

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
COLBY & BANNINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL
HELD AT THE BANNINGHAM & COLBY COMMUNITY HALL
ON MONDAY 18th MAY 2026 at 7.00pm**

PRESENT: Mr S Elliot (Chairman)
Mr N Andrews
Mr K Fields
Mr D Holgate
Mrs T Mills
Mr B van Poortvliet

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr C Studholme (Clerk), Mr J Toye plus two members of the public.

16. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mr D Holgate, Mrs J Morgan

17. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

Mr Elliott, Mrs Mills - allotments.

18. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20th April 2026

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th April 2026 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

19. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Additional Defibrillator

Heart2Heart were investigating the status of the electricity supply to the box on the parish council's behalf and a reply was awaited from UK Power Networks.

(b) NNDC Food Waste Collections

Mr Toye advised that food waste collections were now scheduled to start in February 2027. Regarding the food waste bin liners, he explained that there was a considerable cost to the District Council in providing every household with liners which would need to be passed on to council tax payers if it were to be made permanent. It would be cheaper for residents to purchase their own.

(c) Audit of Footpaths in the Parish

Mr Mills had agreed to assist with the audit of footpaths in the parish in conjunction with the Ramblers Association, who in turn would be able to help ensure public rights of way in the parish remain open.

20. OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None. Mr Toye advised that the parish council was a facilitator and that it was important that residents came forward with ideas that they would like to see the council implement. Public participation was therefore to be encouraged.

21. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Mr Toye reported on the following key issues affecting the parish:

Owing to a fire at the recycling centre in Thetford it was currently not possible to recycle small electrical items and batteries with household waste.

Residents should be advised to check with their local recycling centre to determine what items they were currently accepting. To be included in the next newsletter.

Openreach had again announced a delay in fibre broadband being rolled out in the parish, claiming that it was not commercially viable. However, Mr Toye

advised that they were being funded to provide broadband in rural areas and he was going to take the matter up with the local MP.

BT had been trialling electronic signs designed to provide information to local communities which would also provide free wi-fi. He was investigating to see whether they could be a solution to poor mobile phone signal in the area.

Small, local Pocket Park and Ride hubs in rural areas were being investigated as an alternative to large park and rides close to Norwich.

Callum Ringer had taken over from Saul Penfold as the county councillor covering the parish and was to be invited to the next meeting.

22. ITEMS REFERRED FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

None.

24. STANDING ITEMS

1. **Elden's Retreat/Playground** – Weekly inspections of the playground equipment were ongoing and completed forms were given to the Clerk. It was reported that the varnish on the benches was flaking off and needed to be reapplied. The Clerk and Mr Elliott had met to carry out maintenance on the planted trees and also carried out the annual safety audit focussing on the mature trees around the boundary. No major issues had been found.
2. **Village Green** – The Clerk had advised the contractor of the dates of bowls matches when cars would be parked on the Village Green.
3. **Allotments** – All but one half plot had new tenants and a local resident was interested in that. The water butts had been moved from in front of a low window on the adjoining property. Mr van Poortvliet had obtained costs for a silage sheet to cover the plot affected by horsetail and he was to investigate if it was possible to purchase a single roll.
4. **Information Centre/Noticeboards/Newsletter** – The newsletter had been printed by a printer in Cromer, but a cheaper option was to be sought for the next newsletter. It was suggested that the parish council could purchase its own laser printer to print newsletters, reducing the cost in the long term.
5. **SAM2** – the latest data were to be downloaded and sent to Mr Jones for analysis.
6. **Highway Issues** – The County Highways Engineer had suggested that we meet with Highway Technician Barry Holsworth to discuss highway issues in the parish. The Clerk was to contact him.

25. CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS/EVENTS

Mr Elliott had met with the new Head Teacher at Colby School and had explored opportunities for joint working.

26. POLICIES

None.

27. FINANCE REPORT

1. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS FOR AUTHORISATION

The schedule of payments for May had been circulated and was approved and signed by the Chairman. These were:

Colin Studholme	Clerk's Salary May 2026 (after tax)	£ 482.24	
Colin Studholme	Clerk's Allowance May 2026 (non-taxable)	£ 26.00	
Colin Studholme	Total pay	£ 508.24	
Seamus Elliott	Printing (Cheverton, Cromer)	£ 60.00	

2. BANK RECONCILIATION AS AT 30th April 2026

This was noted by members and signed by the Chairman.

3. THE BANK STATEMENTS AS AT 30th April 2026

The Bank Statements were noted as being in agreement with the Bank Reconciliations.

4. CASHBOOK AS AT 30th April 2026

The Cashbook was noted as being in agreement with the Bank Reconciliation.

5. SCHEME OF DELEGATION

None.

28. PLANNING MATTERS

1. APPLICATIONS DETERMINED

None.

2. APPLICATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

None.

29. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA/DISCUSSION ONLY

The June meeting was to include an item to suggest projects which the council might want to fund from its reserves.

30. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This was agreed for MONDAY 15th June 2026 at 7.00 pm at the Community Hall following the Annual Parish Meeting

31. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.25pm.

Signed (Chairman)

Date