

Forncett Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at Forncett Village Hall on Thursday 16th April 2026 at 7.50pm

In Attendance: Cllr B Frith (Chairman) Cllr B Humphreys, Cllr G Barnes, Cllr D Bezkorowajny, Cllr K Fromings

Parish Clerk Anne Rayner
3 members of the public

1. **To consider apologies for absence** – Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors Allen and Sanders. District Councillor Kim Carsok sent her apologies. County Councillor Catherine Rowett was present at the Annual Open Meeting held immediately prior to the parish council meeting.
2. **To receive any declarations of interest** – None to report.
3. **To approve the minutes of the last meeting (19th March 2026)** – The minutes were approved without alteration and signed as correct by the Chairman.
4. **To consider matters arising from the minutes (for information only)** – The Chairman confirmed that the four dog waste bins have been installed, they are being well used and collections have started.
5. **Open forum, to hear from members of the public including, if available, a report from District Councillor Kim Carsok and County Councillor Catherine Rowett** – There were no comments from members of the public.
6. **To consider planning applications:** None to report
7. **To hear of planning decisions:**
 - a) **2025 / 3413 & 3414 – The Homestead, Low Rd – Demolition of sun room and replacement with new sun room. Works to internal walls** – Approved
8. **To report planning comments agreed via e-mail in between meetings:** None to report
9. **To update on outstanding highways issues** – Councillor Rowett had, during the previous meeting, agreed to chase Highways with regard to the proposed works at the Long Stratton Rd / Common Rd crossroads. A member of the public present suggested that part of the problem is the lack of visibility due to the hedge in front of the (former) Austhorpe House. Councillor Bezkorowajny asked if anyone knew what the bold white markings were which had recently appeared on Cheney's Lane. The Chairman confirmed that similar markings were on Northfield Road. A member of public present confirmed that they relate to the Norwich to Tilbury pylon project and they are designed to be visible to drones.
10. **To receive and approve the internal audit report** – The parish council's auditor has produced a very thorough report, which was circulated prior to the meeting. Councillors approved the report.

Forncett Parish Council
Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held at Forncett Village Hall on Thursday 16th April 2026 at 7.50pm

11. **To declare that FPC is an exempt authority within the definition contained within the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015 and confirm exemption for 2025 / 26** – Councillors unanimously approved the declaration and the clerk and RFO signed the statement accordingly.
12. **To approve the Annual Governance Statement** – The statement was approved and signed accordingly.
13. **To consider and approve the Accounting Statements for 2025 / 26** – The accounting statements were approved and signed accordingly.
14. **To receive the financial report and consider the approval of the following payments:**

Method	Amount	Payee	Notes
SO	£ 403.18	A Rayner	April salary
DD	£ 75.57	A J Bell	April pension contribution
BACS	£ 120.00	S Blythe	Internal audit fee
BACS	£ 800.00	Forncett Flyer	Grant instalment 1

The financial report and all payments were unanimously approved.

15. **To consider correspondence:**
- a) **East Pye Solar – Hempnall Meeting** – Hempnall Parish Council are holding a meeting on 17 April 2026, largely to discuss the next steps relating to the East Pye Solar application. Neighbouring parishes are welcome to attend and the agenda has been circulated.
- b) **LGR update** – The Government has confirmed that the current council structure will be replaced by three unitary authorities, Greater Norwich, West and East. Forncett will fall in the proposed East unitary authority.
16. **Items for information and comment – Pylon donation request update** – Following the last meeting it was agreed that the clerk would investigate how many parish councils have currently donated to the Norwich – Tilbury pylon fighting fund and also seek some guidance as to whether such a donation would be within the parish council's remit. It was confirmed that three parish councils have currently made a donation, one in Essex and two in Suffolk. Norfolk ALC have also confirmed that a donation to a national campaign would not be within the parish council's remit.
17. **To confirm the date of the next meeting as 21 May 2026 commencing at 7.30pm. This will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.25pm.