

MINUTES OF MARTHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held at the Community Centre, Playing Field Lane, Martham, on
Wednesday 21 May 2025 at 7.30 pm

391/25: ATTENDANCE: Present: Cllrs Starkings (Chair), Bradford, Bye, Watson, Coates and Smith. Apologies were received from Cllr Bob Fossey (other commitment) and Steve (SMEE Volunteer). Cllr Sayer – absent.

392/25: ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN

To appoint a Chair for the year 2025-2026 – Cllr Fossey was nominated which was agreed with him in his absence. It was seconded and UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to appoint Cllr Bob Fossey, and it was AGREED for him to sign the 'Declaration of Acceptance of Office at the next meeting.

393/25: ELECTION OF A VICE-CHAIRMAN

Colin Starkings was appointed as Vice-Chairman for the year 2025-2026. UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.

394/25: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

No new declarations were received.

395/25: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING - The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 17 April 2025 were **AGREED**.

396/25: MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES – for information only

Developer Contributions – update from Cllr Coates/Clerk and Starkings was received. It was **AGREED** to support Officers at Great Yarmouth Borough Council with their proposal application for the Section 106 funding to improve the play park area.

397/25: CORRESPONDENCE/COMMENTS/CONSULTATIONS

- a) **Use of the Green** – AGREED to give permission for three benches on a 'temporary' basis until the end of September 2025, with the condition that the litter picking and additional bins are put in place.
- b) **Outstanding request for bollards on the Green** – Cllrs AGREED to pay someone to install the bollards.
- c) **Streetlighting** on the Development at Staithe Road, Martham by Crocus Homes
Request for Council to consider accepting responsibility and associated costs for Street Lighting: The County Council will not accept responsibility for street lighting on the development at Staithe Road this estate as it is considered that there is no highway need.

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **DECLINE** the request from Norfolk County Council for streetlighting around the Crocus Homes to take on the cost and maintenance of streetlights.

- d) **Bell Tower:** Council to consider the offer from a local person to purchase the Bell Tower for the sum of £2000 – Cllrs

It was **UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED** to **DECLINE** the offer to purchase the Bell Tower for the sum of £2000.

e) Norfolk County Council - Notification of Planned Works

Scheme Title: PMB724 - Surface Dressing. Type of Work: Carriageway Surface Treatment
Road Closure: June 2025. Temporary road closures along the C643 Coast Road, from Ingham to Caistor-on-Sea. These closures will take place as per the schedule outlined below, subject to favourable weather conditions. Please note that the Works are being carried out in phases, ensuring that sections of the C643 Coast Road are closed at any given time. **NOTED**
06–08 June 2025, 19:00–05:00, 09–14 June 2025, 06:00–16:00, 23–27 June 2025, 19:00–05:00

f) Local Government Reorganisation - Parish and Town Council engagement events (East)
The Carnegie Room, the Library - Gorleston on Sea, Lowestoft Rd, Gorleston-on-Sea NR31 6QU
Wednesday 21 May from 4.00pm to 6.00pm. Online event: Tuesday 20 May 6.30pm - 8.00pm.
The Clerk gave an update on the latest forum attended. No new details were shared. **NOTED**

g) The Norfolk & Suffolk Nature Recovery Partnership is inviting the public to take part in a consultation identifying habitats and landscape worth protecting to inform a Local Nature Recovery Strategy. This approach aims to restore and protecting landscapes in Norfolk and Suffolk and serves as an evidence base. Share your feedback to help recover and enhance Norfolk's diverse landscape, wildlife and habitats. Deadline for this consultation is the 11th of June 2025. Access the consultation www.norfolk.gov.uk/naturerecovery. **NOTED**

398/25: PLANNING

a) GREAT YARMOUTH BOROUGH COUNCIL (GYBC)

To consider any applications received and note any decisions received [GYBC](#)

Applications received from GYBC:

06/25/0275/F: Proposal of Development: Extensions, removal and replacement of roof, excavations and conversion of telephone exchange (sui generis use) to create a 1-bedroom dwelling (use class C3). Location: Martham Telephone Exchange Repps Road Martham NR29 4RA.

Council Comment: Objection based on being outside of the village boundary.

06/25/0066/F: Development: Change of use of land from agricultural use to create 2no. dog exercise fields; Installation of car parking area; Erection of 2no. shelters; Erection of screening.

Location: Land south of 29 Hall Road Martham Norfolk NR29 4PD

Council Comment: Objection based on previous comments submitted (Parking, noise and traffic).
Cllr Bradford abstained from the vote.

Decisions received from GYBC: NOTED

Reference	Location	Proposal	Received	Type	Status
06/25/0218/HH	2 Daisy Close Martham Great Yarmouth NR29 4PJ	Erection of a detached single storey garden room within garden	20-03-25	Householder	APPROVE

06/25/0200/TCA	12 White Street Martham NR29 4PQ	Proposed works to tree in a Conservation Area: Pollarding of Willow tree to approximately half its current size.	10-03-25	Trees in Con.Area	NO OBJECTION
06/25/0087/HH	Land to the rear of Moregrove House 10 Moregrove Lane Martham NR29 4QA	Erection of a single- storey outbuilding with a dual-pitch roof.	04-02-25	Householder	APPROVE

399/25: PROJECTS

a) **SMEE** - Steve (lead volunteer) shared an update via email: Everything is okay on the Smee and other wildlife areas. Paths have been mowed and the new plants we have put in on all three sites are being regularly watered because of the dry spell.

b) **Defibrillator Fund** - Cllrs Coates gave an update on recent work in raising funds with another quiz organised in June. Tables are still available.

c) **Speed Reduction Group** – Cllr Fossey has made another call for volunteers to enable the group to continue. The second SAM2 sign has been received, and posts need to be installed.

Cllr Smith added how she will post an advert in the next newsletter.

Cllr Smith

400/25: VILLAGE MATTERS

To receive any updates/feedback

a) **Litter pick event** - Cllrs Bye and Coates gave an update with a lot of litter being picked up. The Scouts had made a significant contribution; thanks were given and luckily the weather was good.

b) **Scarecrow Festival** – Cllr Coates raised £250 for the fund from the sale of books/jigsaws.

c) **Back Lane Pond** – a request to leave the pond dry considering drought conditions was proposed. It was AGREED to leave the pond dry. A weekend in July was suggested for more work to start work on the surrounding vegetation. Cllr Coates agreed to suggest some dates and circulate to the council and any other volunteers who are willing to help. **Cllr Coates**

d) **Annual Meeting of the Parish** - Cllrs Coates, Smith and Bye were in attendance with Cllr Fossey. It was felt that there was a very good turn out. Each group will be supported with communications moving forward. The Fire Station Officers attended who are looking to recruit employed people and have sent thanks since meeting with the council.

401/25: FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Accounts*: to receive an update on income received, and bank balance reconciliation. **AGREED**

b) Expenditure*: to authorise expenditure payments for May 2023. **AGREED**

402/25: NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING

To note the date of the next Full Council meeting scheduled for Wednesday 18 June 2025. **NOTED**

403/25: EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was **RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public from the meeting under the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1060 as it may not be in the public interest to disclose discussion on the items below due to the discussions relating to contracts or staffing.

- To consider any outstanding legal matters including:
 - a) City Fibre Works Permission - AGREED
 - b) Draft Lease for the Scout Hut – AGREED

The meeting closed at 20.45 pm

Signed Chairman.....

***MARTHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Payments List May 2025

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Scribe	Admin	111.6
BT Group	Phone	74.7
Community Centre	Admin	495
Expenses	Domain Renewal	15.59
Expenses	Web Hosting Renewal	100.66
Staffing	HMRC/Pensions/Salaries	3010.73
Martham DIY	Event supplies	107.04
Vantech Media	Email host	30
Norse	Utilities	25.5
NCC	Allotments Rent	1400
Plan	Mobile Phone	60.82
ICO	Subscription	52
Total		<u>£5,483.64</u>

***Balance per bank statements 30 April 2025**

Santander Savings	1,677.24
Santander Current	2,178.50
Nationwide Savings Building Society Account	31,832.32
Unity Trust Current Account	89,993.67
Lloyds	354.53
Total	<u>126,036.26</u>