

Fulstow Parish Council Minutes

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Location: Fulstow Village Hall

Date: 22nd January 2026

Time: 7pm

In attendance: Cllr Flinn, Cllr Guilliat, Cllr Larder, Cllr Lawson, Cllr Mann, Cllr Pike, Cllr Rack, Cllr Mossop & Cllr Hastings

Minutes taken by Clerk & RFO M Lawson

1. Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence were received. Councillor Pike did not attend the meeting and no apologies were submitted.

2. Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interest

No declarations were made.

3. Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

4. Public Participation Closed

5. Approval of Minutes from the Meeting Held on 11th December 2025

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2025 were approved as a true and accurate record and were duly signed by Councillors Lawson and Larder.

6. Review of Action Items from 11th December 2025

a. Flagpole at the Village Hall

Councillor Larder reported that the Village Hall Committee raised no objections to the mounting of a flagpole on the wall of the Village Hall. The precise location of the flagpole will need to be agreed prior to purchase.

b. Authority to Purchase a Flagpole

The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council has the authority to purchase a flagpole within the approved budget.

c. Disabled Parking Bay

The Clerk confirmed that the resident had been informed of Lincolnshire County Council's decision to allow a disabled parking bay. LCC has not yet contacted the resident directly.

d. Complaint Regarding Overgrown Hedges

Lincolnshire County Council requested that the Parish Council approach the residents directly. Should the issue persist, LCC will take appropriate action. Councillors requested that the Clerk draft a polite letter asking the property owners to cut back the hedge to allow safe pedestrian access to the footpath. The draft letter is to be circulated to Councillors for approval prior to posting.

7. Councillor Pike – Resignation Update

The Clerk informed Councillors that advice had been sought from LALC following Councillor Pike's verbal resignation. LALC advised that under Section 84 of the Local Government Act 1972, a councillor may only resign by providing written notice to the Chair of the Parish Council, usually via the Clerk. Councillor Lawson emailed Councillor Pike requesting written confirmation of her resignation. The Clerk also sent a text message advising Cllr Pike that emails had been sent. No response was received. A letter was then sent by recorded delivery; however, this was returned marked as refused to be accepted. As no written resignation has been received, Councillor Pike remains a serving councillor and will continue to do so until she has not attendant a meeting for a period of six months.

8. Reports from Councillors Hastings and Mossop

Councillor Mossop reported that the Drainage Board had confirmed there would be no rate increase for

the 2026/27 financial year. He also reported a resident's concern regarding an uncleared verge within the village. Councillor Mossop explained that one side of the verge had not been cleared due to access issues, which prevented the Drainage Board from undertaking the work.

9. Finance

a. Approval of Budget for 2026/27

The budget for the 2026/27 financial year was approved.

b. Setting of the Precept for 2026/27

Councillors agreed to set the precept at £6,000 for 2026/27. This represents an increase of approximately 26%, equating to an annual increase of approximately £5.40 for a Band D property. Councillors noted that, while the increase was higher than desired, rising costs and additional responsibilities resulting from increased government regulation made it necessary.

c. Certification of Payments

The following payments were approved:

- I. Grove Wold Farm – Grass cutting: £156.00
- II. Fulstow Village Hall – Meeting room hire: £105.00
- III. M. Lawson – Recorded delivery postage: £3.60

10. Lincolnshire County Council Grass Cutting Agreement

Councillors noted the changes to the administration of the Parish Grass Cutting Agreement.

11. Planning Matters

Councillor Larder led a discussion on recent planning decisions within the village. He expressed disappointment that the application for three detached houses on land behind Ivy Cottage, Main Street, had been approved despite strong opposition from Councillors and residents.

Councillor Mossop explained that changes introduced by the Labour Government have increased housing targets, resulting in East Lindsey being unable to demonstrate a five-year housing land supply. Consequently, greater weight must now be given to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), increasing the likelihood of approval for non-allocated and speculative development sites. Medium-sized villages are therefore under increased scrutiny. Councillors were encouraged to comment on all planning applications and to contact Councillor Mossop regarding applications that attract significant objection.

12. Correspondence Received Since the Last Meeting

An email from Lincolnshire County Council requesting Parish Councils and Councillors provide feedback on LCC's budget and precept proposals by 5.00 pm on 27 January 2026. This email has been forwarded to all Councillors for comment.

13. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Requests for items to be included on the agenda for the next meeting must be submitted to the Clerk by noon on 23rd February 2026.

14. Date of Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **5th March 2026**.

Action Points

1. Clerk to submit the completed precept request form by **31st January 2026**.
2. Clerk to draft a letter regarding hedge trimming and circulate to Councillors for approval prior to distributing to the relevant residents.

Signed by Cllr Guillatt as a true record on 5th March 2026