

Minutes of Fincham Parish Council

Wednesday 25th March 2026 at 7:30 pm at Fincham Memorial Hall

Parish Councillors in attendance:

Cllr O'Brien - **Chair**, Cllr Stringer and Cllr Saxelby.

Also present: Rob Shaw- PSLCC (Clerk/ RFO)

BC Moriarty and 2 members of the public were present.

Business to be transacted in accordance with Local Government Act 1972, Sch 12, 10(2) (b)

26. F028 Welcome from the Chair and Apologies for Absence (LGA 1972 s 85(1))

Apologies received from Cllr Underwood, Cllr Lunan, Cllr Claydon, Cllr Blackmur and BC Devulapalli.

26. F029 To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda and consider any requests for dispensation. (Localism Act 2011 s21 s33)

None Declared.

26. F030 To Approve and Sign the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 28th January 2026. (in accordance with standing orders 12a)

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 28th January 2026 be signed as a true copy.

Proposed by Cllr O'Brien - Seconded by Cllr Saxelby - Approved by all.

The minutes were duly signed by the Chair.

26. F039

Planning Consultations

The Planning Consultations were moved on the agenda as a member of the public had turned out to discuss the planning application.

New Planning Application Consultations received from Borough Council/NCC.

26/00385/F - SELF BUILD- New Dwelling House Land Rear of The Bungalow
Downham Road Fincham Norfolk

The Parish council consulted on the application and Cllr Saxelby mentioned that the area had been prone to flooding in the past – The MOP stated that new drain work had been carried out to resolve the issue and as far as they were aware this had not happened this year.

Cllr Stringer mentioned Biodiversity and asked if this was being taken into consideration – The MOP stated it was and little alteration to the surrounding area was being disturbed.

The Parish Council resolved to agree that there were no grounds to object. – Response will be No Observations – **Clerk to Action**

Notices of Decision by Borough Council and County Council

None

Signed _____

Dated _____

26.F031 To Receive Reports from County councillors and Borough Councillors. (5 minutes each)

BC Devulapalli had sent her report – See annex 1

BC Moriarty stated that he for one was happy with the headline news of today that the Devolution process had been agreed with three unitary councils had been built from merging others and that it was a much better result than just the one.

A Call for sites haad gone out to councils and landowners as the BC have been given 30 months to rewrite the local plan, allowing for more houses to be built – Approx 800 to 1000 a year.

The Planning committee of BCKLWN will, going forward have less input in the process.

CIL is now open for grant applications.

Cllr Saxelby asked if there is to be a map of the new three unitary divisions – Cllr Moriarty said as soon as he can source one, he will send to the Clerk for distribution.

26. F 032

Open Forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from members of the public. (10 minutes only in total)

The MOP had spoken during the rearranged planning consultation – **26 F 039**

26. F 033

Items to note:

Additional Allotment Land has been chased in November, January and again in February– Still awaiting legal paperwork.

New Litter Bin has been installed in the layby, and the cast iron signs and mile marker have been refurbished.

There has been a slow uptake for advertising in the Newsletter but has raised £230 towards the newsletter production costs for this year so far.

Items Noted

Agenda Items

26. F 034 To Discuss - The sale of the Glebe Land – Footpath registration – Cllr O'Brien

Cllr O'Brien discussed the potential to register parcels of land in the village as assets of the community to help preserve these for perpetuity. It was agreed to look into this in a little more depth in regard to the Nature Reserve and Rose Gardens and to ask questions in relation to the Allotment site as this is rented from NCC.

26. F 035 To Discuss and Update Asset Register – All

The Clerk asked if all councillors could take some time to check the asset register to make sure they were happy that it is up to date. The New bin installed in the layby needs to be added – **Clerk to Action**

26. F 036 To Note – The Trod – Stage 2 – All – This was a general update on the new TROD that had been installed.

Signed _____

Dated _____

26. F 037 To Discuss and Resolve – The Rose Garden – Cllr Stringer

Cllr Stringer had written to the Clerk to inform the council that out of the 9 original roses that had been in the Memorial, that 5 looked dead and the other 4 not so well.

Cllr Stringer requested that maybe these could be replaced – It was discussed that maybe the replacement should be with something other than Roses -agenda item to be carried forward for another meeting – Groundsman to be asked to remove dead roses – **Clerk to action**

26. F 038 To Resolve – Application from Plot 12 Tenant at the Allotments –Request to build an Aviary to house Quails – All

Councillors discussed the application request and resolved that as a president had already been set by another plot holder then as long as the correct application was filled in and the welfare of the potential Quails to be housed was looked after then they would agree to allow it.

