BRISTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Office
Recreation Ground, Stone Beck Lane,
Briston, Melton Constable NR24 2PS
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The minutes of the November meeting of Briston Parish Council held on Monday 9 November 2026 in the Copeman Centre, Briston

Present:	Cllr John Davies	Chairman
	Cllr Mrs Tracey Kidd	Vice Chairman
	Cllr Reg Lampard	
	Cllr Peter Nunn	
	Cllr Maurice Gray	
	Cllr John Wing	

Clerk: Mrs Jenny English

2026/182 To receive and accept apologies for absence
Cllrs David Wilson and Arthur Kidd

2026/183 To record declarations of interest from members on any items on the agenda
None

2026/184 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12 October 2026
Proposed Cllr Mrs Kidd, seconded Cllr Lampard **Approved**

2026/185 To invite public participation including reports from the County Councillor, District Councillor and SNT representative
District Cllr Andrew Fletcher gave a brief precis of the report from County Cllr Andrew Brown with regard to the budget deficit at Norfolk County Council. Ideas for reducing this included raising council tax, charging more for sixth formers to go to and from colleges and schools and gritting fewer roads.
He reported on the scheme of delegation for planning decisions at Norfolk District Council. This comes from central government in Westminster and means that all small developments will be handled entirely by NNDC staff. Larger housing developments, protected trees and listed buildings will be dealt with by NBDC officers until called in by councillors. There will still be a weekly list of applications which will go to parish councils and notices will still be stuck on properties.
The Norfolk Heating Oil Crisis Fund is open for people experiencing fuel poverty.
The switch to digital phone network is taking place
The latest announcement from central government has postponed local government reorganisation for one year and the new unitary council will happen in 2029.
Cllr Fletcher congratulated Briston Parish Council on obtaining a Lottery Grant for swings on the recreation ground.
Cllr Davies said that Cllr Brown's report encouraged everyone to feed into consultations. He asked whether the parish council wished to comment after he has investigated this further.
Cllr Wing thanked Cllr Fletcher for his detailed and interesting reports.
It was asked that Stefan Aquarone MP be invited to parish council meetings and be sent agendas and minutes.

2026/186 To discuss matters arising from the minutes of Monday 12 October 2026
Cllr Mrs Kidd asked if the money for the fireworks and gala had been transferred into separate accounts from the number 1 account. The clerk replied that she was in the process of doing this.

2026/187 To consider and make observations on any planning applications which may be received
None received

2026/188 To receive information on the valve replacement work to be carried out in Church Street, Briston by Anglia Water
The clerk reported that she had received information from Anglia Water saying that this work would now be carried out for one week commencing 15 February 2027 and a scond week commencing on 22 February. The work should be completed by 27 February 2027. Cllr Mrs Kidd will put this information on the Facebook page after Christmas.

2026/189 To grant permission for Moody Cow to set up a food stall on the village green on 21 November
Proposed Cllr Mrs Kidd, seconded Cllr Davies **Approved**

2026/190 To disucss and approve sending a letter to the occupant of 107 Hall Street asking them to cut back their hedge which is partially blocking the footpath
It was suggested that all the houses in this stretch of Hall Street be checked to see if there were any more overhanging hedges. It was agred to write to the occupants of 107 Hall Street. If nothing happens the clerk will contact the envirvonmental officer at NNDC
Proposed Cllr Mrs Kidd. Seconded Cllr Gray **Approved**

2026/191 To discuss and approve work/renewal on the seat outside the Co-op which is in a poor state of repair
It was agreed to replace all the wood. Cllr Lampard will liaise with Thaxters about replacement wood.
Proposed Cllr Mrs Kidd. Seconded Cllr Lampard **Approved**

2026/192 To discuss and come up with ideas to approve work on the verge on the Old Post Road side of the car park in Church Street
Cllr Gray has cleared up the wood from the dead tree, which was removed. BC Landscape will be asked for a quote to remove the stump.

2026/193 To discuss and approve work to be done on the dog poo bin on the land at the corner of the Lane and Fakenham Road
Work has been carried out on this and the bin put back in position. The meeting thanked Cllr Lampard and the village handyman, Tim Staff for doing this

2026/194 To receive information on the Parish Council elections which will take place on 6 May 2027
The clerk reported that these elections are for parish and district councillors. Because of the 6 month rule it is no longer possible to co-opt councillors before the elections.

2026/195 To discuss and approve the 2027/2028 precept
The clerk was asked to check the salaries and HMRC salary figures to make sure that the tax and NIC figures were not included twice. It was reported that the allotment rents should bring in about £1,000 in December/January which should help the 2026/2027 budget as Cllr Davies said he had concerns that money was tight. The clerk will also look into the Open Spaces Upkeep spend.
Cllr Mrs Kidd proposed that a figure of £66,878 be approved for the 2027/2028 precept and this be requested from NNDC. Seconded by Cllr Wing **Approved**

2026/196 To discuss and approve the purchase of 24 round posts for repair work on the fencing round the Hills area on the village green

Cllr Lampard reported that the area had now been cleared of debris and the trees have been made safe. 12 posts were now needed to finish the repairs to the fence. These would cost £5.85 each. The area would then have to have a final clearance. The meeting thanked Cllrs Lampard and Gray for their work on this area.

