

MINUTES OF MARTHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 16 July 2025 at 7.30 pm

Public Participation:

- a) **Norfolk County Council (NCC) and Great Yarmouth Borough Council Councillor Andy Grant:** reported to the Council on progress made with his support with the Section 106 application for the Playing Field Play Park area improvements. In addition to this Cllr Grant gave updates on other matters including:
 - Local Government Reorganisation and planned elections for 2025.
 - Volunteering his time for his annual 'Community Maintenance Day' in September 2025.
 - Information on various grants available including the NCC Bus Shelter Fund.
 - NCC Village Walk Around. Cllr Fossey volunteered to attend this. Dates to be confirmed.
- b) **Norfolk County Councillor James Bensly** —a written report (previously circulated). Noted.
- c) **SMEE update** - Common Rd Smee is still showing lots of insects buzzing around the grassland but it is still Hogweed Heaven down there! Our knapweed and oy-eye daisies are also showing well but battling against the hogweed. Please call in to enjoy the peace and quiet.
- d) **Planning Concerns** - one member of the public raised concerns with Planning application: 06/24/0386/VCF in relation to lack of infrastructure. Details of how to add comments to the GYBC website comments section were shared.

417/25: ATTENDANCE

Present: Cllrs Fossey (Chair), Bradford, Bye, Coates, Sayer, Smith, and Watson

Apologies: were received from Steve (lead volunteer for SMEE) and Cllr Starkings (other engagement). Three members of the public and the Parish Clerk was also in attendance.

418/25: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS - no new declarations were received.

419/25: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING - the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 18 June 2025 were AGREED.

420/25: MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES - for information only (no decisions).

Thank you: Cllr Fossey gave thanks to the Carnival Committee for all their hard work and contribution to organising the Carnival over the weekend of 12 July 2025.

421/25: CORRESPONDENCE/COMMENTS/CONSULTATIONS

Village walkaround —an update from Cllr Fossey on speeding matters and work undertaken on Hall Road was received. Cllrs have met to discuss some matters raised. Potholes, roads, road access and footpaths/overgrown hedges and trees on the highway areas are all the responsibility of Norfolk County Council (NCC). Councillors confirmed residents are able to contact NCC here:

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/article/39652/Report-a-highways-problem>

The Parish Council also have a Report It page here <https://marthampc.org.uk/problems/>

and a downloadable guide on the website which links to the correct authorities responsible.

a) **Local Government Reorganisation** - Norfolk County Council newsletter update:
Local Government Reorganisation: Norfolk Association of Local Councils. This newsletter contains information about how local town and parish councils can start to engage with Norfolk County Council (NCC) and gain information on the Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), that is going to happen in Norfolk. Due to the importance of the subject, it has been sent to all local councils in Norfolk. Although the Government has yet to decide on the exact model, it is important that councils start to prepare for what is to come no matter what governance model is decided. This Reorganisation will affect all Town and Parish councils, and Norfolk ALC feels that it is vital that you are kept up to date with what this could mean for you. To achieve this Norfolk ALC is working in collaboration with Norfolk County Council in their efforts to share information and engage local councils in preparing for the LGR. **NOTED**

b) **Police matters** — the dates of the next Safer Neighbourhood Meetings:
Rural Flegg Villages Neighbourhood Meeting - 7:00PM - 8:00PM, Thu 17 July 2025, Rollesby Pavillion, King George Playing field, Rollesby, NR29 5EJ. Cllr Fossey is attending. **NOTED**
It was AGREED to offer use of the Community Centre on a rota basis to allow local residents to attend more easily. Cllr Fossey/Clerk

c) **Street Naming and Numbering: Development on land north of Staithe Road, Martham.**
Great Yarmouth Borough Council have agreed the application. Decision from GYBC: **APPROVED**

422/25: PLANNING

a) **GREAT YARMOUTH BOROUGH COUNCIL (GYBC):** Applications received, considered, and noted.

Application No: 06/25/0148/HH. Development: Demolition of conservatory; Erection of single-storey front and rear extensions and associated alterations: Erection of cart shed.

Location: Grange Farm, Repps Road, Martham, NR29 4RP. **Council Comment: NO OBJECTION**

Application No: 06/25/0491/HH: Development: Single storey front extension to form garage.

Location: 31 Rollesby Road Martham NR29 4SW. **Council Comments: NO OBJECTION**

Application No: 06/24/0386/VCF: Development: Application to vary Conditions 2, 7, 12, 21, 29, 34, 40, 41, 42 and 44 of pp 06/21/0917/F (Conversion of existing barn to 2 dwellings and erection of 44 dwellings and associated infrastructure), to amend the design, appearance and siting of house types, layout of the site access, landscaping and tree protection, and boundary treatments
Location: Land south of Somerton Road & White Street, East of Church Farm, Martham.

