

SHELFANGER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday 30 October 2025 at 6.30 pm at Shelfanger Village Hall.

Councillors Present: Cllr Marion Paines (Chair), Cllr M Hurst, Cllr Mick Paines (Vice Chair), Cllr P Chambers, Cllr D Hurcomb and Cllr P Ross

In attendance: Elaine Tinsley (Clerk) and 2 members of the public

1. **Chairman's Welcome and to receive apologies for absence** – The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed apologies for absence had been received from Cllr P Oldman.
2. **To approve the Minutes of the meetings held on 21 August 2025** – The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 21 August were unanimously agreed as being a true record and signed.
3. **To receive declarations of interest on items on the agenda and requests for dispensation** – none were received.
4. **To receive questions or comments from members of the public** – none were received.
5. **To receive County Councillor Catherine Rowett's Report** – County Councillor Rowett sent her report to the Clerk and this was circulated prior to the meeting.
6. **To receive the Chairman's Report** – The Chairman reported that the Property Flood Resilience had sent a questionnaire for resident DIY solutions to alleviate flooding – this would be completed by the Clerk **ACTION: Clerk**. Many thanks were passed to Cllr Hurcomb for his work with the SAM2 camera and the data circulated. The Village Gates had been delivered and it was hoped would be erected in the next week or so. The Plans for the development to the north of Havencroft had been slightly amended, but made no difference to the flood risk – the Parish Council continue to object to this application **ACTION: Clerk**. The Chair advised she was attending the Village Hall Committee meetings and confirmed the Treasurer of the Village Hall would have the accounts for year ended 31 March 2025 available by end of January 2026.
7. **To receive the Clerk's Report** - the Clerk reported the sewerage leak, previously reported in August, into the beck at the bottom of Druids Lane is resolved, although some sewerage remains in the beck until sufficient rainfall to dissipate it – but a watching brief will remain. The foot path sign on Common Road, which had recently rotted away and the bridge across the stream into Hall Drive are to be replaced. Cllr Hurst reported the "slippery footpath" sign had rotted away at the base of Church Walk **ACTION: Clerk**. The Clerk also reported the "appearance" of a flood gauge on the railings on Wash Lane at the point of the ford, but neither the Environment Agency or Highways have confirmed ownership – none of the councillors were aware of it and Cllr Hurcomb suggested contacting the manufacturer to find the owner **ACTION: Clerk**.
8. **To receive updates from individual Council members** – Cllr Mick Paines reported the continued water leak along Church Road – the Clerk confirmed Anglian Water were aware.
9. **To receive Boyland Common Report** – Cllr Ross read through the Boyland Common Report regarding its formation and cessation. She confirmed, following a request by the Clerk, that the funds currently held by the Parish Council would be returned to them in the amount of £531.62.

10. To receive a report from Jen Celerier – Tree Warden – Jen Celerier was not present at the meeting at this point and so the Agenda continued.

11. Planning matters – no planning applications pending

12. To receive the financial report and authorise payments.

- a. Westcote SAM2 speed camera - £5,493.60
- b. Glasdons Village Gates - £4,575.72
- c. Remembrance Wreath - £20
- d. Village Hall Hire - £80.00

All payments above were unanimously agreed. The Clerk confirmed that there had been a CIL payment of £626.96 received into the bank account. She also confirmed that, whilst her salary was not listed above, this was still being paid, but as it was contractually due, there was not need to add to the payment report – Councillors all agreed this was fine going forward.

13. To agree 2026/2027 Budget – The Clerk had previously circulated the 2026/27 budget, which was agreed unanimously and the Precept for the 2026/27 year was agreed to remain as per 2025/26.

14. To agree the 2026 Meeting dates – The meeting dates for the 2026 calendar year, were agreed as the second Thursday of every other month @ 18:30 in the village hall - 08.01.26, 12.03.26, 14.05.26, 09.07.26, 10.09.26 & 12.11.26.

15. To Discuss the Village Hall Accounts – this was covered in the Chairman’s Report

The Tree Warden arrived at 7pm, so was given at opportunity at this point to report. Jen reported that she met with the architects at the Newhaven development site regarding the trees and reported they would be submitting a report to the Planners. She also reported being in communication with The Chair of the Village Hall concerning the Ash tree, and were awaiting the professional feedback. She had received a lot of very positive feedback from the village and had a number of trees already awaiting assessment for a TPO, but needed a couple more before the Council could be called out to evaluate.

She and her helper were looking at planting projects, which was likely to be in excess of 1,000 trees and hedging and was very exciting. She had also sourced a planting auger, which would assist in this endeavour. The Tree Council have a “Tree Week” (22-30 November) and she asked to be present at the bus stop with trees to hand out on Saturday 22nd and Saturday 30th which the Parish Council wholeheartedly agreed with. The Chair thanked her for her very informative and encouraging report.

16. To agree the Cock Crow Report – The Clerk had circulated the Cock Crow Report for this month and this was agreed as accurate, and the Chair asked for thanks to the volunteers to be added.

17. To agree items for the next meeting Thursday 8 January 2026.

The chair closed the meeting at 7.40 pm and wished everyone a very Happy Christmas.