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SEDGEFORD PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES 18th MARCH 2026

1. Welcome by the Chair.
2. The Public Session: None.
3. Present: Cllr Crump, Cllr Ward, Cllr Clark, Cllr Wilce, Cllr Maddox, Cllr Miller and Borough Cllr Parish. Cllr Chenery arrived at 20.15
 Apologies: Cllr Coleman
 Absent: Borough Cllr Jamieson.
4. To receive declarations of interest on agenda items – None.
5. Confirmation of the minutes – Parish Council Meeting February 18th 2026 proposed by Cllr Clark, seconded by Cllr Maddox and agreed by all.
6. Matters arising:
 - 6.1 Parish Council Policies – Prior to the meeting, the Clerk circulated a draft version of the proposed new Data Protection Policy. The Clerk asked Councillors to review this draft and all the other policies on the website and to advise him of any changes required prior to the April meeting.
 - 6.2 Former School (\$106 Agreement awaited)
 - 6.3 River Heacham – The Clerk has been in discussion with Anglian Water and it is likely that the proposed update meeting will be scheduled for May.
 - 6.4 Broadland – Carried forward.
 - 6.5 Churchyard liabilities – Carried Forward.
 - 6.6 Hedge on hill out of the village on Heacham Road – The issue of an overgrown hedge causing traffic to swerve was raised last month. The Clerk contacted Highways. They have written to the householder and Cllr Miller said that the hedge had been cut back.
 - 6.7 Docking Neighbourhood Plan – As discussed, the Clerk has submitted the agreed response.
 - 6.8 Adult Gym Fencing Project – The fencing has been installed and the Clerk has submitted the claim for the grant from West Norfolk Rural Community Grants Scheme. The funds have been received and reimbursements made.
 - 6.9 Annual Litter Pick was held on Saturday 21st of February when 30+ hardy parishioners gave up their time and effort to tackle unwanted litter around the village. This was the third year such an event has been held and is now an annual fixture on the village calendar. The Parish Council hoped the exercise would result in the village being a nicer, cleaner place in which to live. King's Lynn & West Norfolk Borough Council provided litter picking packs, containing fluorescent jackets, litter pickers and bags. Over thirty bags of rubbish were collected, in addition to various car parts, including two tyres! Most of the litter was found on roadsides suggesting it is traffic related. Thanks to Sedgeford Village Hall for hosting the refreshments afterwards which were very kindly donated and served by a local couple.
 - 6.10 Replacement Battery and locks for Speed Sign – The Clerk has requested that a replacement battery and two new combination locks are purchased. One of the existing batteries is no longer charging as well as it once did and the combination locks would make accessing the batteries easier. A net quote of £112.50 has been obtained from our normal suppliers – Westcotec. Cllr Clark proposed authorising the Clerk to make this purchase, which was seconded by Cllr Miller and agreed by all.
 - 6.11 Community Car Scheme – Cllr Miller explained how the Heacham and District Community Car Scheme works and Councillors discussed how that would work for Sedgeford residents. He agreed to write an article for the newsletter promoting the scheme and seeking other volunteer drivers from the village.
 - 6.12 King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council call for sites consultation – As agreed at the last meeting the Clerk has submitted the former school site and the land for sale at Jarvie Close as the two potential development sites for the village.
 - 6.13 Fring Road Bridge - The Clerk has asked what action Highways will be taking to avoid continual damage to the bridge and is currently awaiting a response.
 - 6.14 Parish Partnership Scheme– NCC have confirmed that subject to the terms and conditions of the scheme, our bid for £1922.50 towards the replacement speed sign has been successful. The Clerk has submitted the required information and the funding is awaited.
7. Standing Agenda Items:
 - 7.1 Police Report – circulated by the Clerk as and when received. The Vice Chair proposed that our Neighbourhood Police Officer be invited to the annual Parish Council meeting in May. The Clerk will issue the invite.
 - 7.2 Footpath Warden Report – circulated.
 - 7.3 Village Hall Rep Report – Cllr Ward confirmed that the new fencing was now in place and all that was left was new signage needed to be put in place. Cllr Ward thanked the clerk for all his work in preparing and completing the grant forms and the administration of the project.
 - 7.4 Meetings Attended written/verbal –None.
 - 7.5 Clerks training written/verbal – None.

7.6 Councillors training written/verbal – None.

8. Planning matters:

8.1 applications –

26/00038/TREECA - T1 - Silver Birch - Remove / Fell - in decline / major dead wood present located under / near utility lines. One replacement Silver Birch tree to be replanted approximately within 5.0m of current location of T1 clear of utility lines. T2 - Prunus - retain - crown reduction to 3.6m above ground level - to provide clearance for utility lines - Parson Cottage, Docking Road.

