

Minutes of the meeting of the **Brundall Parish Council Recreation and Wellbeing Committee** held on Monday 10th August 2026 at 7.00pm in the St Laurence Centre.



In attendance: Cllr L Britt (Chair), Cllr G Abbott, G Buckley (Cremer's Meadow), J Barrington (Brundall Memorial Hall), S Harper (Brundall parkrun), T Strudwick (Biodiversity Working Group)

Clerk: Mrs. C Dickson

Members of the public: 0

Housekeeping

1. Election of Chairman for the meeting

Cllr L Britt was proposed by G Buckley and seconded by Cllr Abbott. As no other nominations were received Cllr Britt was unanimously elected Chair for the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr P Gabillia, Cllr M Savory, J Lovatt (Guides), C Norburn (Scouts), Rev D Hanson (Yare Valley Churches)

3. Declarations of interest

None received.

4. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the Recreation & Well-being Committee meeting held on 8th June 2026 were APPROVED as a true and correct record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.

5. Matters arising from the previous minutes

6. Request the Lions promote walking instead of driving during their next Garage Sale – ongoing, will suggest this nearer the time.

8. a) how were the trees in the orchard damaged – they died due to weather conditions not vandalism.

6. Public Participation

None.

7. Chairmans Report

None received.

8. Updates from other Council Committees

a) Land Management

The surface of the Countryside Park car park will be Type 1 MOT and not asphalt planings as suggested by the contractor.

Blofield PC had requested the lifebuoy near the weir at Cremer's Meadow be moved to the bridge. G Buckley met with a Blofield councillor and they agreed it did not need to be moved but Blofield PC needed to put one on their side.

Signage near the manhole cover and water meter on the overflow car park at the Countryside Park will be installed. And a marker put on the water meter to alert parkrun participants.

A request for a water fountain at the Countryside Park was not supported.

The boardwalk at Church Fen has been closed and the ends will be removed to prevent use.

Pilot improvement work on eastern path at Church Fen has started today.

9. Updates from Recreation and Wellbeing Organisations in Brundall

a) Brundall Memorial Hall

See report below.

b) Brundall Bolts

No report received.

c) 1st Brundall Guides

See report below.

d) Yare Valley Churches

See report below.

e) Communications Group

Recent posts about the boardwalk at Church Fen have generated a lot of engagement.

f) Brundall Newsletter Group

Nothing to report.

g) Brundall parkrun

See report below.

h) Friends of Cremer's Meadow

See report below.

i) Brundall Scouts

No report received.

10. Recreational Facility updates

New gates have been ordered for the Meadow View Play area and one of the Memorial Hall play area gates. They will both be self closing to avoid trapping fingers.

11. Volunteer Event update

The event went well and the Council has received good feedback. 120 people attended and the Council plans to hold it annually. One comment passed on was that it was a shame people could not walk around to talk to other attendees.

12. To consider a resting benches project

The concept is to provide benches along The Street and in other areas of the village for residents to stop and rest when walking around. This would help keep residents active and facilitate access to the shops, doctors, library, and other amenities.

The Deputy Clerk (CW) is undertaking an audit of current benches which will then enable the Council to find where there are gaps.

The committee gave approval for the **Clerks** to progress the project.

13. Village signage

The Deputy Clerk (RM) has spoken to the chosen designer and he will produce a draft plan for the committee to consider.

14. Norfolk Local Access Forum

The Norfolk Local Access Forum is a statutory independent advisory body whose role is to provide advice to decision making bodies such as Norfolk County Council on matters that might affect public access to land for open-air recreation, sustainable travel, and enjoyment of Norfolk's natural environment.

The have asked if Brundall has any particular access issues, aspirations, or projects we would like them to be aware of.

The committee agreed the **Clerks** could update them with our current projects (eg Brundall Village Park Church Fen) and future aspirations (eg a footpath south of the railway from one end of the village to the other (see Neighbourhood Plan)).

15. Brundall Village Park

An update was given from the meeting on Friday. The S106 Deed of Variation has been signed by all parties and has been completed.

The first impressions of Brundall Village Park Group on the draft designs for both areas were discussed.

Country Park – formal play equipment is not required but trim trail equipment would be acceptable on the western end. There is not a proper link between the 2 pieces of land. Input from the Biodiversity Working Group about the boardwalk over the pond would be appreciated. There are a lot of mown paths and little accessibility to the river for those with mobility issues. The Brundall Village Park Group were unsure about another community orchard. There is concern the designers don't understand the land, particularly what it might be like in winter.

Village Green – the Neighbourhood Plan view has not been picked up with trees suggested in the line of sight to Blofield Church. Connectivity with the BMH has not been considered and too much formal play equipment incorporated into the design. The distribution of activities is concentrated on one side of the site, and linked to the new estate rather than Links Avenue or Country Park. A flat area to make better use of the land is desirable but not a formal amphitheater.

All concerns and ideas have been fed back to the designers.

The car park off Brundall Road will need to be visible from the road to prevent anti-social gatherings. A proper surface to ensure it lasts is important. And an accessible path to the river from the car park is a priority

The type of soil that will be in any earthworks on the Village Green has not been specified by Hopkins on the relevant condition of details planning application. This has been picked up by Broadland. It must be handed over in a suitable condition to be turned into a Village Green.

Future maintenance considerations of all areas must be factored into any design.

It is anticipated that the designs will include elements that cannot be afforded from the S106 funding but will be future ambitions for the land.

16. Items for the next agenda

Volunteer Event – thinking ahead to 2027

17. Dates for the next meeting(s):

The next scheduled meeting is the 12th October 2026 but additional meetings may be called at short notice to consider BVP draft designs.

Meeting Closed: 19:43

Signed:

Dated:

REPORTS

9. a) Brundall Memorial Hall

Highlights for sharing

We have now slowed down for the summer. The Breast Screen Unit is now at the hall from July to beginning of September.

We are starting to fundraise for the new free to use multi games area which, from quotes we have had, will cost around £60k.

We have just had to have a new water heater and taps fitted so this will hopefully reduce our water bills and prevent taps being left on.

The trustees are currently investigating putting solar panels on the roof of the hall.

9. c) Brundall Guides

Highlights for sharing

Everyone has finished for the summer now after a busy summer term. The Guides had a presentation evening and invited the parents in which we presented a number of badges gained by the girls over the term and then we presented 2 bronze awards, 4 silver awards and 5 gold awards.

We also ran a trip to Colchester zoo and we finished the term with doing the Pulls Ferry Challenge around the cathedral.

9. d) Yare Valley Churches

Highlights for sharing

- New monthly Men's Group for St Laurence Church. Purpose is to reach men who are socially isolated and to encourage them to talk about their lives with others. The format is we invite a speaker who talks about their career or something unusual they have done and this encourages men to talk about their lives.
- Alpha Course – an 8-week course for people to explore faith
- Summer Family Fun – 7 and 29 August in Brundall Churchyard. A free summer holiday event for families to meet and spend time together.
- Hymns and Pimms – a joint event between Brundall Hardware Shop and Brundall Church. A outside event which includes a glass of Pimms or a non-alcoholic alternative
- The Bus Pass Holiday Club starts on Monday 10 of August for a week. There are four-day trips during the week and most of the places have been taken. The purpose of the week is offer people, who aren't able to have a holiday, an opportunity to have a day or days out.

9. g) Brundall parkrun

Highlights for sharing

A busy summer period, since the last meeting we have seen 9 parkruns take place with around 880 people completing the course, that's around 97 people average coming to Brundall each week.

We completed our 11th Birthday in Mid June and completed a collection for the Yare Valley Pantry, which as always was well received by the church.

Generally things are good with great feedback from tourists, people from as far a field as Australia have come this year and a lot of local tourists as well. Always great to see lovely feedback.

The park is very dry as expected and the brambles are in full growth across the paths and it's been very hot most Saturdays morning, Yare valley have sold a lot of bottles of water, we have also been giving out ice pops on the hot weekends.

We are pleased to see the resurfaced car park, there has been some great feedback from visitors and regular users and certainly feels a lot safer for a number of regular users. Glad it was completed ahead of schedule and allowed for us to complete the parkrun on Saturday. Many thanks to all involved in getting this completed in a very quick period of time. I know some people have questioned the value, but from a safety perspective on a Saturday, I for one think its good value and takes concern away from the RD on a Saturday morning.

9. h) Friends of Cremer's

Highlights for sharing

The Welcome Day took place on 20th June and everyone who attended was very pleased by all aspects of the day. Disappointingly, however, despite a lot of work by the Friends and Deputy Clerk, only 38 members of the public attended.

It is anticipated that the Friends will review future events when they next meet.

Work on the hut has resumed and it was able to be open to the public for the Welcome day. Huge thanks as ever to the Friends.

15 posts have been purchased and taken to the barn, ready for the henges to be extended. These henges are the places where we drag the cuttings on the Cut and Clear Day on September 16th. They retain the vegetation without it encroaching on the Meadow.

The water quality in the pond seems to be continuing to improve.

Recent work on the blocked culvert seems to be positive. One good outcome of the drought. It is hoped that this will prove to be the final solution and less will have to be spent to rectify the situation.

One young person has joined the Friends to help on Fridays during the summer holidays. She is enthusiastic and we hope she is learning skills to take to her environmental college course in September