



Minutes of Chedgrave Parish Council Meeting

Held on

Thursday 3rd September 2026 at 7pm

at the Brian Clarke Room, Chedgrave.

Present: Cllrs B Demain, Cllr D Richards, Cllr D Rust, Cllr R Rust, Cllr J Sinfield (Chair), Cllr P Varney

Also Present: S Vergette, Clerk & RFO and 4 members of the public.

1. To consider apologies for absence. Cllr D Downer, Cllr S Downer, Cllr Mason Billig and Cllr J Rowe. **Approved**
2. To receive declarations of interest and requests for dispensations by councillors. None.
3. To approve, as a correct record, the Minutes of the last council meeting. It was **RESOLVED** to approve.
4. To discuss matters arising from those minutes not on this agenda. None..
5. To adjourn the meeting to allow public participation. (Maximum 15 minutes).

- Concern was raised regarding the road closures and diversions and the chaos that would be caused. Cllr Varney stated that the Parish Council has lobbied to have traffic lights instead of a road closure, the one-way system is at last working. Road safety will be discussed later in the agenda.
- Concerns over dog mess, particularly on a newly cleared verge in Langley Road. The Parish Council will raise this through social media and the next edition of the Courier.

6. Cllr Demain circulated a report which was noted.

Cllr R Rust attended a tree assessment course which was informative, she had also attended a conservation workshop at South Norfolk DC and has signed up to the Tree Warden Network. There is a tree in the Pits which may need attention.

Cllr D Rust stated that there had been positive feedback regarding the Pits playground.

Cllr Varney reported that over forty cars, in one day, had been travelling the wrong way in Big Back Lane. He had written to the COO at Langley School who will remind parents and staff of the one-way system. The police have also been asked to carry out random patrols. Cllr Varney will do his own survey in the coming week. Cllr Varney went on to say that he had written to Bennet Homes regarding the upcoming road closures and they will try to suspend their deliveries during the road closures.

Cllr Sinfield reported that there had been problems on Wherryman's Way after the path had been cut by Norfolk Trails. The path is now clear but there should be discussion on future maintenance. It was noted that the path is not wheelchair accessible and the surface is not suitable. The bank at the Pits is still covered with rubble but it is hoped the grass will soon start to grow. There have also been problems with tin cans being broken and left in pieces along with broken glass.

- a. Jubilee Hall. The Review Officer is making progress, and it is hoped a report will be sent shortly.

- b. PFC. Cllr Varney reported that there appears to be an underspend last year in the sum of £7,000. Once this has been verified (by the LTC RFO) the two councils should consider if this should be reflected in a lower grant being made next year. It had been suggested that monitoring the finances would be simpler if the PFC has a separate bank account, but this had been resisted by Loddon Town Council.
- c. Community Engagement. The concept of having the van is good, however there was little public engagement on this occasion. It was agreed that a record should be kept of what people have said. It was also agreed that the next engagement should coincide with a major event in the village. The Courier receives positive feedback; the next edition will be near to Christmas. A Teams meeting will be organised to discuss articles. Cllr D Rust stated that one issue that had been raised was that a mobility scooter is unable to cross the road from Hillside to the other side of the road as there is no drop kerb. This could be considered for the Parish Partnership funding as part of the Road Safety Project.
- d. Road Safety. Cllr D Rust had circulated a spreadsheet showing priorities which were agreed. The roads into the village had been assessed and the aim is to slow the traffic down. Langley School have indicated in the past that they would support a 40mph limit past the school. It was agreed that a face-to-face meeting with Highways would be the best way forward, Cllr Varney will make contact. CIL monies could be used to fund any schemes.

Financial Matters

- 7. To approve payments, see separate list.

Approved

- 8. To approve the bank reconciliation. **Approved.**
- 9. A meeting of the Finance Working Group will be arranged to discuss a draft budget, reserves, investment and strategic projects.
- 10. To discuss grant application for Chedgrave Common Charity in the sum of £4,000. **Agreed.** Cllr Varney stated that the expenditure for the Charity is expected to be low and it may be possible to reduce the grant request going forward.
- 11. A quote to subscribe to NPTS had been received in the sum of £333.08 until 31st March and thereafter £575 per annum. **Agreed.** Further training dates had been offered, and it was agreed to opt for 17th September.
- 12. The NJC Annual Salary Award of 3.3% was noted, this will be backdated to April 2026.

Planning Matters

- 13. Planning application 2026/1886 for the construction of 5 x cattery pens for mixed commercial/domestic use and relocation of an existing shed at 14 Langley Road. It was agreed that this is an unsatisfactory place for a cattery as it is in built up residential area. A member of the public stated that the applicant will be making changes to access to the property although this is not shown on the planning application, it will be queried.
- 14. The GNLP Call for Sites was noted. It was agreed that Chedgrave Parish Council should seek to work with Loddon Town Council on a response to the Scoping Plan. PV to attend LTC meeting on the 9th September.
- 15. The Parish Partnership Scheme was noted, deadline 1st December 2026. A new SAM3 was suggested. This could also be used for a drop kerb.

Other Matters

16. Pits Playground. The benches need to be anchored down, the final location for the benches needs to be checked.
 - a. Signs for the play area. A quote had been received for the production and installation of a sign, but it was felt this was high and an alternative quote would be sought.
17. Brian Clarke Room update. The Clerk will follow up with regard to CCTV permission.
18. Allotments
 - a. The landowner is willing to continue the lease but is waiting for his land agent to return from holiday before the matter is progressed.
 - b. Bonfires on the allotments. The Tenancy Agreement will be checked to see when bonfires are permitted and check with the National Allotment Society.
 - c. Details of the Allotment Association's AGM had been provided. They request Community Payback to carry out works to the hedges. The Association also asked for the PC to provide a skip to clear some of the clutter left on the site. This matter will be discussed again next month.
19. Correspondence
 - a. Email regarding dog mess, discussed under public participation.
 - b. An email had been received regarding parking; this will be forward to Norfolk County Council Highways.
20. Items for the next agenda.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.1pm

Date and time of next meeting Thursday 1st October 2026 at 7.00pm, Brian Clarke Room, Chedgrave
Agenda items by 28th September 2026 please

Signed:
Chair

Date