

MARLINGFORD & COLTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held at Colton Village Hall, 13th January at 7pm

Minutes

Present

John Morse	JM	Chairman
Debbie Perfect	DP	Councillor
Mark Pfeiffer	MP	Councillor
David Woods	DW	Councillor
Maria Hutson	MH	Parish Clerk

Margaret Dewsbury MD Parish and District Councillor

PC Royall

3 members of the public

1. To consider accepting apologies for absence

None

2. To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda and consider any requests for dispensations

None

3. To consider Co-opting a Councillor

None at this time

4. To agree the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th November 2025

These were agreed a true record. All in agreement and duly signed.

5. Open forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from the public

PC Royall was in attendance - a possible criminal issue was passed on to her from a member of the public.

Cllr Dewsbury - Mayoral and Norfolk County Council elections still on hold at the moment.

6. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting

None

7. Any time limited correspondence – for information only

Temporary traffic lights and overnight lane closures relating to A47

Notice of Hearings Commencing on 13th January 2026 for the South Norfolk Village Clusters

Housing Allocations Plan (VCHAP)

LGR update

Breckland Local Plan

These were all noted

8. To receive a Highways update

John Morse attended the local A47 liaison meeting. Subsequently a meeting was held in December with a number of concerned Parish Council's. A letter was composed and sent to Highways, other key agencies and local MPs expressing their concern requesting an opportunity to discuss them. Time has been allocated at the A47 meeting on 21st January where these concerns to discussed. JM will provide a report at the next meeting.

9. To receive a footpath update

None

10. Planning

a) Any received after the publication of the agenda

None

b) Response since the last meeting;

i) [2025/3769 | Erection of steel frame | Meadow Farm Barford Road Colton Norfolk NR9 5DA](#)

Comments were submitted to support this application but consideration made to ensure access is maintained to the adjoining footpath

c) To hear of any planning decisions made by South Norfolk Council

i) [2025/3769 | Erection of steel frame | Meadow Farm Barford Road Colton Norfolk NR9 5DA](#)

This was approved with conditions including ensuring access to the footpath is maintained.

11. To consider further quotes for fencing working to be undertaken at Marlingford Amenity Area.

A revised quote was received from Justin Ritchie for £1410 which was accepted
It was agreed to ask Justin to submit a quote for the fencing at Colton Amenity Area.

12. To receive the play area safety reports and agree the remedial action to be taken.

The safety reports were circulated and posted on the website.

12.1 Colton Amenity Area

Slide at Colton Amenity Area – The ROSPA inspection has identified a potential safety hazard. As this is new equipment, Clerk to contact the manufacturers for their comments

Whilst there has been a generally satisfactory inspection, overhanging trees have been identified. These will be referred to Justin Richie for rectification.

12.2 Marlingford Amenity Area

The inspection was generally satisfactory, however there is a recommendation that the See-saw be removed and repaired / replaced. MP will contact local residents to identify the degree of usage of this equipment, before a decision to move forward.

There are overhanging trees near to the basket swing. Justin to remove them.

It was agreed that monthly routine inspections of both play areas be reactivated without delay.

13. Financial matters

a) To authorise payments for January 2026

Maria Hutson	Janauary Salary and Expenses	454.87
Norfolk Pension Fund	January pension contribution	151.61
HMRC	PAYE month 10	92.47
South Norfolk Council	ROSPA inspection	216.00
John Morse	Fence eyes	11.96

b) To note payments made since the last meeting

Norfolk Pension Fund	November Pension	151.61
Maria Hutson	Clerk Salary and Expenses Dec	454.67
HMRC PAYE	PAYE Month 9	92.67
Service Charge	Service Charge	6.00

c) To note receipts received

South Norfolk Council	Litter Pick	20.00
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d) To receive the 3rd quarter accounts
This was noted

e) To consider opening a savings account with Unity Trust
It was suggested that a savings account is opened with Unity Trust. There is no additional fee for this and interest rate is currently 2.1%
Proposed by JM, seconded by DW, all in agreement.
The application was completed. *Clerk to submit*

f) To note the submission of the precept demand to South Norfolk Council
A precept demand of £20,000 has been submitted to South Norfolk Council for 2026-27 as agreed at the November meeting.

14. Any other urgent business to be noted

David Woods stated that he would be resigning from the Parish Council following the meeting. John Morse thanked David for his commitment to the Parish Council.
Clerk to inform South Norfolk Council.

15. To invite submissions for any items for inclusion on the next agenda

Litter pick
Future of Grapevine
Asset inspection report

16. To confirm that the next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 10th March 2026, 7pm, Colton Village Hall

Meeting closed at 20:07