26/00203/F Garage store designed for motorcycles at Enderlyne 2 Mill View. Councillors discussed the application in detail. Comment was made about the type of hedge in that the plans say conifer and the actual south boundary hedge is a well-established beech. It was agreed to comment on the return that this hedge should be retained. After further discussion and considering the written comments from Cllr Coleman it was decided that on balance the proposed structure would be acceptable as the precedent of garages in front of properties on the development had already been set. Cllr Clark proposed that the application be supported. This was seconded by Cllr Miller and agreed by all.

26/00369/F - Variation of condition 1 of planning permission 24/00652/F for the conversion to residential of existing range of barns together with new-build elements, means of access and parking court at Glovers Farm, Fring Road. Councillors discussed the application in detail. Three councillors had visited the site the day before and met the architect. The group had discussed with him, parking, ownership and drainage issues. As the main plans had already been passed the council could see no reason to refuse these but with conditions. Cllr Miller proposed that the application be supported, subject to the following conditions – The properties must be occupied as primary residences NP Policy H8 page 25. To prevent possible light pollution from the high number of roof lights/windows, specific glazing must be used that has a Visible Light Transmission (VLT) of no more than 0.65 VLT – NP Policy E6; The use of inbuilt bat/bird/bee nesting environments in each property - Biodiversity Net Gain rules. All outside lighting must be PIR controlled. This motion was seconded by Cllr Maddox and agreed by all.

26/00341/CHSR17 - Application under the Habitats Regulations 2017: Change of use and conversion of an existing agricultural building to provide 1no. dwellinghouse under Part 3 Class Q - 25/00798/PACU3 - Land and Building South of Glovers Farm, Fring Road. Although the Parish Council have not been formally consulted Cllr Clark proposed that a request be made to the Borough Planning Department that a condition be imposed to prevent possible light pollution from roof lights/windows, specific glazing must be used that has a Visible Light Transmission (VLT) of no more than 0.65 VLT to comply with our Neighbourhood Plan Policy E6. All external lighting be PIR controlled. This motion was seconded by Cllr Miller and agreed by all.

8.2 Planning outcomes – 26/00009/Tree West Hall Farm.

To consider plans since publication: Whin Close 26/00437/AG This is an application to determine if full planning is required for a new storage barn. The Parish is not expected to comment at this stage

9. County Councillor update: Cllr Chenery said that the refuse site at Docking will stay open for a further year after review as will Heacham. He had sent updates to the clerk which had been circulated to councillors.

10. Borough Councillors update: Cllr Parish updated the council on the approved Borough budget and how an additional sum of money allocated by the government would be split between funds. Anglia Water have said that there may now be the capacity to cope with more sewage at Heacham which helps in local planning. He said he had attended the opening of the new Library in Kings Lynn and it was a good building not only housing the library but work rooms and a training kitchen. He confirmed that the outcome of the consultation of how the county may be split up is due by the end of this month.

11. To approve accounts and payments this month:

11.1 Approval and payment of invoices: Proposed by Cllr Clark seconded by Cllr Miller and agreed by all.

Name	Business	Net	VAT	Gross	Recoverable VAT
K and M Lighting (STO)	Street Lighting Maintenance Mar	16.17	3.23	19.40	All
Npower (DDR)	Street Lighting Electricity Mar	79.65	3.98	83.63	All
Currys (DDR)	Laptop Cover	8.60	0.00	8.60	None
Nurture Landscapes	Grounds Maintenance Feb	537.03	107.41	644.44	All
Parish Clerk	Payment Mar (See Log)	0.00	0.00	0.00	None
HMRC	Mar (See Log)	0.00	0.00	0.00	None
Parish Clerk	HP Ink	5.41	1.08	6.49	All
Parish Clerk	Rocketspark re website	249.00	49.80	298.80	All
Sedgeford Village Hall	Partial refund re fencing project	4756.80	0.00	4756.80	None

KLWNBC	Non-Domestic rate demand for Sedgeford Cemetery	0.00	0.00	0.00	None
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Payments in blue, previously authorised and paid via BACs between meetings. A Non-Domestic Rate Demand was received from KLWNBC for the Cemetery for 01.04.26-31.03.27 - £0.00.

11.2 Financial Statements for Feb 2026 – Noted.

12. Correspondence, to consider any correspondence/communication received:

12.1 Dog fouling complaint – The Clerk received a complaint regarding fouling at the recreation ground and forwarded the details and suggested signs to the Chair of the Village Hall Committee.

12.2 Seagulls complaint – The Clerk received a complaint regarding seagulls continuing to roost in the church tower. The Clerk has written to the Church Warden to find out what action the church is taking. The warden had responded saying the gutters had recently been cleaned and no evidence of seagulls was found. Local residents have been asked and again no issues were raised.

13. To consider any Correspondence received after publication: None

14. Any other business (for information only) and any items to carry forward to next month for the decision of the council: The chair gathered information for the newsletter and said that the half yearly report was now ready for printing. Cllr Ward agreed to get the report printed to be circulated with the newsletter.

15. Any further public contributions to the meeting: None.

16. Proposed Date of Next Meeting –15th April 2026 at 7.00pm.

17. Close – 20.30