

Minutes of the meeting of the **Brundall Parish Council Recreation and Wellbeing Committee** held on Monday 12th October 2026 at 7.00pm in the St Laurence Centre.



In attendance: Cllr M Savory (Chair), Cllr G Abbott, Cllr P Gabillia, G Buckley (Cremer's Meadow), J Barrington (Brundall Memorial Hall), C Norburn (Scouts), S Harper (Brundall parkrun), Carl Tunaley and Dan Lawton (Brundall Bolts)

Clerk: Mrs. C Dickson

Members of the public: 0

Housekeeping

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were accepted from Cllr L Britt, J Lovatt (Guides), Rev D Hanson (Yare Valley Churches)

2. Declarations of interest

None received.

3. Minutes of the last meetings

The minutes of the Recreation & Well-being Committee meetings held on 7th August 2026 and 10th August 2026 were APPROVED as a true and correct record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair.

4. Matters arising from the previous minutes

12. Resting benches project - underway

14. Local Access Forum – completed

5. Public Participation

None.

6. Chairmans Report

None received.

7. Updates from other Council Committees

a) Land Management

A dead tree at Church Fen that overhangs the river will be removed.

2 allotment evictions for not tending their plots were approved. 1 tenant was allowed a few more months to get his plot in order.

Orchard management was discussed.

The hedge around the allotments has been flailed. The Countryside Park Group and Community Payback Team will trim the car park hedge.

b) Environment Committee

The planning application for the pond at the Countryside Park has not yet been decided. It was expected at the end of September. This has caused a big delay in the construction, which may mean one of the funding pots will be withdrawn.

The committee are looking at a water quality testing regime for the river. A revised proposal will be considered at the next meeting.

8. Updates from Recreation and Wellbeing Organisations in Brundall

a) Brundall Memorial Hall

See report below.

b) Brundall Bolts

No report received.

A recent incident of a match being recorded by spectators is considered a safeguarding issue. The Bolts were asked to give this information to CSF. Spectators are also accessing the pitch.

A request for signage on gates to deter non-players or officials from accessing the pitch was made. Reminders are sent to external clubs that this is not allowed but a committee member's daughter's team invited all parents on to the pitch following their match for a presentation. CSF are not policing this.

The 2027 awards presentation day will be on Sunday 13th June. The Bolts want to check this does not clash with any other village events. The Lions hold events in the village around that time.

c) 1st Brundall Guides

See report below.

d) Yare Valley Churches

See report below.

e) Communications Group

Nothing to report.

f) Brundall Newsletter Group

The latest newsletter is out. Brundall Bolts suggested they might like a regular slot.

g) Brundall parkrun

See report below.

Not running on the additional dates was noted.

A site meeting has been arranged to look at locations for sand over the winter.

Parkrun are still not receiving the Land Management minutes. The **Clerks** will make sure this happens.

h) Friends of Cremer's Meadow

See report below.

i) Brundall Scouts

See report below.

There has been frustration about the lack of communication from Hopkins Homes about work/reparations they had promised to do. This was noted.

9. Recreational Facility updates

New matting around 2 pieces of play equipment at the Memorial Hall will take some time to bed in. It has been laid on top of the old matting and therefore the edges are standing proud of the ground. This will soften over time.

Work on improving the surface of the eastern path at Church Fen will continue but not all the path will be covered in aggregate as this would not be acceptable to the Broads Authority. The 2 bridges on

the eastern path will be repaired using reclaimed boards from the boardwalk but they will need replacing in the longer term.

The Church Fen Working Group are looking at alternative routes for the boardwalk, including possibly across the fen. This would retain a circular walk but the depth of the peat is estimated to be between 5 and 7m which creates an additional construction challenge.

A new gate has been installed at the Meadow View play area, and one of the Memorial Hall play area gates has been re-concreted in.

10. Village signage

The committee reviewed a draft map of the village. A few road and spelling inaccuracies were corrected. The river course is the wrong side of Cremer's Meadow.

Additional parking areas, at the cemetery, Brundall Village Park and Brundall Memorial Hall, were added. The Scout Hut, Westfield Mission, and the Post Office locations were added. The path at the top of Low Farm Wood was made circular so it didn't suggest a connection to Beverley Road.

Including the main bus stops was also suggested.

The Deputy Clerk (RM) will feed back to the designer.

11. Pump track request

A young resident emailed a request for a pump track in the village. The Council does not currently have any suitable land to construct a pump track but it will be considered for future development opportunities.

12. Cyclists using footpaths

A resident asked for help and signage for cyclists using the footpath from Brigham Close to Brundall Memorial Hall. The path is owned by Broadland District Council and they will be look at whether signage would help. This was noted.

13. Volunteer Event 2027

The committee suggested June or early July for the Volunteer Event in 2027. The Lions will be contacted to confirm which dates their Summer Fete and garage sales have been scheduled for.

14. Brundall Village Park

The group held a long and useful meeting with the Country Park designer on Friday. Quite a few details were ironed out. Cllr Savory explained the changes and tweaks.

There will be a mixture of mown and accessible paths across the site. A mown path will follow the route of the river but be 8m away from the bank to comply with Environment Agency requirements. An accessible path will run from the car park off Brundall Road through to Berryfield Wood, most of it south of the ditch that runs across the centre of the site. At present the surface of the accessible paths will be Type 1 but it was suggested the working group look at the paths at Blickling as these may be more suitable.

The aim is to have access to the pond already on site but, depending on costs and available funding, it hasn't been decided whether that will be a boardwalk across it or just at the side.

The meeting on Friday touched on the Village Green but the designer was not present so this was to confirm the play equipment not required and to discuss the possibility of moving the flatter area and play equipment nearer to the Memorial Hall. All trees at the top of the land, near Links Avenue, are not wanted as they may impede the view across to Blofield Church.

[Cllr Savory left the meeting]

A committee member reported visibility issues when exiting from Brundall Meadows. The hedge to the north blocks the view of traffic coming from Blofield. This will be Parish Council land after the transfer and there are plans to lower the height of the hedge.

The **Clerks** were asked to report visibility issues around the entrance to McDonalds.

15. Items for the next agenda

Brundall Village Park

16. Dates for the next meeting(s):

The next scheduled meeting is the 7th December 2026 but additional meetings may be called at short notice to consider BVP draft designs.

Meeting Closed: 20:14

Signed:

Dated:

REPORTS

9. a) Brundall Memorial Hall

Highlights for sharing

We are currently getting ready for the Christmas Fair on 29th November which is oversubscribed this year.

The Hall has received a grant of £20,000 for solar panels from the National Lottery.

We are taking part in the Halloween trial this year, giving a spooky experience to the village.

9. c) Brundall Guides

Highlights for sharing

We have started back we have several new guides. This term is going to be a busy term which will include a residential planned for the beginning of November and a District event at the beginning of December.

We have a stall at the Christmas Fair at the Memorial Hall which will hopefully raise some money for the unit.

We had 2 Guides go on international trips over the summer holidays. One went to the international jamboree in Sweden and one went to the Girlguiding centre in Ireland.

9. d) Yare Valley Churches

Highlights for sharing

- The Bus Pass Holiday Club held from 10 – 14 August was a great success. Those attending went on coach trips to Woodbridge, Cromer, a boat trip on the Broads and a visit to the Lavendar Gardens at Heacham. We are changing the name from the Bus Pass Holiday Club to the Yare Valley Holiday Club for next year in order to offer this to a wider group of people.

- On Sunday 6 September we held a 'Hymns and Pimms Service' jointly with Brundall Home Hardware Shop in the churchyard. It was very well attended and lots of good feedback from those who came.
- Over the weekend we have our Harvest Festival services and this week I visited Brundall School and took part in their Harvest Assembly. The children had brought in tins and dry goods for the Community Pantry which the church runs. We were overwhelmed with the generosity of the families who have donated food and this means our cupboards are fully stocked.
- The Youth Group had a get together on the 20 August and we have had a few new young people attending the group.
- We held a Confirmation Service on Sunday 23 August with the Bishop of Thetford attending. Three young people and two adults were confirmed

9. g) Brundall parkrun

Highlights for sharing

The 3rd October will see the 22nd birthday of parkrun from starting in Bushy Park in London to across the world. Brundall has obviously now been in operation for 11 years, its great to see both continue and move forward.

We are now approaching the later part of 2026 with just 13 weekends remaining of the year. We have started planning for a busy time.

31st October – Halloween parkrun

5th December – our annual collection for Yare Valley Pantry. We will make this a collection point for anyone wanting to donate

12th December – our annual community drinks. This will be at The Ram and allows volunteers, walkers, and runners to get together away from parkrun for a drink. Usually a well attended event.

19th December – our Christmas parkrun

We will also have a table at the Memorial Hall Christmas fair to highlight walking, running, and volunteering.

With Christmas Day and New Years Day falling on a Friday we have decided as a team to no put events on over these days. From a volunteering perspective very difficult as well as trying to keep the park in as good a condition for January and February.

Number wise we have done well over the summer, overall numbers will be lower than 2025, but we will continue to push for the remaining weeks. We have seen lots of tourists making their way in to the village after parkrun using stores and cafes and the hardware shop. Another benefit that might not be obvious when you talk about parkrun.

Condition wise the park has recovered very well but still very dry. Mowing may be required a little longer into October as once cut it seems to be growing back very fast

Issues to discuss

We will not be raising a request for additional runs on the 25th December or 1st January. Both fall on a Friday and we don't feel we can get the necessary volunteers and want to ensure the park is useable through January/February.

Wanted confirmation that both the Land Owners meeting and the Friends of Countryside Park Group have agreed that sand can be purchased (if required).

9. h) Friends of Cremer's

Highlights for sharing

The blocked culvert seems to have been cleared by the Friends during the drought. Several dedicated people managed to rod the original pipe and it seems that this might now be taking the majority of the water.

The plan is to monitor this over the winter and determine if it is indeed fixed or if remedial work still needs doing.

Similarly, the ditch which runs from the pipe to the stream will be monitored to see if it needs dredging by a contractor.

The Cut and Clear was a great success with over 30 people working hard all morning. They all enjoyed a sandwich and cream tea lunch provided by the Co-op.

Both Bure Valley Conservation and BADCOG assisted with the event.

It has been decided to name the refurbished hut "Cremer's Cabin" and it will be primarily used as a base for the Friends and other events.

Three poplars were taken down at the south of the site. A lot of wood has been created and it is anticipated that this will all be used on site.

Due to the poor turn out at the Welcome Day it has been decided to review what we do next year. Suggestions include short sessions during school holidays eg pond dipping, treasure hunt etc and educational sessions for Friends and public which might include fungi recognition etc. This will be discussed at a future Friends meeting

9. i) Scouts

Highlights for sharing

Phase 1 of the hut is refurbishment complete. Kitchen and Toilets look great and improved access for those with disabilities. Thank you to the Parish Council and Broadland District Council for their donations. This phase would not have been possible without this support.

3 Top awards awarded to our Scouts following their expedition hike on the north Norfolk coast.

One leader (Chris Norburn) received the Chief Scout's commendation for good service for his contribution to the group and for driving the hut refurbishment project.

Issues you wish Recreation & Wellbeing to discuss

For Awareness – Hopkins homes have gone quiet and are not responding to communication with regards work they promised to complete in exchange for use of the carpark

Help requested from other Recreation and Wellbeing participants

Only continued support of fundraising efforts for the next phase of the hut refurbishment works.