

Minutes of Foxley Parish Council held on Thursday 6th August 2026 at Foxley Village Hall starting at 7pm.

Present – Cllr N. Mears, (Chair), Cllr G. Blatchford, Cllr L. Rose, Cllr G. Blyth and Cllr M. Watson

Jo Boxall – Parish Clerk, Members of the Public – 2

1. Apologies for absence

No apologies for absence were received as all Councillors were in attendance.

2. Declarations of interest and requests for dispensation

No declarations of interest were received.

3. Minutes

It was unanimously **AGREED** to approve the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 21st May 2026 as a true record as proposed by Cllr Blatchford, seconded by Cllr Blyth. Minutes were duly signed.

4. To adjourn the meeting to allow members of the public to speak on agenda items

Concern was raised about the allocation of 120 houses in Bawdeswell as part of Breckland's Local Plan.

5. Information on matter arising

Cllr Blatchford confirmed that a resident has agreed to paint / restore the village sign subject to any defects in the wood being repaired. Cllr Blatchford to arrange the removal of the sign and restoration. Parish Council to pay for any materials necessary.

6. To receive reports from District Councillor and County Councillor

County Councillor P. Carr sent his apologies and emailed a report for July which was circulated to Councillors. District Cllr G. Bambridge was not in attendance. A report received from District Cllr B. Borrett was also circulated to Council.

7. Highways – To receive update and consider / approve further action.

The Senior Programme Technician for Norfolk County Council Highways confirmed the Parish Council's acceptance of the Parish Partnership Scheme funding and apologised for the delay. They have passed on the PC's frustrations to the Area team and have requested an improvement in providing information going forward. The invoice for the Parish Council's contribution £1668.06 was paid. It is understood that the Area team will now commence on the scheme.

No response was received from County Councillor P. Carr regarding the concerns raised by the Parish Council about the Parish Partnership Scheme. Clerk to resend the email to the County Councillor for consideration. Cllr Watson confirmed that the Foxley West signpost was rotten and has been replaced.

8. To consider /approve request for additional Councillors

Following an enquiry regarding the process to increase Parish Council membership from 5 to 7 members, Breckland District Council confirmed that a Community Governance Review (CGR) would be required.

'In order for Breckland Council to consider initiating a CGR, the first step is for the Parish Council to formally write to us - either by letter or email - clearly outlining the specific request. The categories and areas eligible for review are detailed in the CGR guidance which is attached. Any request must first be discussed, agreed upon, and formally minuted at a Parish Council meeting before it can be submitted to the Local Authority. Once we receive the formal request, we will present the matter to our General Purposes Committee for consideration and approval to proceed with the review. If agreed, we will then draft a proposed timetable and consultation plan, outlining the process for public engagement and the next stages of the review. Any changes if agree would come into force at the next scheduled Parish Election which would be May 2027.'

'The district council (Breckland) would conduct the CGR and pay any costs. As it's mostly done electronically costs would be kept to a minimum, and it wasn't expected the process would create a great deal of additional work for the Clerk (posting notices and adding information to the Parish Council's website.)'

The Clerk confirmed that a council must have a minimum of three Councillors or one third of Councillors to be quorate, which with 7 Councillors would still be 3. As there had been an increase in the population base / size of the village, it was unanimously **AGREED** to request an increase in the number of Councillors to 7 as proposed by Cllr Mears, seconded by Cllr Blyth.

9. Local Plan – To receive update and consider /approve response to Breckland Local Plan Regulation 19 consultation

It was confirmed that the Breckland Local Plan Regulation 19 consultation will run from the 31st of July until the 16th September. Although Foxley does not have a proposed housing allocation (expected additional housing from windfall development), it is acknowledged that the 120 houses proposed for Bawdeswell to the North of Foxley Road will impact Foxley due to the ribboning effect. Concern was raised about traffic accessing the Fakenham Road from Foxley Road and the impact the development will have on children from surrounding villages trying to access Bawdeswell Primary School due to its capacity It was **AGREED** to submit a response highlighting the above concerns and supporting Bawdeswell Parish Council in their objections.

10. To consider Planning issues

a) To consider planning applications received

No planning applications were received.

b) To consider late planning applications

No late planning application was received.

c) To receive decisions from Breckland District Council

No decisions were received from Breckland District Council.

Concern was raised about the development on land off the A1067. As it was confirmed that Bawdeswell Parish Council had already registered this with Planning Enforcement, it was agreed that there was no further action Foxley Parish Council could take. Concern was expressed about the sale of land on Mill Road and its future intended use. It is understood that the land already has restrictions in place (storage for 17 unoccupied caravans with conditions).

11. Finance

a) To receive financial update and income / expenditure

The balance of the main account as at 31st July 2026 was £5528.21, the balance of the savings account was £2591.08. Budget figures were circulated to Council for consideration including bank statements / bank reconciliation.

PKF Littlejohn confirmed that they received and logged the notification of exempt status for the year ended 31 March 2026 and that by notifying them that Foxley Parish Council has claimed exemption no review will be performed and consequently, no auditor certificate and report, or any other closure documentation, will be issued for this reporting year.

b) To approve payments made and to be made & record receipts

All payments made and to be made were **AGREED** as proposed by Cllr Mears. seconded by Cllr Rose.

PAYMENTS				
22nd May 2026		Norfolk ALC Annual Membership		£140.32
22nd May 2026		Tim Summers- internal audit		£60.00
22nd May 2026		Clear Council- Annual insurance		£1,093.39
27th May 2026		Norfolk County Council- PPS contribution		£1,668.06
29th May 2026		Mrs Jo Boxall- May salary & exps		£136.21
29th May 2026		HMRC PAYE May		£34.00
1st June 2026		Norfolk ALC website hosting fees		£111.72
30th June 2026		Mrs Jo Boxall- June salary		£136.21
30th June 2026		HMRC PAYE June		£34.00
31st July 2026		Mrs Jo Boxall- July salary		£136.21
31st July 2026		HMRC PAYE July		£34.00
RECEIPTS				
8 th June 2026		Interest Business Savings	£7.36	
FUTURE PAYMENTS				
31 st August & 30 th September		Clerks' salary HMRC PAYE		£136.21 £34.00

12. Correspondence - To receive items for information and receive items for the next agenda

An email was received from Breckland confirming that, as from the 29 June 2026, local authorities will not be required to publish

an elected or co-opted member's home address in local authority registers of interest form. The new section 32A of the Localism Act 2011 makes clear that a member's home address should not be disclosed on the authority's public register of interest unless the member has requested otherwise.

Emails were received and circulated regarding Breckland Local Plan forums. All correspondence received was circulated electronically. The Clerk was asked to ensure that meeting dates were recorded in the Reeves Tale. Cllr Mears reported that the Wi-Fi contract for the village hall ran out in July but no confirmation that this has been terminated had been received.

13. To approve the date of the next Parish Council Meeting

The date of the next Parish Council Meeting was agreed as 15th October 2026.

13. To close the meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 19.40pm.