

NEWTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on 12th November 2025 at Newton Village Hall

Present: Councillors Paul Presland (Chairman), Russell Bower, Louise Evers, Janys Sherwood, Rita Schwenk and Phil Taylor.

Attending: James Finch (Suffolk County Councillor), Lee Parker (Babergh District Councillor) and Dave Crimmin (Clerk).

25/181 Apologies for Absence

None required.

25/182 Declaration of Interests and Requests for Dispensation

No interests were declared with no requests for dispensation being received.

25/183 Minutes of Meeting held on 7th October 2025

The councillors approved the meeting minutes and resolved that the chairman should sign them as a correct record.

25/184 Councillor Vacancy

The Clerk reported that no application had been received for the councillor vacancy.

25/185 Public Participation

The councillors reviewed Lee Parker's previously submitted report, and he updated councillors on Babergh's Call for Sites and the Local Government Review (LGR). He also updated councillors that Babergh's five-year housing supply indicator has now dropped to 5.38 years. The councillors reviewed James Finch's previously submitted report, and he updated councillors on the LGR and the progress on the costings being developed by Suffolk Highways for the Walking Infrastructure project.

25/186 Emails circulated

Following a review of the emails circulated the councillors agreed to discuss the renewal of the application for the Asset of Community Value of the Saracens at the December meeting. The councillors agreed that the Clerk should respond to the National Grid consultation on where community benefit funds could deliver long-lasting benefits by suggesting the inclusion of funding towards Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure projects, community buildings and biodiversity projects.

25/187 Clerk's Report (Appendix A)

Following a review of the Clerk's report there were no further actions requested of the Clerk.

25/188 Planning

- a. The councillors reviewed **Planning Application DC/25/04401 Squirrels Oak, Sudbury Road** - Erection of a new single storey annexe (following demolition of existing garage) and resolved that they supported the application.
- b. The council has received a planning application for the development of 9 dwellings on the existing Manders car park, which will be reviewed at the December meeting.
- c. The councillors reviewed the status of previous applications, appeals and enforcement referrals (Appendix B).

25/189 Finance

- a. The councillors authorised all payments made, as itemised in the RFO Report (Appendix C). They also noted the income received since the last meeting, the bank reconciliation and the actuals vs. budget for the receipts and payments.
- b. In order to support the Newton information in the Box River News, the councillors resolved to donate £360 towards the magazine from the newsletter restricted reserve.

Signed _____

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25/190 Walking Infrastructure Project

Suffolk Highways has prepared the costings for the new pavement on the Green, the move of the bus shelter and the widening of the existing pavement between Church Road and Links View but are still to finalise the costs for the signalised crossing. James Finch hopes that this will be completed by the end of November 2025.

25/191 Neighbourhood Plan

The councillors reviewed the proposal from LUC to support the review of the Newton Neighbourhood Plan (NNP). The councillors resolved to engage LUC for the support of reviewing the NNP, with no allocation of sites, at a cost of £9,608.81 plus VAT from the CIL receipts. Once the process is finalised for the allocation of sites, the remaining LUC support costs will be considered by councillors.

25/192 RoSPA report

The councillors reviewed the RoSPA report and agreed that as the issues raised were of a minor nature, these will be picked up when the manufacturers undertake their annual maintenance. The Clerk reminded councillors that a 3-yearly service of the zip-wire had been undertaken earlier this year.

25/193 Walk of the Parish

The councillors were disappointed to hear that some residents were using the emergency dog poo bag dispensers for supplying their total dog bag requirements. This has meant that the bags are being used at unsustainable rates, leaving the dispensers empty in a very short space of time. They were extremely annoyed that some residents were then using the empty dispensers as dog bins. Unless there is a change of attitude towards the use of the dispensers, then the councillors will consider their removal. Cllr Presland is still getting the tree plaques refurbished.

25/194 Village Hall and Trust updates

Cllr Taylor informed councillors that three ponds between the Saracens and Potash had now been maintained in accordance with the wild pond specifications as agreed with the funding provider. A review of the works required for trees on the Trust land is nearing the appointment of a contractor. The Saracens licence has now been agreed. The Trust will be looking at the furniture requirements around the ponds. Cllr Schwenk updated councillors that the Village Hall Management Committee are holding a coffee morning on the 22nd November 2025.

25/195 Meeting dates in 2026

The councillors agreed the following meeting dates in 2026:

- 14th January
- 11th February
- 11th March
- 8th April
- 29th April - Annual Parish Assembly
- 13th May - Annual Meeting of Parish Council
- 10th June
- 8th July
- 12th August - Provisional planning meeting
- 2nd September
- 14th October
- 11th November
- 9th December.

Signed _____

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Cllr Taylor updated councillors that the Christmas Lights switch-on will take place on Sunday 30th November 2025 at 4.30pm at the Saracens.

25/197 Next meetings

NPC's next scheduled meetings are on Wednesday 10th December 2025 in the Village Hall, starting as follows:

- HR Committee at 7pm
- Standards Committee at 7.15pm
- Full Council Meeting at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Appendix A Clerk's Report

Minute	Action	Complete ✓
25/168	Minutes sent to BRN and updated on website.	✓
25/173	Sent NPC's views on planning application to the LPA.	✓
25/174 b	Transferred £35,000 from Current to Savings account.	✓
25/176	Obtained plan and estimated costs from consultant for the review of Neighbourhood Plan.	✓
	Clerk's Actions & Delegated Power	
	Made payments to suppliers. Purchased 8,000 Dog Poo Bags for £275 +VAT	
	Clerk Hours	
	1st April to 26th October 2025 - Paid 360 / Worked 334.50 / Holiday taken 36 hours.	

Appendix B Planning Status

BDC Ref	Application	NPC Ref	NPC Response	BDC Response
DC/25/03496	The Deans Sudbury Road - Removal of cement render cladding, basic repairs to frame, installing some insulation and recladding with Lime plaster. Repair to garden wall.	25/152b	Support	
DC/25/03880	The Deans Sudbury Road - Listed Building Consent - Removal of cement render cladding, basic repairs to frame, installing some insulation and recladding with Lime plaster. Repair to garden wall.	25/152b	Support	
DC/25/03905	1A Links View - Installation of wooden shed in rear garden	25/173a	Support	
DC/25/04148	Hollyhocks, Church Road - Demolition of existing rear extension & replacing with a new single storey rear extension, replacement roof to bay window, internal house alterations, extension and new roof to existing garage and a new detached outbuilding	25/173b	Support	
DC/25/04149	Hollyhocks, Church Road - Application for Listed Building Consent - Demolition of existing rear extension & replacing with a new single storey rear extension, replacement roof to bay window, internal house alterations, extension and new roof to existing garage and a new detached outbuilding.	25/173c	Support	

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NEWTON PARISH COUNCILMinutes of Meeting held on 12th November 2025 at Newton Village Hall**Appendix C RFO Report****Payments made since last meeting**

RoSPA	Play equipment check	£182.40
CAS	Website hosting	£66.00
LUC	NNP meeting	£300.00
Unity Trust	Service Charge October	£6.00

Receipts received since last meeting

BDC	CIL Receipts	£17,915.75
BDC	Recycling	£193.17
SCC	Footpath cutting	£213.00

A	Bank Reconciliation at 31/10/2025		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2025		37,365.79
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2025 - 31/10/2025		47,692.10
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2025 - 31/10/2025		17,375.33
	Cash in Hand 31/10/2025 (per Cash Book)		67,682.56
B	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Petty Cash 31/10/2025	0.00	
	Unity Trust Bank - Current Account 31/10/2025	5,475.81	
	Unity Trust Bank - Savings Account 31/10/2025	62,206.75	
			67,682.56
	Less unrepresented payments		
			67,682.56
	Plus unrepresented receipts		
B	Adjusted Bank Balance		67,682.56
	A = B Checks out OK		

Committed Spending						
Meeting Date	Minute	Supplier	Cost Net	VAT	Total	Budget
10/07/24	24/114	Newton PCC	£200.00	£0.00	£200.00	Donations
			£200.00	£0.00	£200.00	

Signed _____

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Newton Parish Council
Summary of Receipts and Payments
 Summary - Cost Centres Only

Cost Centre	Receipts			Payments			Net Position
	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
Administration			0.00 (N/A)	3,934.00	2,729.59	1,204.41 (30%)	1,204.41
Annual Subscription			0.00 (N/A)	550.00	341.59	208.41 (37%)	208.41
Asset Management			0.00 (N/A)	4,510.00	1,047.00	3,463.00 (76%)	3,463.00
CIL		17,915.75	17,915.75 (179157		3,158.83	-3,158.83 (-31588	14,756.92
Clerk Salary			0.00 (N/A)	15,212.85	7,037.81	8,175.04 (53%)	8,175.04
Digital			0.00 (N/A)	860.00	123.35	736.65 (85%)	736.65
Donations			0.00 (N/A)	800.00	458.00	342.00 (42%)	342.00
Grants	212.64	213.00	0.36 (0%)			0.00 (N/A)	0.36
Open Spaces			0.00 (N/A)	4,565.00	1,388.00	3,177.00 (69%)	3,177.00
Other Income	535.00	310.75	-224.25 (-41%)			0.00 (N/A)	-224.25
Other Payments			0.00 (N/A)			0.00 (N/A)	0.00
Precept	26,479.94	26,479.94	0.00 (N/A)			0.00 (N/A)	0.00
Projects & Events			0.00 (N/A)	750.00		750.00 (100%)	750.00
Recycling	425.00	193.17	-231.83 (-54%)			0.00 (N/A)	-231.83
NET TOTAL	27,652.58	45,112.61	17,460.03 (63%)	31,181.85	16,284.17	14,897.68 (47%)	32,357.71
Total for ALL Cost Centres		45,112.61			16,284.17		
V.A.T.		2,579.49			1,091.16		
GROSS TOTAL		47,692.10			17,375.33		

Payments for your authorisation

Net VAT Gross Budget

NONE

End of appendices.

Signed _____

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