Council Comment: Objection to Application No: 06/24/0386/VCF: The Council objects to the proposed variation of conditions under application 06/24/0386/VCF due to significant concerns

relating to highway safety, environmental impact, and loss of local amenity. The proposed access revisions are situated on a section of Somerton Road known to be a blind bend, posing a clear hazard to road users and pedestrians—particularly with increased traffic from the proposed development. The changes also threaten the removal of established **trees** and established hedgerows, which provide vital habitat for local wildlife and contribute to the rural character of the area. The loss of these trees is contrary to material planning considerations relating to biodiversity, landscaping, and visual amenity. We therefore urge the planning authority to refuse the application in its current form.

423/25: PROJECTS

a) Defibrillators: Quiz Night — Cllr Coates gave an update on the latest quiz success with more funds raised which will be ring-fenced for the village defibrillator supplies such as battery replacements. Cllr Fossey gave thanks to all those who attended to give their support. A cabinet has been purchased the for unit to be located on Hemsby Road.

424/25: VILLAGE MATTERS

a) Chairmans Update To receive the Chairmans report (verbal).
The Chair – Cllr Fossey had been busy as usual.

Bus Shelter Refurbishment Project - work on the main Bus Shelter project continues. SSAF are supporting the artwork once agreed.

SAM2 Sign has been moved. Data from Repps Road has been accessed with the help from Cllr Smith and analysed by a volunteer.

Speedwatch continues however, this is a lot of work, and a new volunteer coordinator is needed.

Carnival Support – attended with use of the gazebo and flagpole.

b) Councillor updates

To receive updates:

Cllr Coates – Quiz night organisation, Carnival stall selling jigsaws and defibrillator checks. Fly-tipping reports and overflowing bins in the village.

Cllr Bradford – support for the Carnival preparation – transport for the cones

Cllr Bye – noticeboard additions continue and allotments work. Quiz donation from DIY Shop.

Cllr Smith – communications on Facebook, website, and newsletter production. SAM2 Sign help. Noticeboard display in the church. Cllr recruitment communications.

Cllr Sayer – allotment waiting list contact and administration.

Cllr Watson – walked his dogs on the footpaths.

c) Playing Field Park Area

Consideration was given to the progress of the application for 'Section 106 Developer Contributions' by officer at GYBC. It was **AGREED** to choose 'Option Two' as the preferred

specification if funds allow. Cllr Bradford confirmed he would email or draft the agreed use of the field for any improvements.

Cllr Bradford/Clerk

c) Permission to use the Green - Martham & District Garden Club Plant sale Saturday 27

September 2025. **AGREED**

Clerk

425/25: FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) **Accounts:** an update on monthly income received, and bank balance reconciliation/s. **NOTED**

b) **Expenditure:** expenditure payments for July and August 2025. **AGREED**

c) **NCC Bus Shelter Funding** to Support Bus Shelter Installations Across Norfolk from July 2025.

Options were considered and it was **AGREED** to delegate to the Chair and Clerk to apply where suitable.

Chair/Clerk

426/25: POLICIES

Signs on the Village Green Policy was considered, and it was **AGREED** to add some further improvements to the draft. Cllrs to share any other improvements with the Clerk before the next meeting – September.

Cllrs/Clerk

427/25: NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING

PLEASE NOTE: The date of the next Full Council meeting is Wednesday 17 September 2025

428/25: STANDING ORDERS

In line with Standing Orders, it was **RESOLVED** to extend the meeting beyond 9.30pm to allow for further discussion of matters on the agenda.

429/25: 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.

Grass Cutting: Consideration was given to Council Owned Village Grass Cutting quotations. It was **AGREED** to defer the item to September to allow for re-quotes with less frequency due to the costs involved.

Clerk

The meeting closed at 9.44 pm

Signed Chairman.....

MARTHAM PARISH COUNCIL**Payments List July and August 2025**

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Scribe	Admin July & August	223.2
BT Group	Phone	149.4
Administration July & Aug	Comm Centre	600
Cleaning July & August	Comm Centre	360
Tyrell and Brown	Defib Installation	102
SSAF	Flagpole	188.4
ICO	Subscription	47
Norse	Utilities	6
Unity	Service charge	6
Plan Jul & Aug	Mobile Phone	121.64
Expenses	Travel	23.4
HR July	HMRC/Pens/Ni/Sales	3779.09
HR August	HMRC/Pens/Ni/Sales	3779.09
Expenditure	August	4486.21
Expenditure	July	£4,899.01

Balance per bank statements 30 June 2025

Santander Savings	1,677.24
Santander Current	2,178.50
Nationwide Savings Building Society Account	30,649.59
Unity Trust Current Account	79,861.10
Lloyds	354.53
<u>Total</u>	<u>114,720.96</u>

