

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Bullen

### **3. TO APPROVE AS A TRUE RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2025**

Agreed. One amendment at 8a for outstanding cheques, Sandhole Lane Clearance should read Great Plumstead Hedge cut

### **4. TO REPORT MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA: FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

The Clerk confirmed that she received a phone call from the management company for the Willows. They agreed that the road should be adopted by Highways and they would speak with Cripps about pushing this along.

## 5. TO RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE

- Medical Centre – Change of name – The Medical Centre has been referred to at Rackheath Medical Centre in all promotional materials. Broadland DC queried this as the Centre sits in Plumsteads not within Rackheath. They have confirmed that the Medical Centre will be called Magna Way Medical Centre, which was accepted by ICB and NHS.
- Road Closure – Salhouse Road – 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> February 2025 for new fibre network installation works.
- BDC – Public Consultation – Self-Building Planning – 10<sup>th</sup> February- 21<sup>st</sup> March. Full details can be found on Broadland DC's website.

## 6. TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Parish Council made the following comments on planning applications:

2024/0068	Braemar House, Reeves Corner, Great Plumstead	Outline planning permission for 1 self build single storey dwelling and new access including access, appearance, layout and scale with landscaping reserved	Previous comments supported.
2025/0269	Malon, 1 South Walk, Thorpe End	Remove existing bungalow roof and add first floor accommodation	It would be useful if a plan could be produced which shows how the proposed layout would work.
2024/3483	Home Farm Barn, Water Lane, Little Plumstead	Change of use of land from agricultural to residential with erection of annexe extension and cart lodge (amended application)	The application form states under vehicle use changes that there are none, yet a cart shed garage is proposed. This should be clarified for occupancy and hence potential vehicle increase/parking numbers. The porch should not obstruct access further down as a track leads off opposite the annex (to another part of the original farm). There are no landscaping proposals shown.
2024/3250	Land opp 2 Gatehouse, Broad Lane, Little Plumstead	Hybrid application – comprising a full application for a new pharmacy and care hub associated parking and an outline application for a care facility	No objections
2024/3734	Heath Farm, Norwich Road, Little Plumstead	Reposition of self-build farmhouse and garage and new access	The stockman's house requirement was argued under Planning Application 2023 2650, forwarded to Planning Committee with the pig shed rearing applications 2023 2510 and 2023 2414 with a lengthy side of the field access approach which placed the complex almost centrally between the Salhouse and Plumstead Roads, 400 or 500 yards into the agricultural holding. The revised application now uses the revised entrance

			<p>approval 20240004 for agricultural use only which leads to the new industrial shed building 30 metres back from Plumstead Road, but now also shows as a direct access to the 2 storey house 170 metres back from the road in central, open field view and now presumably remote from the pig rearing buildings. The planning report with this new application also argues that the full planning permission be provided for the house ahead of the pig rearing sheds, contrary to Condition 4 of the 2023 2650 consent which requires that pig rearing sheds be constructed and operational before the house is occupied.</p> <p>The Parish Council considers that this revised location in the very visible open countryside and without direct affiliation to the agricultural buildings justifying the original planning approval is unacceptable and is now contrary to planning requirements and conditions.</p> <p>There are a number of errors in the new application form. Dwelling addition "no" being one of them.</p> <p>Provision for surface water drainage is noted as a pond. This was not accepted as we understand it in the earlier applications.</p> <p>There are no hard/soft landscape details for the entire complex.</p> <p>The industrial building to the front of the site as yet has no agricultural use despite being allowed under permitted development for only such purposes. (No surface water details provided).</p>
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## 7. TO DISCUSS PARISH PROJECTS

### a. UPDATE ON GREAT PLUMSTEAD RECREATIONAL PROJECT

Willow-Denby advise they are pressing UKPN for the electricity supply poles removal, which if this is not done soon, will further impact the Activity Centre construction. We are advised this work will commence on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2025, it is planned there will be a seamless changeover and resupply. Activity Centre work sections remain inhibited by the electrical poles and found soakaways.

Weather has generally been good, but cold and blowy for the remainder of January and the Changing Room walls were raised to wallplate level by the end of the term 2024 with first lift scaffolding in place. The first full January week 2025 was extremely cold, stopping any wet trade work, but allowing roof truss placement.

Focus in January/February 2025 continued to be the part plant room advance works which now has a temporary water proof cupboard for electrical safety and the changing rooms roof and gables. The gables and central roof plant room to be changing rooms are now complete and works have also completed on the initial roof covering to gain a degree of watertightness. We are advised first fix electrical works to the changing rooms should commence Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February.

There has been good progress on provisions cost sums totalling £139,000 which at present have been awarded at £149,331.03 relating to mechanical and electrical services and fit out. The difference of £10,331.03 is covered by the contingency. The changing rooms joinery is the last PC sum to be confirmed.

The challenge (and extra over costs expected) is still in the ground with modified, increased size surface water soakaways, removal and concreting in of the existing soakaways on the foundation line and the need to collect the roof surface water from the existing Scout Hut, which was not expected or designed for. There is expected an uplift in external works cost to cope with the new profiling near the changing rooms and access facilities (ramps/stairs).

Final design for phase 2, in particular as to the closing in of the roof space and void above the central corridor between the buildings, has now been taken into account.

It was agreed that the meter for the plant room will be linked to the changing rooms and the Bowls Club store linked to the Bowls Club. The Activity Hall will be kept separate from all other meters to ensure that this can be used by others and also to stop any future problems with solar panels. The water meters will stay as they are.

Colours for the shower cubicles were discussed, grey was the favoured colour but awaited to see examples of these. It was suggested that yellow around the doors, especially in the central areas as it helps for those who are visually impaired to easily make out.

The underground tank has been removed from the programme due to the high cost and concerns about future problems on keeping it safe to use.

## 8. FINANCE MATTERS

### a. TO AGREE PAYMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BUDGET AS LISTED

The following accounts were agreed in accordance with the Budget:

#### Payments

Bank Balance	Nat West	<b>£31,020.95</b>	30.01.2025
Bank Balance	Scottish Widows	<b>£41,978.03</b>	31.01.2025
Bank Balance	Broadland Deposit Account	<b>£330,308.59</b>	31.03.2024
<u>Payments</u>			
T Scott		Monthly payment	£1,370.28
HMRC		Monthly Payment	£120.30
Norfolk Pension Scheme		Monthly payment	£444.03
ICO		Data Protection Renewal	£40.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,974.61</b>
<u>Receipts</u>			
Norwich United		Football Hire Fees	£705.00*
Allotment Holder		Allotment Fees	£33.00*

Allotment Holder		Allotment Fees	£15.00*
Allotment Holder		Allotment Fees	£24.00*
Allotment Holder		Allotment Fees	£13.00*
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
<b>Outstanding Cheques</b>			
GPVH		Hire fees	£90.00
Norfolk Pension Scheme		Monthly Payment	£444.03
Garden Guardian		Annual Grounds Maintenance	£9,351.60
Little Plumstead PCC		Grant - Grounds Maintenance	£1,225.00
Little Plumstead Village Hall		Hire Fees	£120.00
PKF		External Auditor	£756.00
St David's Church		Hire Fees - 2024	£204.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£12,190.63</b>
<b>Current Account Balance</b> after above payments made and <b>outstanding cheques cleared</b> will be approximately			
			<b>£16,855.71</b>
* already included in the accounts stated above			

Proposed – Councillor Jones. Seconded – Councillor Heath. All agreed.

Bank Balance	Unity Bank	<b>£62,761.04</b>	31.01.2025
<u>Payments</u>			
David Bullen		Great Plumstead Recreational Project	£500.81
Willow-Denby		Great Plumstead Recreational Project	£41,734.17
Unity		Bank Charge	£6.75
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£42,241.73</b>
<u>Receipts</u>			
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
<b>Payments Awaiting Authorisation</b>			
Hopkins Ecology		Great Plumstead Project - Ecology	£372.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£372.00</b>
<b>Current Account Balance</b> after above payments made and <b>outstanding cheques cleared</b> will be approximately			
			<b>£20,147.31</b>
* already included in the accounts stated above			

Proposed – Councillor Edwards. Seconded – Councillor Cawdron. All agreed.

The Clerk asked if she could attend the Norfolk Parish Training and Support Spring Essential Update Seminar at a cost of £56. Proposed – Councillor Rice. Seconded – Councillor Carty. All agreed.

## 9. TO DISCUSS AND AGREE THE QUOTES RECEIVED FOR THE MAINTENANCE WORKS TO THE GREAT PLUMSTEAD PLAY AREA

Quote received from RJW Carpentry. Bird spikes on the swings cost £165, repair to uprights on walkway to play equipment cost £268.

Proposed – Councillor Bullen. Seconded – Councillor Rice. All agreed.

**10. TO DISCUSS AND AGREE THE QUOTES RECEIVED FROM THE MAINTENANCE WORKS TO THE LITTLE PLUMSTEAD PLAY AREA**

Quote received from RJW Carpentry. Bird spikes on the swings cost £165.

Proposed – Councillor Edwards. Seconded – Councillor Carty. All agreed.

**11. TO DISCUSS AND AGREE THE QUOTES RECEIVED FOR THE KNEE RAIL REPLACEMENT AT BROADMEAD GREEN**

Replacement of 25 top rails to fencing around the perimeter using green treated softwood. Cost £786.

Proposed – Councillor Cawdron. Seconded – Councillor Carty. All agreed.

**12. TO DISCUSS AND AGREE THE QUOTES RECEIVED FOR THE MAINTENANCE WORKS FOR THE BUS SHELTER ON PLUMSTEAD ROAD (OPP ST DAVID'S)**

The Clerk has only received one quote to date. This was at a cost of £3696 plus VAT. The Parish Council agreed to wait for other quotes to be received.

**13. TO DISCUSS THE QUOTES RECEIVED FOR THE SIGNAGE AT GREAT PLUMSTEAD RECREATIONAL AREA**

Deferred to next meeting.

**14. TO DISCUSS THE TREE WORKS SUGGESTED BY THE TREE WARDEN FOR THE PARISH**

The Tree Warden has put together a list of works which are required to the trees which the Parish Council are responsible for. Quotes will be gathered in for these.

**15. TO DISCUSS AND AGREE THE QUOTE FOR THE VALUATION FOR THE WALLED GARDEN FOR INSURANCE PURPOSES**

The Clerk presented a quote from BCH of £99 plus VAT to undertake a desk based Major Review of the site. This will be fit for insurance purposes.

Proposed – Councillor Edwards. Seconded – Councillor Jones. All agreed.

**16. TO DISCUSS WHAT ITEMS SHOULD GO ONTO SOCIAL MEDIA THIS MONTH**

Planning  
Devolution  
Road Closure

**17. TO CONFIRM THE DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING OF GREAT AND LITTLE PLUMSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**

The date of the next meeting is Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7.00pm at Great Plumstead Village Hall

## **18.TO RECEIVE ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**

Walled Garden Maintenance

Tree Survey

Tree works

Woodland Walk, Thorpe End

Neighbourhood Plan

There being no further business the meeting closed.

Signed:

Chairman

Date: