Minutes of Little Bealings Parish Council meeting held in the Angela Cobbold Hall at 7pm on Monday 7 September 2026

Present:

Cllr H Saagi (Vice Chair) Cllr I Ransome, Cllr P Carr and Cllr M Wilson
In attendance: Wendy Cook, Clerk to the Council

Also present:

Suffolk County Councillor Elaine Bryce and three residents/members of the public (for all/part of the meeting)

The Vice Chairman welcomed those present.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr C Cheeseman (Chairman), Cllr K Price and Cllr M Garnham

It was **RESOLVED**:

- to accept the apologies for absence

2. General Power of Competence

The Clerk confirmed that the Parish Council meets the eligibility criteria to exercise the General Power of Competence, with the Clerk holding the CiLCA qualification and the required proportion of councillors having been elected.

It was **RESOLVED**:

- That Little Bealings Parish Council is eligible to exercise the General Power of Competence under the Localism Act 2011 and that the Parish Council formally adopts the General Power of Competence with effect from the 7 September 2026

3. Declarations of Interest in Matters on the Agenda and Dispensation Requests

Declaration of interests were made as follows:

Cllr M Wilson: Other Registrable Interest as Trustee of Bealings Village Hall in Agenda item 11.3 Thriving Places Fund – Village Hall

Cllr H Saagi: Other Registrable Interest as Trustee of Bealings Village Hall in Agenda item 11.3 Thriving Places Fund – Village Hall. The Clerk confirmed that dispensation had previously been granted permitting Cllr H Saagi to remain in the meeting and participate in the discussion, but not to vote on the item or influence the outcome.

4. Public Participation Session

Keith Beaumont, Trustee Bealings Village Hall spoke about item 11.3 Thriving Places Fund – Village Hall

5. Minutes of the Meetings Held on 6th July 2026

It was **RESOLVED**:

- to approve the minutes of the meetings as drafted.

6. Updates from Clerk and Councillors

6.1 Sinks Pit Community Liaison Group

Cllr I Ransome reported that East Suffolk Environmental services had returned to a property in Hall Road and recorded noise, no results of this test are available at present. Cllr I Ransome will attend the next meeting on 26th November 2026

6.2 ESC Community Partnership

Cllr P Carr attended the meeting in August. The topics were equality and mental health and wellbeing. An idea that came from a workshop at the meeting was to provide cool rooms in the summer (similar idea to the winter warm rooms). Riding for the Disabled were granted £2004 and Just 42 Café granted £3000. Enable Fitness had requested £6884 however the ESC Community Partnership have requested more information for the use of the money before funding would be made available.

6.3 Village Hall Management Committee

Cllr H Saagi reported work had been completed to fill the potholes in the carpark and that sleepers had been installed to reduce any antisocial behaviour.

6.4 SAVID

Cllr M Garnham was absent from the Parish Council Meeting so no report.

6.5 Clerk Update

The Clerk has reported that the Notice of Conclusion of Audit had been received from the External Auditor and that all relevant paperwork was now available on the website. The national pay award is 3.3%.

7. Local District and County Councillors' Reports

Suffolk County Councillor Elaine Bryce spoke about the proposed EcoPower Suffolk Solar Project, setting out concerns about the scale and impact of the development. Westerfield Quarry, due to an Impact Report not being available a decision has not been made and is likely to now happen at the meeting on the 20 October. Cllr Bryce urged people to join the Stop The Quarry Campaign. Her report also included information about help available to Suffolk Residents to replace aging heating systems with heat pumps. Cllr Bryce also spoke about The Suffolk Conservative Group demanding that Suffolk County Council publishes its detailed response to formal challenges tabled by councillors over how its decisions to pursue a judicial review (JR) of the Government's Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) decision, a case which on the council's own figures could cost up to £500,000, were made. Cllr E Bryce's full report can be read online at www.playfordparishcouncil.gov.uk

8. Planning

8.1 Planning Applications

Re-Consultation Planning Application SCC/0170/25SC - A12 between Junctions 58 (Seven Hills) and Woods Lane Roundabout, Woodbridge

After a brief discussion
It was **RESOLVED**:

- That the Parish Council expressed concern regarding the current traffic management arrangements at the roundabout serving the exit from Martlesham Heath and the Retail Park. The significant volume of traffic regularly causes congestion and delays in this area. The Council noted that this planning application should include improvement at this junction
- The Parish Council expressed concern regarding road safety at the roundabout connecting Woodbridge to the A12. Councillors noted that, when travelling from Woodbridge and approaching the roundabout to join the A12, traffic approaching from the right can be travelling at excessive speed. This can make it difficult for vehicles approaching from Woodbridge to enter the roundabout safely. The Council considers that this issue requires further investigation and that improvements to the junction be considered.