Working Group Reports – To be sent to the clerk prior to the meeting.

26. F 040 Updates from Working Groups

Biodiversity– Cllr Stringer, Cllr Claydon, Cllr Underhill

Allotments– Cllr Lunan

SAM 2 – Cllr Underhill, Cllr Saxelby, Cllr Lunan

H&S – Cllr Stringer

Defib – Cllr Underhill

Police SNAP Meetings – Questions / Comments to be sent to CC Long

Newsletter – All Councillors

There were no updates this meeting from any of the working groups.
Due to the absence of Councillors.

Signed _____

Dated _____

Accounts & Finance including:

26. F 041 Accounts & Finance including:

To Note the Balance of the Accounts on 1st March 2026

Unity Trust Bank Current Account	£ 3057.16
Unity Trust Bank Savings Account	£ 5293.93
Total	£ 8351.09

26.F 042 To consider Payments for March 2026

Payee	Goods/Services	VAT	TOTAL	DD/EP	Supplier/Service						
HMRC	£127.97	£0.00	£127.97	EP	HMRC- Deductions Month 11						
NALC	£72.00	£14.40	£86.40	EP	NALC- Payroll Provision - for 2025-26 - Inv 2809						
N Power	£47.88	£2.39	£50.27	DD	Npower - Streetlight Electric Feb 26 - Inv IN15082980 - Paid 23/03/26						
Wave	£18.09	£0.00	£18.09	EP	Wave -Allotment Water Dec 25 to March 26 - Inv 16280481- Paid 20/03/26						
Clerks Hours	£401.92	£0.00	£401.92	EP	Clerks Hours - Month 12 - March 26 - - Paid 17/03/26						
Clerks Exp	£52.01	£0.00	£52.01	EP	Clerks Exp - March - WFH Allowence, Phone, Stationary -Paid 17/03/26						
Qlr Exp	£10.00	£0.00	£10.00	EP	Qlr Lunan - Exp - Fuel for Allotments - Reciept supplied - Paid 17/03/26						

26.F 043 To note money received –

NL Advert - B Carter	£20.00	£0.00	£20.00	
NL Advert - Barkers	£80.00	£0.00	£80.00	
NL Advert - AJ Coggles	£50.00	£0.00	£50.00	
CIL	£13,250.00	£0.00	£13,250.00	
Wormegay PC	£200.00	£0.00	£200.00	
			£13,600.00	

Invoices due for payment but received after the publication of the agenda may be considered.

Signed _____

Dated _____

26. F 045 To resolve to move into a closed session, on the grounds of confidentiality in
In accordance with The Public Bodies Admission to Meetings Act 1960, s.1(2)

Nothing to Discuss

26. F 046 To receive Items for the next meeting agenda
by Noon on the 20th of May 2026

26. F 047 To confirm the date of the next meeting of the Parish Council, scheduled for

Wednesday 27th May 2026 at 7:30 pm at the Fincham Memorial Hall

26. F 048 Close of meeting: - 20.25 (8.25pm)

Any business to be considered at a Parish Council meeting must be delivered to the clerk for inclusion in accordance with Standing Order 9b. Please use the "Agenda Item Request Form" and include as much information as possible including any proposal.

Signed _____

Dated _____

Annex 1:

BC Devulapalli's Report for March 2026

I have nothing especially pertinent to Fincham from the borough council.

Some general matters which may be of interest to pc included below as my report to council:

*A heads up that there is a new community fund from the bc inviting applications for improving infrastructure etc in the village, details and method of applying to be confirmed.

*The Garden Wildlife competition is going ahead again this year after its successful launch last year. So please encourage your parishioners to make their gardens wildlife-friendly, and apply to take part. Participation is key, it increases visibility and encourages others to look after our wildlife too. The prizes are only symbolic of recognition of the larger effort that we all are making towards improving habitats for wildlife.

*Planning rules are changing and much more will be decided by officers, very few items will come to planning cttee and councillors will no longer be able to 'call in' applications. Date of changes tbc but soon

*County elections are going ahead in May, as you all know, the pre-election 'purdah' period begins on Monday the 31st of March.

Signed _____

Dated _____