

Forncett Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at Forncett Village Hall on Wednesday 15 July 2026 at 7.30pm.

In Attendance: Cllr M Sanders (Chair), Cllr B Humphreys, Cllr B Frith, Cllr G Barnes, Cllr S Allen, Cllr D Bezkorowajny, Cllr K Fromings

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner
County Councillor Margaret Thomas
2 members of the public

1. **To consider apologies for absence** – District Councillor Kim Carsok sent her apologies.
2. **To receive any declarations of interest** – Councillor Humphreys declared an interest in item 7a on the agenda.
3. **To approve the minutes of the last meeting (18 June 2026)** – The minutes were approved without alteration and signed as correct by the Chair.
4. **To consider matters arising from the minutes (for information only)** – The Chair reported that the standing water on Low Road has been resolved.
5. **Open forum, to hear from members of the public including, if available, a report from District and County Councillors** – County Councillor Margaret Thomas reported that a judicial review application has been submitted in relation to the decision for three unitary councils, in relation to the Local Government Reorganisation. Councillor Thomas reported that she has met with representatives from National Grid to discuss the enabling works relating to the proposed pylons. Councillor Thomas raised concerns relating to the potential removal of hedgerows and trees, as well as other disruption, before any planning permission for the project may be granted. Councillor Thomas said that it is understood a planning application relating to the enabling works will be submitted and Councillors agreed they would respond appropriately when this happens. Councillor Thomas also gave initial details of the 'community fund' available - £30 million for Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex. It was agreed that this would go nowhere near compensating for the devastation that will take place across the three counties, if the project goes ahead. Councillor Thomas confirmed that she has asked to meet with our highways engineer at the Jolly Farmers crossroads in order to discuss highways improvements at the site. Finally, Councillor Thomas suggested that now may be a good time for qualifying residents (household income of less than £35k) to apply to the heating oil crisis fund. It was agreed to include details of this in the Flyer report.
6. **To consider planning applications:** None to report
7. **To hear of planning decisions:**
 - a) **2025 / 2613 – Land to the south of Mill Rd – Outline planning application for erection of three self build bungalows and garages** – Refused
 - b) **2025 / 3624 – Gilderswood Farm, Gilderswood Lane – Construction of lake with ancillary landscaping** – Approved

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8. **To report planning comments agreed via e-mail in between meetings and other information:**
a) **2026 / 0504 – Grove Cottage, Wacton Road – Renovation, alterations and extensions –** withdrawn.
9. **To hear information regarding a potential new bus shelter at Hunt's Mead** – Councillor Fromings provided several quotes for a possible bus shelter at the Hunt's Mead site. Councillor Fromings is meeting with another supplier in the next week or so and it was therefore agreed to carry this agenda item over to the September meeting.
10. **To consider a response to the National Grid enabling works** – It was agreed at the beginning of the meeting, as part of the County Councillor's report, that the parish council would wait for the forthcoming planning application and would formulate an appropriate response at that time. It was agreed that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) should be requested as absolutely crucial to the process.
11. **To hear information relating to the village noticeboards** – The parish council owns and maintains five noticeboards around the Forncetts and, in order that they do not become overcrowded, any notices displayed are requested to be A5 size, or smaller, no commercial notices and no private notices (items for sale etc). It was agreed to continue with these requirements, with larger notices being removed, if necessary.
12. **To update on outstanding highways issues** – Generally, the roads in the village (and the County in general) are in very poor condition. Councillor Thomas reported that the budget for Highways maintenance was set by the previous administration and cannot be altered in this financial year.
13. **To review the Standing Orders** – Revised Standing Orders, circulated prior to the meeting were reviewed and approved. The new Standing Orders are to be adopted with immediate effect.
14. **To add Chair Marie Sanders as debit card holder for PC bank account** – The paperwork was completed to add the Chair as a debit card holder. The clerk will submit the appropriate forms to Barclays.
15. **To receive the financial report and consider the approval of the following payments:**
The financial report and all payments were unanimously approved.

Method	Amount	Payee	Notes
SO	£ 403.18	A Rayner	July & Aug salary (per month)
DD	£ 75.57	A J Bell	July & Aug pension contribution (Per month)
BACS	£ 13.00	D Bezkorowajny	Refund – planting materials

Councillor Bezkorowajny thanked Diggers & Dibblers for their contribution to plants for the

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war memorial. The parish council, in turn, thanked Councillor Bezkorowajny for all his work on the maintenance of the memorial area. Councillors are aware that several residents have commented on how nice it looks.

- 16. To consider correspondence:**
- a) Norfolk Fire & Rescue Service – Fire Safety Campaign** – Given the prolonged spell of dry, hot weather, the Fire Service have asked for posters to be displayed asking for residents to be aware of the increased risk of outdoor fires and the threat of wildfire. The poster also asks for fire outbreak locations to be reported using the 'what3words' system wherever possible.
- 17. Items for information and comment** – Councillor Frith reported that the Forncett.info website is currently frozen. Interested parties may not get the usual email advising that the Forncett Flyer is available to be read online or downloaded.
- 18. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Thursday 17th September 2026 commencing at 7.30pm.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.20pm.