

Minutes of Holland Fen & Brothertoft Parish Council Meeting.

Held on July 7th 2026 at 19:30 in Holland Fen Village Hall.

Present:

Cllr Paul Anderson, Cllr Nigel Early (Chairman), Cllr Edward Cawdron (Vice President, Cllr Alan Dring, Cllr Mark Leggott, Cllr Mike Johnson, Cllr David Ball, Cllr Susan Welberry (Boston Borough Councillor) and Cllr Stuart Evans (Boston Borough Councillor).

Absent:

Cllr Paul Lock (Lincolnshire County Councillor) and Cllr Peter Robinson.

In Attendance: Lana Maclennan-James (Clerk & RFO) and Five Villages Boston Borough Councillor, James Cantwell.

Pre-Meeting - 15 minute allocation for the Police and Public to speak:

1. Welcome by the Chairman – Agenda Item 1 (07/07/2026)

Cllr Early welcomed everyone in attendance.

2. Apologies for absence and reasons given - Agenda Item 2 (07/07/2026)

Cllr Lock gave his apologies and Cllr Peter Robinson.

3. Declarations of Interest in accordance with The Localism Act 2011 and to consider any requests for dispensations - Agenda Item 3 (07/07/2026)

None.

4. Approval of the minutes for meeting held on 5th May 2026 - Agenda Item 4 (07/07/2026)

The minutes were sent round to Councillors prior to the meeting, these were approved as a true record and signed. No matters arising.

5. To discuss the Emergency Group Initiative with Cllr James Cantwell – Agenda Item 5 - (07/07/2026)

Cllr Cantwell gave a brief explanation of the Joint Villages Emergency plan, including which villages are included. The emergency plan covers where residents can go in an emergency such as a flood or sustained power cuts, volunteers who have agreed to help during emergencies and much more. Every Village that joins the initiative gets a copy of the emergency plan which has been approved by the Lincolnshire resilience forum. The plan also forms part of the greater Lincolnshire emergency plan.

Each village sends two representatives to the committee to attend meetings to keep the emergency plan current and updated. Each village also gets an emergency kit for halls and the volunteers.

Cllr Cantwell is here as the current emergency model is proving a success and so he wishes to extend it to further Villages, it perfectly suits a smaller parish and is not something that a parish can typically provide alone.

Cllr Leggott said that Lincolnshire County Council were supposed to be funding an emergency flood response, and he asked where that has gone? Also, he asked how this emergency plan is funded. Cllr

Cantwell responded to say he has also not had an update from Lincolnshire County Council as a Borough Councillor for any of his villages, he continued to say that the funding has come from grants. Cllr Anderson asked if the current flooding signage (IN and OUT ER) is part of the new plan? Cllr Cantwell shared that is not part of the new emergency plan, however, Cllr Leggott shared that the old signage and emergency evacuation plan are still in place. He also stated that there would have to be an increased police presence due to thefts when the last evacuation happened. Cllr Leggott said that he approves of Cllr Cantwell's emergency plan, but it would need to include security measures for protecting people's property.

Cllr Early asked Cllr Cantwell what kind of evacuation centers he needed as if houses were flooded it is highly likely that the village halls would be too. Cllr Cantwell responded to say this is something that would be chosen in the event of an emergency, the main thing for the plan is that everyone has a copy of who is the key holders and where is specific equipment.

Cllr Cantwell informed the council that there is no cost.

Cllr Leggott said that the plan is a good idea worthy of further enquiry, he asked Cllr Cantwell for a copy of what others are doing / what they currently have, in order to see if it would fit the parish. He said that sending a couple of representatives to the next committee meeting to gain more information and Cllr Early agreed. Cllr Cantwell will send the clerk the date of the next meeting.

Cllr Cawdron asked if the current village volunteers work cross villages and Cllr Cantwell confirmed that is the case.

A small discussion was had on the pros and cons of the plan.

6. To discuss and consider the co-option of a new parish Councillor to fill the vacancy on the Council – Agenda Item 6 - (07/07/2026)

There has been one application from Cllr Stuart Evans.

Cllr Mark Leggott proposed and Cllr Alan Dring seconded the co-option of Cllr Stuart Evans.

All Councillors agreed to co-opt Cllr Stuart Evans.

7. Clerks Report & GDPR - Agenda Item 7 - (07/07/2026)

Nothing to report.

Notice boards need updating, the clerk will contact hall secretaries to see if keys are needed/ how it has been done previously.

8. To receive reports and updates from outside bodies or local organisations - Agenda Item 8 - (07/07/2026)

6.1. County & Borough reports –

Cllr Evans shared that there is a private company called Blue Line Security Limited who recently did a presentation for Boston Borough Council and are a good team to go to in regard to crimes such as stolen farm equipment.

Cllr Welberry spoke to say there are not many updates as we are awaiting the decision on LGR.

6.2. Police reports –

None.

9. Correspondence received - Agenda Item 9 - (07/07/2026)

9.1 – Speed Monitor Warranty - The Councillors all agreed to not renew the warranty.

9.2 – Internal Auditor Engagement – All the Councillors agreed to go ahead with the three-year agreement and the form was signed.

10. Highway Matters - Agenda Item 10 - (07/07/2026)

Clerk to email highways to ask if any more information such as day/night closure, where the roads are being closed to and from and diversions can be given regarding the closure of Langrick Bridge for six weeks in Summer 2027. It will cause issues with harvesting and for businesses.

Cllr Anderson said that there is a pothole just off Langrick Bridge on to Ferry Lane (on the blind bend).

Cllr Leggott reported issues with subsidence and potholes in a few locations.

Cllr Ball has reported an overgrown hedge that is being looked in to.

Clerk to bring a OS map of the parish to the next meeting for fix my street reports to be circled on.

11. Planning Applications - Agenda Item 11 - (07/07/2026)

B/26/0241 – Needles Farm – There were no objections or concerns.

Some Councillors have been notified by Anglian Water that they would like to put a pipe in between Langrick Bridge and Mill Lane to pipe water to the new reservoir. There is a briefing next week and they will report back after.

12. Financial Matters - Agenda Item 12 - (07/07/2026)

Cheques to be signed tonight are:

BBC Dog waste bin - £200.78

Clerks Wage - £221.00

All payments were agreed and cheques were approved and signed.

APRIL – MAY BANK RECONCILIATION -

Account	Date	Description	Inv/CHQ/Remit No	Amount	VAT
Natwest 1	17/04/2026	BBC Precept	Precept	+2093.59	None
Natwest 2	30/04/2026	Interest	n/a	+2.46	None
Natwest 1	07/05/2026	March&April Wages	Chq 660	-457.00	None
Natwest 1	07/05/2026	Microsoft Renewal	Chq 661	-89.99	TBC
Natwest 1	12/05/2026	Internal Audit	Chq 657	-141.75	None
Natwest 1	13/05/2026	Hall Hire	Chq 659	-20.00	None
Natwest 1	14/05/2026	ICO DD	Direct Debit	-47.00	None
Natwest 1	15/05/2026	Zurich Insurance	Chq 664	-234.82	None
Natwest 1	22/05/2026	2025 HF Hire	Chq 658	-120.00	None
Natwest 2	29/05/2026	Interest	n/a	+2.73	None

Balance as per bank statement 31/05/2026	£
Natwest account 1 - 04666836	100
Natwest account 2 - 30106087	3607.81
Santander Reserve account	2267.65
NET BALANCE A/S OF 31/05/2026	£5974.65

13. To receive items for the next agenda - Agenda Item 13 - (07/07/2026)

None.

Clerk to send Cllr Ball the dates for future meetings & to make a list of councillor contact number

14. Date, time and venue of the next meeting - Agenda Item 14 - (07/07/2026)

Tuesday 1st September at Brothertoft Village Hall. – Clerk gave apologies to this.

(Meetings start at 7:30pm in May, July and September)

Meeting Ended at 20:40.