

Draft Minutes **Environment Committee** held on Thursday 20th
November 2025 at 7pm at Brundall Memorial Hall

In attendance: Cllr J Warns (Chair), Cllr G Buckley, Tim Strudwick

Deputy Clerk: Clare Watkins

Members of the public: 2

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Duncan Painter and Chris Muskett

No apologies were received from Cllrs L Mogford or P Woodridge

2 Declarations of interest

None.

3 Minutes of the last meeting 4th September 2025

The minutes were AGREED as a true and correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

4 Updates from the last meeting (not on the agenda) and any further actions required

The aggregate for the pedestrian entrance at the Countryside Park was delivered on 12th November and distributed by Maintenance Operative.

The work that was required on a tree in the wood at the bottom of the Brundall Memorial Hall field was carried out by the Land Agent.

The resident that offered the Parish Council an Acer tree has been thanked.

5 Public Participation

Both members of the public raised concerns over the proposed pond at the Countryside Park, the costings initially and maintenance, safety, exact site and neighbours to the site regarding flooding.

Tim explained that there would be no extra water put into the park, the pond would be a shallow depression consisting of a reed bed, it would be small scale and low tech. The pond would intercept water draining down the park and act as a soak away or attenuation basin. The concern from an environmental aspect is will it get enough water in it?

The correct flood risk assessment and planning application process would need to be followed prior to any pond being created. Both members of the public were less concerned following the explanation.

6 Update on Biodiversity working group matters

a) The Cemetery Biodiversity area.

The area encountered problems with rabbits initially pulling up the plants, but has since been fenced. Everything else has gone according to plan, seeds and plants have been put in and Chris monitors the site frequently.

b) Any biodiversity/environmental impacts regarding the Hopkins Homes updates.

Hopkins Homes have asked for comments on planting at the entrance to the site on Blofield Road. The plan has been passed to Tim to comment on to ensure it is as natural as possible, more urban and low maintenance.

c) Updates regarding Brundall Village Park

The plans for the Brundall Village Park need to move quickly and be shovel ready for when the money from the development is received. The Recreation and Wellbeing Committee are responsible for the plans. At their next meeting a member of the BWG and a deputy will be co-opted onto the committee to provide environmental and biodiversity advice.

A plans will be created by Recreation and Wellbeing to go to the Brundall Village Park Group to go to Full Council to then go out to tender for a consultant to design the village park.

There will be support from someone at Broadland District Council.

d) Update on the Norfolk Local Nature Recovery Strategy

The strategy is completed and has been published. Tim has created a document from the strategy, Guidance for Biodiversity Enhancement in Brundall Parish comprising a list of species and habitats relevant to us. This information needs to be integrated into the management plans being produced. Thanks were given to Tim.

It is likely that most capital grants for biodiversity work over the next few years will be directed to actions that are aligned to this strategy, so embedding the LNRS priorities in land management objectives will help ensure they can be funded.

7 To receive an update from the Church Fen Working Group.

The Church Fen Working Group met on 14th November to discuss eradicating and controlling invasive nonnative species, starting with the species that can be worked on utilising the Community Payback Team. The species to be worked on in the remainder of the year are Red Osier Dogwood, Snowberry and Himalayan Balsam.

Funding will be required in the future to remove larger species using contractors.

8 CSP Pond funding update

This item was covered in Public Participation.

9 Update on Cremer's Meadow Pond.

The pond and its water quality continue to be monitored as previously agreed. It was AGREED to remove this item from the agenda as a standing item.

10 Gardening for Nature event update

Duncan is organising an event for the allotments to be held in the spring. This is now in the hands of Brundall Allotment Association.

11 Draft Management Plans

Tim has progressed further on the Church Fen plan. The Countryside Park plan and the Church Fen plans will be looked at together in March 2026.

12 Items for Social Media

It was AGREED that the work being carried out at Church Fen by the CPBT needs to be publicised to ensure the public are aware why plants are being cut back or removed.

13 Items for the next agenda

Countryside Park Pond update

BVP update

CFWG update

Gardening for Nature event update

Management Plans

14 Dates for the next meeting(s):

February 19th 2026

Meeting Closed: 8.50pm

SIGNED