Cllr Davies proposed that the posts be purchased. Seconded Cllr Gray **Approved**

2026/197 To approve the bank statement for October and reconciliation for September and October and the payments for November

Proposed by Cllr Davies. Seconded by Cllr Lampard **Approved**

Cashbook 1 – current account

Reconciliation statement as a 30/09/2026 - Current Account £6,771.75, Balance per cash book £6,771.75 Difference 0.00

Reconciliation statement as at 31/10/2026 – Current account £31,308.06, Balance per cash book £31,308.06. Difference 0.00

Date	Description	Money out £	Money in £	Balance £
30 September	Start balance			6,771.75
30 September	DD Ionos Cloud Ltd	30.42		6,741.33
30 September	DC NNDC precept		31,500.00	38,241.33
2 October	BACS Handyman Wage Adjustment	105.00		38,136.33
2 October	BACS Go Awesome Christmas party	200.00		37,936.33
2 October	BACS Handyman salary September	762.60		37,173.73
13 October	Card payment Thaxters Timber	39.37		37,134.36
13 October	Card payment to SP Poppy Shop	173.00		36,961.36
16 October	DD EDF Energy	19.53		36,941.83
16 October	Card payment Booker Ltd – Gala Ball	165.92		36,775.91
16 October	BACS Briston Bulls Youth Football Team – grant	250.00		36,525.91
19 October	BACS Copeman Centre – hall hire September	16.00		36,509.91
19 October	BACS Josh Biz Domain name	50.00		36,459.91
19 October	BACS Higginbottom Office hire September	100.00		36,359.91
19 October	BACS TT Jones Street light inspection	169.87		36,190.04

19 October	BACS Clerk – back dated pay	199.80		35,990.24
19 October	BACS Blyth & Wright monthly bill	225.02		35,765.22
19 October	BACS Pkf Littlejohn – AGAR	378.00		35,387.22
19 October	BACS HMRC Tax & NIC September	710.68		34,676.54
19 October	BACS Tops grass cutting September	1,303.20		33,373.34
22 October	DD BT Group	64.74		33,308.60
27 October	Card payment Amazon – new office printer	359.00		32,949.00
28 October	DD Ionos Cloud	49.74		32,899.86
28 October	SO Clerk - Salary October	1,004.60		31,895.26
30 October	BACS Handyman – salary October	587.20		31,308.06
30 October	Balance carried forward			31,308.06
	Total payments/receipts	6,963.69	31,500.00	

Payments November 2026 **£**

Anglian Water – The Poors 10 June to 9 September 2026	68.42
Lawnwise and Leisure – Firework Display 6/11/2026	4,700.00
Higginbottom Recreational Charity – electricity for office	234.25
Fast Lane Autospares – repay R Lampard – two stroke oil	14.99
Blyth & Wright – monthly invoice	81.78
BC Landscapes – churchyard cutting x 11	3,960.00
Norfolk Parish Training and Support – new councillor induction training	76.80
HMRC – Tax and NIC October	560.97
MAE Bookkeeping - Payroll October	25.00
Wyer Electrical Services Ltd – power supply for defibrillator	744.00
Royal British Legion – donation in lieu of payment to bugler, Peter Dowsett At Remembrance Service	50.00
Higginbottom Recreational Charity – office rent October	100.00
Paid Card	
Ebay – Union Jack Flag	4.99
Direct Debit	
EDF – power to village green	18.09
	Total payments £10,639.29
Paid and on system and reconciled	
Clerk – Salary October	1,004.00
Handyman – Salary October	587.20
Booker – Gala Ball	165.92
Amazon Business – Epson printer	359.00

CCLA
Public Sector Deposit Fund
Total valuation as at 31 October 2026 £51,493.14
Total valuation as at 30 September 2026 £51,330.37

2026/198 To receive a report from the Firework working group
It was a very good event and the bonfire was just right.
Slightly disappointed by the amount in the bucket collection. Could do with more collectors by the entrances and exits. Six people are really needed. The meeting thanked Cllr Mrs Kidd for getting in volunteers.
The total collection from the buckets was £2,314. Donations from the fair, West End Bars and the ice cream van totalled £360.00. Waiting for a donation from Graves Hog Roast
The bill for the fireworks is £3,917 and there is a bill from St John for first aid cover still to come.

2026/199 To receive an update from the Speedwatch Group
The group has now had 2 sessions and motorists slow down when they see the Hivis jackets. The first session was on the junction of the Lane and the Fakenham Road where it was too conjested to do much as the Astley School was leaving for the day. The next one 8am on Hall Street

2026/120 To receive a report from the Higginbottom Recreational Charity
There are some concerns over the budget for the next 5 years as it is looking a bit tight. Need to be looking at cutting costs, charges increase, etc. The good news is that the Lottery has given a grant of £10,000 for new swings. An independent person needs to look at the accounts. A new tablet has been purchased, to control the heating in the main hall and this will be kept in the parish office. The broken piece of adult gym equipment has been removed. The rest will need to be checked. The roundabout has been greased and a new bench ordered. The bookings are looking good.

2026/121 To receive a report from the Copeman Centre
The regular bookings are up. A cinema presentation is being tried out with the first film being The Polar Express on the 28 Nocember. Owing to the licence the audience will be limited to 50. The boiler is fixed and GB Electrics are sorting out the fault on the lights in the main hall.

2026/122 To invite public participation
None

2026/122 Any other business – please note this is for discussion only. No decisions can be make under this item
BC Landscapes will cut the Church Street car park hedge on 21 November at 8am.

2026/123 Date of next meeting Monday 14 December

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed:

Dated: