

Minutes of the Meeting of Blickling Parish Council held on Tuesday
05/05/2026 in Blickling Hall at 7.00 p.m

PRESENT

Alan Evans
John Woodeson
Sue Lake – Clerk
Seb Billings – National Trust
Two Parishioners

Charlie Ennals
Robert Wichall

1. **TO ELECT THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR 2026/7**
John Woodeson was proposed and was voted as chairman unanimously
2. **TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRMAN'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**
The chairman signed his declaration of acceptance of office
3. **TO RECEIVE & ACCEPT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
All councillors present
4. **TO ELECT THE VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR 2026/7**
Robert Wichall was proposed and was voted as vice-chairman unanimously
5. **TO RECEIVE MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN AGENDA ITEMS**
None made
6. **MINUTES**
Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20th January 2026 had previously been circulated and were **confirmed and signed by the chairman.**
7. **INFORMATION ON MATTERS ARISING**
All matters picked up later in the agenda
8. **TO CONSIDER CO-OPTIONS TO FILL CURRENT VACANCIES**
Jess Perry was nominated to join the council and was voted on unanimously.
She signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the meeting
9. **REPORTS POLICE, COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**
Sue Catchpole attended the meeting and advised of the current position with regard to Local Government Reorganisation. Council elections will be taking place on the 7th May.
10. **TO ADJOURN THE MEETING TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK**
A parishioner was grateful for the work on the channel mentioned in a previous meeting,

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11. FINANCE

a) To approve the accounting Statement for the year ended 31st March 2026

These were approved

b) To note balance of account

The balance of the account was £2941.09. A further £2139.31 is held in the National Savings Account

c) To complete AGAR Exemption certificate for 2025/6

It was **AGREED** to exempt the Council. The AGAR form was completed by the Council and signed by the chairman.

The clerk advised of a new exemption on the form, Exemption 10. This requires a new e-mail and website address. It was **AGREED** for the clerk to progress this.

d) To complete documents to transfer National Savings Account

These were completed and will be actioned by the clerk

e) To consider payments to be made

The following payments were **AGREED**

- Zurich Insurance £168.00

12. TO CONSIDER PLANNING ISSUES

To consider any applications received

None received

13. HIGHWAY ISSUES

a) To receive an update on parking in Silvergate and signage issues

The new signs are working well and apart from a few occasions parking is much improved.

b) To receive an update on hedge on Silvergate

John Woodeson will speak to Andrew Brooks regarding this matter

c) To receive an update on speed limit implementation

The new speed limit was scheduled for February but there have been delays and the expected date is now 'summer'.

d) To receive details of issues re flooding on Blickling Road

A resident on Blickling Road sent details of the issues they have been having with Highways regarding flooding of their property. The Parish Council **AGREED** to contact Highways regarding this matter on the resident's behalf.

e) Request from Ramblers Association re footpaths

The Ramblers Association would like all Parish Councils to be the 'eyes on the ground' in relation to footpath navigation. Charlie agreed to do this and Seb will provide a map.

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f) To discuss any other highway matter

Nothing further raised

14. NATIONAL TRUST

a) To receive details of Stakeholders Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for May 18th either Charlie or John will attend.

The last meeting confirmed there is nothing available that could be used as a meeting place, The National Trust were happy to work with the council including supplying letters regarding work requirements in order that the Parish Council can look at obtaining a grant for the cemetery work.

b) To receive any update

The new parking meters have been installed to mixed reviews and issues still need to be ironed out.

The Trust had a very good Easter.

An exhibition of fabrics will be installed lasting throughout the summer. There will also be a Summer of Play which will include a Pokemom Trail, mini beast sessions, immersive theatre groups and sports and games.

15. BLICKLING CEMETERY

To receive update on maintenance and funding

John Woodeson met with Rev Canon Julie Boyd to discuss the proposed work and also with the National Trust preferred supplier. The work included increasing the gateway size to allow parking for a hearse and two cars, footpath to be cleared and a compacted pathway to be installed, remove the leylandii stumps and create a level area for wildflowers. The quote for this was around £10k.

There would also be a requirement to include the grave digger, so he was aware what was going on. Other minor alterations and additions were also discussed.

The vicar did ask about donations to the PCC for grass cutting but the Parish Council still awaits detailed balances from the PCC.

16. COMMUNITY EVENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

a) To discuss 2026 event

There was little feedback on this so will postpone and look at something for Christmas

b) Next newsletter

This will be written after the stakeholders meeting

c) Update on defibrillator for Silvergate to include agreement on costs

The grant had been denied. Sue Catchpole advised that a Broadland grant may be available and she will forward details.

17. WINDFARMS

An Oulton resident was at the Stakeholders Meeting and gave details of the latest in regard to then windfarms. There is also a proposed Biogas project but more details are needed before planning can be determined.

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18. TO NOTE ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/FUTURE AGENDA

The Parish Council were sorry to learn of the death of Andy Daniels.

19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This was agreed as Tuesday 18th August 2026 at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 8.30pm

Minutes Agreed.....

DRAFT