

KELLING PARISH COUNCIL

Chair – Councillor J. Mills



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF KELLING PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12TH NOVEMBER, 2025 AT 6.00 PM AT THE READING ROOM, KELLING

Present:-

Chairman – Cllr. J. Mills, Vice-Chairman – Cllr. A. Cunningham,
Cllr. D. Ellingham, Cllr. I. Grundy,
Cllr. C. Hill and Cllr. P. Randell.

District Councillor V. Holliday.

Julie Chance – Clerk.

One member of the public also attended the meeting.

1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 17TH SEPTEMBER, 2025

The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 17th September 2025, having been circulated, were taken as read, **AGREED** and signed by the Chairman.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. T. Griffin and County Councillor E. Vardy.

Clerk: Julie Chance

Pine Lodge, Gimingham Road, Trimingham, Norfolk, NR11 8HP.

Tel: 07305048068

clerk@kellingparishcouncil.gov.uk

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

Declarations of interest were received from Cllr. C. Hill concerning any Kelling Estate matters and Planning Application NP/25/2422 – Kelling Hall Estate, Holt Road, Kelling.

Declarations of interest were received from Cllr. J. Mills concerning any Kelling Church matters.

Declarations of interest were received from Cllr. P. Randell concerning any Kelling Heath matters.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None received.

5. POLICE

5.1 SAM 3 Sign:- The Clerk reported that County Councillor Vardy has committed 50% of the cost of the sign from his County Council budget in the sum of £1,772.50. The Clerk has submitted an application for the Parish Partnership funding for the other 50% which will be decided in January 2026. It was **AGREED** that if the Parish Partnership funding bid is not successful, 50% of the cost would be met by general reserves.

5.2 SNAP:- The Clerk reported that the next meeting is to be held on Monday 8th December at 7.00 pm via Microsoft Teams. The Clerk will circulate the link once received.

6. COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

6.1 County Councillor's Reports:- Attached.

6.2 District Councillor's Report:- District Councillor Holliday will forward her report to the Clerk shortly. The Local Plan has been approved with a 7.3 year land supply. Cllr. Holliday reported that there is litter on Wood Lane which she will arrange to have removed. There is fly tipping on the car park at Kelling Heath which Salthouse Parish Council is arranging to have removed. North Norfolk District Council have confirmed that this is private land so there may be a problem getting any future fly tipping removed. Cllr. Holliday sent the Clerk the National Landscape Management Consultation which was circulated to Members.

Noted. The Forget Me Not Grant is available from North Norfolk District Council in the sum of £500 and District Councillor Holliday will add a link in her report. District Councillor Holliday reported that the four main mobile providers will be meeting with North Norfolk District Council and requested information on the areas of the village which have little or no mobile signal.

Cllr. Holliday will update the Members following the meeting.

Cllr. Holliday will include a link in her report for the Nature Recovery Strategy. Public Space Protection Consultation.

Circulated. Noted. North Norfolk's housing needs. Circulated.

Noted. As requested, the Clerk emailed the OPCCN inviting her to meet with the Members. The Clerk read the response stating that the OPCCN is unable to meet with individual parish councils but requested specific details of issues. Cllr. Mills will prepare information for the Clerk to forward for consideration.

6.3 Steff Aquarone MP Report:- Attached.

7. PLANNING

TW/25/2470 – The Street, Kelling Estate, Kelling:- No objections.

NP/25/2422 – Kelling Hall Estate, Holt Road, Kelling. No objections.

8. FINANCE

8.1 Cash Book:- The Clerk circulated the cash book to 31st October, 2025. **AGREED.**

8.2 All present signed the bank statements against the cash book for the period to 31st October, 2025.

8.3 The following payments were AGREED:-	£
Clerk's salary & travel October & November	357.14
HMRC – Tax	84.60
Adam Jones – Grass Maintenance	150.00

8.4 Full Council Training:- The Clerk reminded Members of the Full Council Training Wednesday 19th November at 6.00 pm in the Reading Rooms.

8.5 Clerk's Annual Appraisal:- It was **AGREED** that this would be carried out prior to the January meeting by Cllrs. Ellingham and Griffin.

9. HIGHWAYS

- 9.1 **Kerb Stones – The Street:-** The Clerk circulated the actions which were agreed by Norfolk County Council Highways at the site meeting. Noted. This matter will be placed on an agenda in the new financial year for an update.
- 9.2 **Temporary Traffic Orders:-** Circulated. Noted.
- 9.3 **Grips Clearance:-** It was **AGREED** that the Clerk would write to Norfolk County Council to request that the grips at Weynor Gardens and on The Hill be cleared again. There is still flooding occurring.

10. HORNSEA PROJECT

- 10.1 Cllr. Hill reported that the scheme has been completed except for some hedging and fencing which will be carried out shortly. It was **AGREED** that this matter will be removed from the agenda.

11. ASSET MANAGEMENT

- 11.1 Cllrs. Mills and Cunningham will be carrying out the maintenance of the two benches and this matter will be placed on the next agenda for an update.
- 11.2 **War Memorial:-** It was **AGREED** to accept the quotation in the sum of £80 plus VAT for the repair of the flaking area. The Clerk will action accordingly.

12. ANNUAL POLICY REVIEW

- 12.1 **General Data Protection:-** Circulated. No amendments.
- 12.2 **Biodiversity Policy:-** Circulated. No amendments.
- 12.3 **Dar Skies Policy:-** Circulated. No amendments.

13. NEWSLETTER

- 13.1 The Clerk produced a newsletter for circulation. Cllr. Mills asked the Members to consider making this a permanent newsletter once a quarter. This matter will be placed on the next agenda for further discussion.

14. CORRESPONDENCE

Local Government Reorganisation – Invitation – Circulated. Noted
Coast National Landscape Management Plan 2025/2030 – Circulated.
Noted.

Norfolk County Council's Budget Consultation – Circulated. Noted.
Norfolk County Council powers and funding to boost jobs and growth –
Circulated. Noted.

15. ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Kelling Heath Trustee re-appointment – Ian Eggelton.

Cllr. Randell reported that a dog had been injured on the Heath. The vet
believed it had been caught in a snare and had to have the leg removed.
This is Salthouse controlled land and has been reported to them.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was due to be Wednesday 21st January.
However, the Reading Room will be closed due to holidays and the
meeting will be changed to Wednesday 28th January at 6.00 pm.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 6.40 pm.

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Chairman

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Date

Fwd: COUNTY COUNILLOR REPORT OCTOBER

From Eric <ericvardy@gmail.com>
To <clerk@kellingparishcouncil.gov.uk>
Date 2025-09-29 10:58

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Eric <ericvardy@gmail.com>
Date: 29 September 2025 at 10:21:14 BST
To: Gemma Harrison <holttowncouncil@gmail.com>, Gemma <clerk@cleyparishcouncil.gov.uk>, Upper Sheringham Parish Sally Gill <uppersheringhampc@gmail.com>, Salthouse Parish Council Jane Wesson <salthouseclerk@gmail.com>, Aylmerton Parish Julie Chance <aylmertonparishcouncil@gmail.com>, Sustead Parish Helen Pell <sbmparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk>, Beckham East West Parish John Stibbons <johnstibbons@gmail.com>, Matlaske Parish council Emma Childs <matlaske.pc@gmail.com>, Runton Parish Council <clerk@runton-pc.gov.uk>, Gresham Parish Sarah Hayden <sarah352hayden@btinternet.com>, High Kelling Parish <highkellingclerk@gmail.com>, Kelling Parish Gemma Harrison <kellingparishcouncil71@yahoo.co.uk>, Weybourne Parish Dan Howes Parish <weybournepc@gmail.com>
Subject: Fwd: COUNTY COUNILLOR REPORT OCTOBER

Over £34 Million secured to transform transport across Norfolk

Norfolk County Council has secured more than £34 million in new government funding to enhance local transport infrastructure and planning over the next four years.

The Department for Transport (DfT) has confirmed that Norfolk will receive £32.5 million in capital funding and an additional £2.1 million in resource funding through the Government's Local Transport Grant (LTG) programme.

This funding is a significant boost for Norfolk. It enables us to press ahead with vital improvements while also strengthening our in-house capacity to plan and deliver the projects that matter most to local communities that support our Local Transport Plan. From greener travel options to safer streets, this investment gives us the tools to build a transport network that's fit for the future.

The dual funding stream will support both the delivery of physical infrastructure and the capacity to plan, develop and manage projects, helping Norfolk address key priorities such as reducing congestion, improving accessibility, enhancing public transport, and promoting sustainable travel.

The capital funding provides the opportunity to deliver on-the-ground improvements such as:

- New and upgraded active travel infrastructure
- Enhancements to public transport services
- Improved accessibility for all users

Meanwhile, the resource funding will ensure the council has the expertise and capacity to deliver these projects efficiently and effectively, ensuring best value for residents.

Norwich Castle Keep reopens following £27m redevelopment

Norwich Castle Keep reopened to visitors following a comprehensive five-year redevelopment project that introduced new accessibility features alongside new galleries and interpretive displays.

Funded by £12 million from Norfolk County Council and over £13 million from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, all five floors of the newly named People's Palace were opened to the public for the first time ever.

The Grade I listed castle, originally commissioned by William the Conqueror 900 years ago and completed by his son Henry I in 1121, retained its historic significance while embracing modern improvements.

A new light-filled atrium adjacent to the Keep was unveiled in the first phase of the redevelopment in July 2024. Visitors also benefited from a new café, gift shop, and additional toilet facilities to enhance the visitor experience.

Importantly, a lift was installed to provide full wheelchair accessibility throughout the Keep, allowing access from the basement all the way up to the battlements, where visitors could enjoy panoramic views

Repton Property delivers £1 million dividend

Repton Property Developments, Norfolk County Council's wholly-owned property development company, has announced a £1 million dividend to the county council after a successful 2024/25 financial year.

This follows a £735,000 dividend paid out last year, bringing the total returned to the authority to over £1.7 million in just two years.

Established in July 2017, Repton was created with the aim of unlocking the value of underutilised council-owned land and buildings, while generating financial returns to ease the pressure on the public purse.

Since its inception, Repton has focused on building high-quality and environmentally conscious housing developments across Norfolk.

Norfolk plan submitted to Government

The Government is being urged to back plans for better services, local decision making and bigger savings, by replacing Norfolk's eight councils with one.

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Norfolk County Council's cabinet has agreed to submit a business case which details how a single council for Norfolk would save £39.8 million per year and deliver the biggest benefits. The decision came after the case was discussed by full council, earlier today (25 September).

The Government wants to have fewer councils, known as unitary authorities, which run all services in their area. It has asked existing councils to submit detailed proposals by 26 September.

County council leader, Councillor Kay Mason Billig said: "You've told us you want value for money and the best council services for all our communities.

"Having one council for all of Norfolk - instead of splitting things up, two or three ways - is the best way of achieving that.

"One council would make your money go further, which means more to support services. Only by having one council would enough savings be delivered to give future councillors choices on where to set the level of Council Tax. Having more than one council would cost significantly more and make this virtually impossible.

"Under one council, it doesn't matter whether you live in Norwich or in a rural area or in a town, there is no postcode lottery - everyone is treated equally. I believe one council would be strong where it counts and local where it matters."

Norfolk currently has a county council and seven district councils. This means that, wherever you live, you will have some services provided by the county council (such as social care and highways) and some by a district council (such as waste collection and planning).

Norfolk County Council has proposed one new council, South Norfolk District Council proposed two and the remaining six district councils proposed three.

The county council's business case highlights a range of key benefits of having one council, including:

- Saving £39.8 million per year, compared to the current eight councils - money that can be invested in improving services
- Removing duplication and joining up services that are currently divided between councils, such as adult social services and housing
- A focus on meeting local needs, by setting priorities at neighbourhood area committees, closer working with town and parish councils and voluntary groups and delivering services through integrated neighbourhood teams
- Avoiding the risk of splitting up crucial, county-wide services such as adult social care, children's services and highways
- Being in a strong position to boost Norfolk's economy, by having a plan for the whole county

The report says: "The outcome of our comprehensive options appraisal is clear that the best option for Norfolk is a single unitary council. A single unitary council for the whole of Norfolk is the only option that fully meets the Government's criteria, ensures a robust, forward-looking model for Norfolk's future, generates the most savings, has the lowest transition costs and will deliver better outcomes for communities."

The Government is due to consult the public on different council options this autumn, before making a final decision, expected in spring next year.

Sent from my iPhone

Fwd: NOVEMBER COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

From Eric <ericvardy@gmail.com>
To Kelling Parish <clerk@kellingparishcouncil.gov.uk>
Date 2025-10-31 10:55

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Eric <ericvardy@gmail.com>
Date: 31 October 2025 at 10:40:08 GMT
To: Harrison Gemma <holttowncouncil@gmail.com>, Gemma <clerk@cleyparishcouncil.gov.uk>, Aylmerton Parish Julie Chance <aylmertonparishcouncil@gmail.com>, Sustead Parish Helen Pell <sbmparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk>, Beckham East West Parish John Stibbons <johnstibbons@gmail.com>, Parish council Emma Childs Matlaske <matlaske.pc@gmail.com>, Gresham Parish Sarah Hayden <sarah352hayden@btinternet.com>, Parish Council Runtun <clerk@runtun-pc.gov.uk>, High Kelling Parish <highkellingclerk@gmail.com>, Salthouse Parish Council Jane Wesson <salthouseclerk@gmail.com>, Gill Upper Sheringham Parish Sally <uppersheringhampc@gmail.com>, Parish Dan Howes Weybourne <weybournepc@gmail.com>, Kelling Parish Gemma Harrison <kellingparishcouncil71@yahoo.co.uk>, Matlaske parish Amanda <clerk@matlaske-pc.gov.uk>
Subject: Fwd: NOVEMBER COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Hi all,

Please see my report below. Regarding Devolution, my report is on the CC position. The District, Borough and City Councils have submitted different papers on this. It's not my intention to comment on those. In the end, after a lightweight public consultation, the Government will impose their preferred choice.

Eric

Transforming services and addressing financial pressures

Norfolk County Council is continuing to transform local services while navigating significant financial pressures.

Driven by rising demand and inflation, the council has a budget gap of £41.6m in 2026/27 - rising to £171.4m over the next four years.

To help address the financial gap, the Council has developed proposals to save £35.7m - with major savings expected through investment in key demand-led services such as adult social care and home-to-school transport.

Over the coming months, the budget will be subject to public consultation and scrutiny by the council's select committees. Key national announcements - including the Autumn Budget on 26 November and the Local Government Finance Settlement in December - will inform final proposals.

Cabinet considered and agreed the finance reports when it meet on 13 October.

Cabinet will then review updated proposals on 26 January 2026, with Full Council making final decisions, including on council tax, on 17 February 2026.

Falling pupil numbers

The education landscape in Norfolk is set to change as the county tackles the national drop in pupil numbers. The number of children in the education system in the county is expected to fall from a peak of nearly 10,000 in the current year 9, to fewer than 7,000 in the 2027 reception intake.

In a report on the Education Policy and Strategic Programme, members will hear how the council is looking to refresh its policy framework, in light of changes to legislation and the changing demographics.

One council for Norfolk plan submitted to Government

The Government is being urged to back plans for better services, local decision making and bigger savings, by replacing Norfolk's eight councils with one. Norfolk County Council's cabinet has agreed to submit a business case which details how a single council for Norfolk would save £39.8 million per year and deliver the biggest benefits. The decision came after the case was discussed by full council on 25th September.

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A New Relationship with Town and Parish Councils

The move to a single unitary council is about empowering, not centralising. Town and parish councils, over 550 across Norfolk, serving 70% of the population, are seen as essential to strong local leadership and democracy.

What's on Offer for Parishes

- More Local Influence: Parishes will have a greater say in decisions, with the option to take on more powers if they choose.
- Collaborative Working: Support for parishes to work in clusters, sharing ideas, managing services, and strengthening their collective voice while keeping local identity.
- Community Assets & Services: Clear, consistent options to take on local assets (like parks, halls, toilets) and services (e.g. grass cutting, minor road repairs, community transport), if they wish with associated funding.
- Support & Safeguards: Any transfers will be voluntary and well-supported, with training, templates, governance advice, and a focus on financial sustainability.
- Funding & Budgets: More influence over local spending, including devolved budgets, parish highways schemes, councillor funding, and access to grants and developer contributions.
- Shared Principles: The approach is rooted in co-design, flexibility, transparency, strong communication, and long-term sustainability.
- Clustering Support: Help for parishes to group together to manage services or assets, and share learning.
- Unparished Areas: In places like Norwich, Great Yarmouth, and King's Lynn, new Neighbourhood Area Committees will ensure local voices remain empowered
- Preservation of valued historic civic functions like mayors and aldermen.

Neighbourhood Area Committees (NACs)

Purpose:

NACs are local, democratic decision-making bodies that shape services, allocate budgets, and drive community-led change. They are not advisory panels, but empowered, place-based governance structures.

Geography:

Each NAC will cover 30,000–50,000 residents, with boundaries co-designed with communities to reflect local identity.

Membership:

Tailored to each area, typically including:

- Local councillors (for accountability)
- Statutory services (e.g. health, police, social care)
- Town and parish councils
- Voluntary and community organisations
- Residents' groups, businesses, schools, and other local leaders

Key Functions:

- Set priorities based on local insight
- Align council and partner activity
- Allocate devolved budgets
- Act as a democratic link between residents and the council
- Support collaboration among parishes

How They Work:

NACs will be inclusive, accessible, and action-driven, supported by officers and infrastructure. Meetings will be held locally, in plain language, with various ways for residents to engage.

Building on Existing Strengths:

NACs will build on successful models like Town Deal Boards, Health & Wellbeing Partnerships, and Youth Advisory Boards. Existing Neighbourhood Boards (e.g. Great Yarmouth, King's Lynn, Norwich) will be integrated into the new framework.

The Government is due to consult the public on different council options this autumn, before making a final decision, expected in spring next year.

You can find out more at www.norfolk.gov.

Norfolk County Council Invites Communities to Grow Greener with Discounted Tree Packs

Tree planting in Norfolk is set for another boost this season as Norfolk County Council continues its drive towards 1 million trees for the county.

The council's subsidised tree scheme is also open again, offering individuals, parish councils, community groups, businesses, schools and landowners the chance to apply for tree packs and protection materials at up to **50% off the original price**.

For those who want to do their bit to boost the number of trees in Norfolk but don't have space for woodland, subsidised tree packs are available to order now.

For the first time this year, a limited number of 'Taller Tree Packs', grown at Gressenhall Community Tree Nursery, are also available. These include larger beech, oak, and birch trees, making it possible for more people to take part and be 1 in a million.

For more information on Norfolk's One Million Trees initiative visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/milliontrees.

Strong progress in transforming SEND education in Norfolk

Norfolk County Council is making significant strides in improving education for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), according to a recent report.

New teams and initiatives are enhancing support for inclusion within mainstream schools, while hundreds of additional places in specialist resource bases (SRBs) are enabling more children to remain in their local mainstream schools with tailored support.

The report, presented to the council's cross-party Children, Families and Communities Select Committee, highlights the council's substantial progress despite national delays in SEND reform and ongoing funding challenges.

Thanks to Norfolk's Safety Valve agreement, the council has secured over £130 million in joint investment with the Department for Education. Despite managing a cumulative Dedicated Schools Grant deficit of £131.9 million, Norfolk has committed more than £15 million in additional funding to bolster SEND services and continues to collaborate with the DfE to secure further funding aimed at reducing the deficit.

Councils launch package to support staff at Lotus Cars

The taskforce set up by Norfolk County Council and South Norfolk Council has launched a comprehensive support package designed to help employees and their families impacted by the recent announcement of redundancies at Lotus Cars.

The package that will be offered to Lotus employees and those affected in its supply chain, provides a holistic range of services designed around three key pillars of support, hardship and financial stability, employment and skills, and business start-ups.

The taskforce will use the time between now and the end of the financial year, when the redundancies are expected, to work with Lotus and its staff and help them navigate their next steps. The comprehensive support package, detailed below, offers practical assistance focused on three key areas: hardship and managing finances, finding a new job and business

Sent from my iPhone

My team and I have just closed our 10,000th case this month – that's 10,000 people whose lives have been made easier because they reached out to my office to ask for support. Helping people is my favourite part of the job and I will keep on being a voice for the people of North Norfolk at home and in Westminster on the issues that matter to them.

I have long campaigned for banking hubs for our towns and villages and I was pleased to open North Norfolk's first permanent bank hub this week. The hub will give the people of Holt access to banking services where they live and work, with more banking hubs planned for North Walsham and for Cromer in the very near future. Essential services like these are crucial to the success of our independent businesses and I'll keep campaigning for them to keep our local economy growing.

Many of my constituents have written to me about their concerns around digital ID and I will keep raising the issue in Parliament and making their voices heard. I have made it clear to the government that many of them are anxious about being forced to use digital ID and that making it mandatory will cause exclusion in my constituency. While there are some benefits to digital ID, the choice to use it – or not – should always be ours and I'll keep pressing the government for answers on how they plan to implement it in a way that works for the residents of North Norfolk.

I have heard the concerns of residents about the noise that is being created by RAF and American fighter jets performing manoeuvres over populated residential areas and I have raised the issue with the Ministry of Defence and have made them aware of the issues that residents are facing – from hearing loss to traumatised pets and disruption at work. There is no reason why the training cannot take place off shore over the North Sea where it will have less of an impact on our communities. The MoD has promised to look at the possibility of revising training schedules to minimise disruption and I look forward to updating you on the progress of these changes.

As we've hit that 10,000 number this month, I want to remind you how powerful it is when we work together to solve the issues that impact us the most. Whether that's fighting to save the paramedics on bikes service in Wells so that they can provide emergency help this Winter, or tackling service providers to deliver faster, more reliable broadband so that our small businesses can thrive – every voice matters.

As always, if there's anything that my team and I can support you with, please get in touch.

Steff Aquarone
North Norfolk MP