8.2 Update on Applications dealt with under Delegated Authority, Previous Applications, Appeals and Enforcement Matters

DC/26/1668/FUL, Mulberry House, Sandy Lane, Little Bealings, Woodbridge, Suffolk IP13 6LW. Single storey rear extension – Approved

DC/26/1259/FUL |Sinks Pit Main Road Kesgrave Suffolk IP5 2PE, Proposed Lay-by – Approved

DC/26/0786/FUL, High Rigg The Street Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6LT Retrospective Application - Erection of close boarded fence to South boundary of property High Rigg The Street Little Bealings - Approved

DC/25/4851/FUL 10 Holly Close Little Bealings IP13 6PL, Retention of Change of use of outbuilding to part time holiday let – Pending

DC/25/4773/FUL | Detached garage and cart lodge building. The Chestnuts, Martlesham Road, Little Bealings, IP13 6LX – Pending

Outstanding Enforcement:

DC/25/4656/VOC | Variation of Condition Nos. 2, 4, 8, and 14 of DC/22/2984/FUL - Construction of one detached dwelling and garage. - Change approved drawings to reflect amendments to design and layout. | Woodside Martlesham Road Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6LX.

9. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Saagi reported that some clarification notes had been requested;

a. **In light of the new NPPF being Published in August 2026, does the Parish Council wish to withdraw the Neighbourhood Plan?**

   It was **RESOLVED**:
   - To answer no. The transition arrangements for the new NPPF mean that those Plans already submitted are examined against the 2024 NPPF.

b. In light of the new Local Plan being prepared does the Parish Council wish to insert text in the Neighbourhood Plan that the Parish Council undertakes to assess the need for a partial or full review within six months of the adoption of the local plan?

It was **RESOLVED**:

- That the following text be inserted into the Neighbourhood Plan

"In May 2026 the District Council commenced the preparation of a new Local Plan that will cover the period to 2045. At the time of the Neighbourhood Plan Referendum, it was expected that the new Local Plan would be adopted in April 2029. Within six months of the new Local Plan being adopted, the Parish Council will consider the need to carry out a full or partial review of the Neighbourhood Plan to bring it up to date"

10. Highways

10.1 Highways

Nothing to report

10.2 Footpaths

Nothing to report

10.3 Second SID Purchase

As Cllr M Garnham was absent from the meeting.

It was **RESOLVED**:

- this item would be moved to the agenda of the next Parish Council meeting.

11. Finance

11.1 Income and Authorisation of Expenditure

Approval of Finance Schedule

No Income received

Expenditure had been incurred as follows:

- Clerk's Net Salary for July 2026: Agreed in Budget (S111 and S112 LGA 1972) (standing order)
- Clerk's Net Salary for August 2026: Agreed in Budget (S111 and S112 LGA 1972) (standing order)
- HMRC £173.46

It was **RESOLVED:**

- that the following expenditure be incurred:

- Clerk's net salary for September 2026: Agreed in Budget (S111 and S112 LGA 1972) (standing order)
- Clerk's net salary for October 2026: Agreed in Budget (S111 and S112 LGA 1972)

(standing order)
- Zurich £300
- Clerk's Allowance £312
- Cllr I Ransome Expenses £84.99
- PFK £210 + £42 vat

11.2 Insurance Renewal

It was **RESOLVED:**
- That as the quotation from Zurich was the same as last year at £300 the Parish Council would proceed with the renewal

11.3 Thriving Places Fund - Village Hall
Cllr Wilson left the meeting at 7.29pm in accordance with their declaration of interest.

Cllr H Saagi, having declared an interest and been granted a dispensation to remain in the meeting, was unable to vote on the matter. As a result, the number of members able to vote on this agenda item was insufficient to constitute a quorum and the Parish Council was therefore unable to make a formal resolution on the matter.

The councillors present nevertheless expressed their support for the Village Hall's proposed project to install safety surfacing around the play area and were supportive of the Village Hall seeking grant funding towards the scheme. It was noted that East Suffolk Council had already committed £18,500 towards the total project cost of approximately £30,000. The Parish Council's support was noted as a matter of general encouragement only, and no formal resolution was made due to the lack of a quorum. The Clerk will inform the Village Hall Committee.

Cllr Wilson returned to the meeting at 7.32pm

12. Microsoft Office Usage

It was **RESOLVED:**
- For the Parish Council to continue to use Microsoft Office and that the Clerk was to pay for the annual subscription and claim back through Clerk's expenses.

13. Date of Next Meeting
The next meeting of the Council will be on Monday 2nd November 2026 in the Angela Cobbold Hall but a meeting will be held on Monday 5th October, if required by business to be transacted. There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 7.33pm.