

## RUSHBROOKE WITH ROUGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Cllr Sara Mildmay-White

Clerk: Christine Mason

[parishclerk@rushbrookewithrougham-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@rushbrookewithrougham-pc.gov.uk)

6 Walpole House

Auction Street

Bury St Edmunds

Suffolk IP33 3FF

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### **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at the Sports Hall, Rougham at 7.00pm**

**Present:** Cllrs Sara Mildmay-White (SM-W), Debbie Hockey (DH), Jeff Horner (JH) Tracey Skoyles (TS) John Newman (JN), Christine Mason (CM) Parish Clerk, Ray Balmer, Sports Hall, James Purnell, Seamans, County Cllr Karen Soons (KS) and four members of the public

0707/25/17 **Apologies for absence**

Cllr Kate Hardy.

0707/25/18 **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.

0707/25/19 **Sports Hall Grant Review – Ray Balmer**

A brief overview of the management, support from the parish council and financial situation was presented to councillors by Ray Balmer from the Sports Hall. The current grant given by the parish council covers all grass cutting at the play area, insurance cover for the play equipment and emptying of one of the three bins. A separate grant of £500 for maintenance of the play equipment, last paid in 2022, was questioned as all related costs are paid for by the parish council. In conclusion, a thank you was given to councillors for their continued support of the Sports Ha11. A review of a grant to be discussed later in the meeting.

0707/25/20 **Update on the Kingshall Street Development – James Purnell from Seamans**

Thirteen houses to be built comprising of one, two, three and four bedroom properties with a completion date of April 2026; proposed adoptable access road through the middle of the properties; currently most plots have

foundations dug and drainage in situ; a month by month information leaflet is to be circulated to householders with copies left at the local shop; bus stop to be located next to the entrance to the development; following hand back to Barley Homes, marketing will then commence.

0707/25/21 **Approval of Minutes**

All Councillors resolved to accept the minutes of the Annual Council meeting on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2025 and the Finance meeting held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2025. SM-W to sign the minutes as a true reflection of the decisions made.

0707/25/22 **County & District Reports**

Matters covered in SM-W's report included: The local plan will be taken to the next council meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> July with a recommendation it is formally adopted; there are no changes to the designation of the smaller villages in the Rougham Ward; Rougham is designated a local service centre with a population of 1300; an extension to one current site is allocated 30 homes of which 13 are under construction along Kingshall Street; Rougham Airfield site allocation for up to 500 homes; Land North of Mount Road allocation for up to 120 homes; a planning application to redevelop the former household waste site in BSE is to be submitted; final business cases for the local Government reorganisation to be sent by 26<sup>th</sup> September; Locality Budget funding available for any plans for schemes in the village, deadline January 2026; bookings for summer holiday activities are now open for children from families in need.

0707/25/23 Topics in KS's report included Suffolk County Council has announced from Sunday 1 June 2025, the county's library service will move back in-house under the new name Suffolk Community Libraries, on Wednesday 11 June, six electric vehicles were placed in three locations across Suffolk for communities to use as part of the Plug In Suffolk Car Club; Suffolk County Council has secured a grant of £8m from the Department for Transport for new and enhanced bus services in the county.

070725/24 **Public Forum**

The Chair of the Moreton Hall Eastgate Ward Community Association spoke about the full planning application for a One Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering centre at land east of Fred Castle Way and Rougham Tower Avenue

including comments and recommended conditions made by the Highways Authority; the village warden reported signage at the top end of Sow Lane is obscured by vegetation;

0707/25/25 **Planning**

DC/25/0960/TPO tree preservation order – one mulberry (marked on plan T7 on order) overall crown reduction by 1.5 metres and reduce lower limb from main trunk on the southwestern side.

Kingshall Farmhouse, Kingshall Street, Rougham Suffolk

**Support**

Update on the White House: The Chief Planning Enforcement Officer is presently waiting for a response from the Agent to account for the discrepancy in materials.

Update on Alpaca View: Currently, landscaping and boundary treatment cannot be considered due to the site being unfinished.

0707/25/26 **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> May 2025.

Balance of the Community Account stands at £8800.24 and with £38345.47 in the Premium Account, the Parish Council has £47145.71 in the bank.

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

Clerk's AGM expenses	9.45
Chairman's AGM expenses	24.44
Peter Langdon's expenses	26.00
Cllr Horner's expenses	166.05
Hall Hire	30.00
Warden's salary May	169.24
Clerk's salary May	491.60
Gladson bin liners	122.24
Community Heartbeat	162.00
Hall hire	20.00
Clerk's salary June	491.60
Warden's salary June	169.24

Internal Audit + postage 253.90

OLP online playgrounds 10137.55

c. The income against expenditure to June 2025 was noted. No issues were raised.

d. Withdrawn.

Pending further information required in respect of grass cutting, the review of the grant to the Sports Hall was deferred until the September meeting.

0707/25/27 **Play equipment / Play Areas**

With the existing fence continually being damaged by footballs, it was suggested in the long term, a metal fence would be the appropriate solution. For input into the age group and type of play equipment residents would like to be included at the play areas, a parish survey to be carried out. Further discussion at the next meeting.

0707/25/28 West Suffolk Local Plan

No further discussion as heard earlier in the meeting.

0707/25/29 **Speed Indicator Device cost**

A quotation for a speed camera was previously circulated. A comparable second quote to be sought for discussion at the next meeting. Further prices to be obtained for two camera signs with clips and 30mph bin stickers. A grant from County Cllr's Karen Soons locality budget to be progressed.

0707/25/30 **Neighbourhood Plan & Emergency Plan**

For discussion at a future meeting, Information regarding a Neighbourhood and Emergency Plan for Rushbrooke with Rougham was given to JH.

0707/25/31 **Mouse Lane Hedge**

Simon Edell to be advised the hedge at Mouse Lane and top of Moat Lane requires cutting back.

Havebury also to be contacted regarding the overgrown footpath area linking Kingshall Street to Oak Lane.

07/07/25/32 **Parish Council vacancies**

To be re-advertised on the website,, notice board and Facebook.

0707/25/33 **Correspondence**

Forwarded as and when received.

0707/25/34 **Any other council business to be noted for inclusion in a future meeting.**

None.

0707/25/35 **Resolution to exclude members of the public and press due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed**

- a. Review of staff salaries – Considered and approved.
- b. Review of grants and subscriptions – Considered and approved.

0707/25/36 **Chairman to close the meeting**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm