

BRANDESTON PARISH COUNCIL
COUNCIL MEETING - 09 March 2026

Minutes of the meeting of Brandeston Parish Council held on
Monday 09 March 2026 at the Village Hall commencing 19.32

		PRESENT
Chair	Councillor Mrs R Summers	Yes
Vice-chair	Councillor P Baker	Yes
Councillors	Councillor I Day	Yes
	Councillor Mrs P Locke	Yes
	Councillor Mrs M Randall	No
	Councillor M Smith	Yes
	1 VACANT SEAT	
IN ATTENDANCE	Clerk to the Council	
	District Councillor Vince Langdon-Morris (<i>arrived 19.33</i>)	
	County Councillor Elaine Bryce	
	1 member of the public	

1 19/26 **APOLOGIES:** NIL

2 20/26 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** NIL

3 21/26 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

a) District and County Councillor reports were **RECEIVED** and **NOTED**.

ESDC Councillor Vince Langdon-Morris spoke about ES Youth Council recent visit to Parliament, Ease the Squeeze on Cost of Living support signposted on ESC website; Emergency Preparedness training for Local Councils; Community Emergency working group, awareness of flood risk, protection of homes; Katch Bus usage up; ESC 2026/27 District budget approved; Local Government reorganisation decision pending, single or 3 unitary councils; Deben and Ore river water testing; Green Framlingham wildflower areas; Framlingham Neighbourhood Plan review; East Suffolk Local Plan being finalised. Chair raised local housing development and flooding issues. Cllr Langdon-Morris to take comments forward.

b) **RECEIVE** public comments relating to the agenda or matters for future consideration.

A member of the public voiced support for Neighbourhood Plan to involve community and develop areas for local benefit. Chair noted Housing Needs survey to be reviewed, village infrastructure.

4 22/26 **MINUTES**

a) **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the minutes of the meeting of the council held on Monday 12 January 2026 as a true record, proposed Councillor Mrs P Locke, seconded Councillor I Day, agreed by all, duly signed by the Chair.

SCC Councillor Elaine Bryce arrived 20.00

5 23/26 **GOVERNANCE**

a) **RESOLVED** appointment of Mrs V Waples as Internal Auditor, proposed Cllr Mrs Locke, seconded Cllr Day, all agreed.

b) Engagement of DM Payroll Service **NOT CARRIED**, proposed Councillor Mrs R Summers, 3 against, 1 abstention.

c) **RESOLVED** appointment of new clerk/RFO as the main administrator for all council banking, proposed Cllr Mrs Locke, seconded Cllr Day, all agreed - *to update bank mandate*

6 24/26 **PARISH MATTERS**

Cllr E Bryce spoke about Westerfield quarry and solar campaigns; County elections 07 May; Devolution one or three Suffolk model; County budget approved, 77% statutory provision, 23% other services, including Highways and waste management; Trial scheme to remove vehicles blocking road for resurfacing works.

Cllr E Bryce left the meeting 20.35

a) Playground - health and safety concerns, awaiting further information from Village Hall committee - *to follow up*

b) Village sign - Locality grant, to apply after May elections.

c) Village pump - oak cover has been made, awaiting dry weather to complete.

d) Flooding - various sites, more flooding in lane, large pipe under road by ditch, cleared but still overflows, connection between pond - *to liaise with landowner & highways*

e) Neighbourhood Development Plan - Housing Needs Survey to be reviewed in September.

f) Website update - clerk to continue work to ensure compliance with Transparency Code and model publication scheme.

g) Training - NIL

7 25/26 **CLERK'S REPORT: RECEIVED** and **NOTED**

Cllr V Langdon-Morris left the meeting 20.48

8 26/26 **FINANCE**

a) **RECEIVED** and **NOTED** Finance Report - 2025/26 budget review, VAT to be reclaimed backdated to April 2022.

b) Transfer to Unity Trust Bank - **DEFERRED**

c) Bank reconciliation April 2025-February 2026 - checked against source documents, countersigned Cllr Day and Cllr Smith (non-bank signatories), to be presented to council for approval at the next meeting.

RECEIVE and **APPROVE** accounts for payment - NIL

9 27/26 **BRIEF REPORTS OF MEMBERS** - matters for forthcoming agenda - pub valuation, savings account

10 28/26 **NEXT MEETING** - Monday 11 May 2026, 19.30 Annual meeting of the Council, 19.00 Annual Parish Meeting

11 29/26 **PERSONNEL MATTERS: RESOLVED** pursuant to s1(2) Public Bodied (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 for public and press to leave the meeting due to the confidential nature of business to be transacted, proposed Cllr Mrs Summers, seconded Councillor P Baker, and agreed.

a) **RESOLVED** appointment of locum clerk, on proposal of Councillor M Smith, seconded Cllr Baker, all agreed. The contract was duly signed by both parties.

b) **RESOLVED** Council participation in Suffolk Pension scheme operated by Suffolk County Council on behalf of all employees effective from 27 February 2026, proposed Cllr Mrs Locke, seconded Cllr Day, all agreed.

There being no further business, the meeting closed 21.40