

## RUSHBROOKE WITH ROUGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Chair: Cllr Sara Mildmay-White

Clerk: Christine Mason

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### Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2026 at the Sports Hall, Rougham at 7.30pm

**Present:** Cllrs Sara Mildmay-White (SM-W), Debbie Hockey (DH), Jeff Horner (JH) Tracey Skoyles (TS) John Newman (JN), Christine Mason (CM) Parish Clerk and later in the meeting County Cllr Karen Soons (KS), eight members of the public were also in attendance.

Due to being a member of the WSC Development Committee, Chairman Cllr Sara Mildmay-White declared an interest in agenda item 10 Planning and remained in the room to answer any questions.

#### 1901//26/72 **Apologies**

All present.

#### 1901/26/73 **Declarations of Interest**

No declaration of Interests were made.

Dispensation

Councillors noted no requests for dispensations had been received and none were requested at the meeting.

#### 1901/26/74 **Approval of Minutes**

All Councillors resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2025. SM-W to sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting as a true reflection of the decisions made.

#### 1901/26/75 **Co-option**

An application from Sarah Whitlow to join the parish council was unanimously approved. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed and countersigned by the clerk of the council.

1901/26/76 **Public Forum**

Peter Langdon indicated there was a strong possibility he would be moving and someone will be needed to check the defibrillator at the shop on a monthly basis. A villager attending the meeting offered to undertake the responsibility for the defibrillator. Contact details to be sent to PL. Members of the public raised the issue of persistent anti-social behaviour by a resident and the effect it is having on householders. A letter to the relevant authorities and the MP to be sent by the parish council.

1901/26/77 **County & District Reports**

The report from KS was previously circulated and noted. Key points - SCC has received significant funding towards improving the bus transport system, any suggestions for new routes and other changes will require evidence to support an application, to be forwarded to KS. Questions raised included whether the S106 monies set aside for Early Years from the development at Kingshall Street will be spent in Rougham, unrepaired potholes, send details of reporting numbers to KS. Key points in SM-W's report included the new WS newsletter, feedback comments and views on what residents think about it to be sent to SM-W; SCC have voted to respond to Governments request for information whether to hold elections in Suffolk; the PCC have asked for views on his precept proposal of 5.2%; changes to recycling and bin collections will start in June 2026.

1901/26/78 **Finance**

a. All Councillors confirmed receipt of the bank reconciliation prior to the meeting and agreed this matched the bank statements to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025. Balance of the Community Account stands at £8,772.88 and with £17,619.63 in the Premium Account, the Parish Council has £26,392.51 in the bank.

b. It was resolved payments to be approved at the meeting and payments made since the last meeting be accepted.

Warden's salary November	172.60
Clerk's salary November	538.00
Admin expenses	330.20
D Larke – gloves /jacket	29.65

T C Forestry	1280.00
Wardens Salary December 2025	172.60
Clerk's salary December 2025	519.48
HMRC	626.36
Command Pest Control	218.75
Income	
T/f from Business Account	7000.00
Locality Budget Grant	1000.00

c. The insurance renewal for 2026-2027 was approved . A question on the two liability certificates was raised, the insurance company to be contacted for verification of the cover stated. A risk assessment for the litter picker to be arranged. SALC to be contacted for a suitable template. DL to be asked to provide a monthly schedule of areas/roads that are litter picked on a regular basis.

d. Following discussion, it was agreed to increase the proportion of the Sports Hall grant towards grass cutting from £800 to £1000 from 2026 all in favour. Ray Balmer to be informed of the decision.

1901/26/79 **Precept**

Confirmed as £21,630 for the financial year 2026-2027 – all in agreement.

1901/26/80 **SCC permitted locations for Speed Indicator Poles**

Highways Officer, Matthew Fox to be contacted regarding a site visit with councillors to advise on suitable locations for relocating the existing poles for the two new speed indicator devices. SM-W to send available dates to the clerk.

1901/26/81 **Planning**

SM-W had attended the planning meeting at Development Control relating to the 160 houses on Mount Road – the outline application was approved; Enforcement is still working with The White House to resolve issues; Cargate, as the planning application is for a Waste Transfer site, it will be dealt with by SCC.

1901/26/82 **Update regarding moles at the Sports Hall and Mouse Lane play area**

Deferred until the next meeting.

1901/25/83 **Correspondence**

A request from SM-W to assist in distributing the bin stickers to householders at Kingshall Street: DH and TS volunteered to help; edge of road has collapsed into the ditch at Moat Lane – SCC have been informed via the SCC reporting tool; confirmation to be sent to Rougham United Charities that JN is the appointed parish council representative; a letter received from the Rector regarding the annual grants given by the parish council to both Rougham and Rushbrooke churches was read out; an email concerning litter in Rushbrooke was noted, a response has been sent; date of The National Litter Picking Day has been confirmed as the 23rd to 29<sup>th</sup> March 2026, the parish council to consider coordinating a litter pick within Rougham and Rushbrooke.

1901/25/84 **Any other Council business to be noted for inclusion in a future meeting**

Identified within the meeting.

1901/25/85 **Chairman to close the meeting**

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

1901/25/86 **Date of next meeting**

Confirmed as 2nd March 2026 at 7.00pm. Apologies were given in advance by SM-W. JH to chair the meeting.

Signed.....

Dated.....