

TACOLNESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Tacolneston Parish Council held at Tacolneston Village Hall on Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs L. Pincher (Chair), P. Butcher (Vice-Chair), D. Hayward, S. Langley and J. Pyle.
County Cllr C Rowett and District Cllr K Carsok.
Parish Clerk/RFO: D. Wickham.
C Bennett and 3 members of the public.

- | | Minute Ref No: |
|---|----------------|
| 1. To consider approving any apologies for absence.
Apologies were received from Cllrs Darrell and Spratt. These were approved by the Council. | 26/001 |
| 2. To receive any declarations of interest and dispensation requests on any items to be discussed.
None were received. | 26/002 |
| 3. Public Participation.
a) C Bennett, South Norfolk Council's Senior Heritage and Design Officer, explained that he was about to embark on a conservation area appraisal in the village. Such appraisals are conducted from time to time to ensure building heritage and landscape setting information is accurately maintained. The appraisal should be completed by the summer, at which time the local community would be consulted.
b) District Cllr Carsok reported that South Norfolk Council's (SNC) solar strategy had been completed as a guidance tool for SNC when considering relevant planning applications. A new tranche of Community Action Fund grants would be available soon, with the closing date for applications being 22 nd February 2026. A further round would be announced in the Autumn. A report from County Cllr Rowett had been circulated to the Council prior to the meeting. The Highways Officer had confirmed that there was not much that Norfolk County Council could do to assist in relation to the parking issues outside The Pelican.
c) Following a question pertaining to Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) planning applications, Cllr Hayward noted that the proposed Tasway solar project did not need a BESS, as it would feed directly into the mains infrastructure. | 26/003 |
| 4. To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th November 2025.
Having been circulated to the Council prior to the meeting, it was AGREED by all that the minutes would be approved as a correct record. | 26/004 |
| 5. To receive any updates from the Media and Communication Working Group.
There were none. | 26/005 |

Signed:

Date:

6. **To receive any updates from the Pylons and Solar Working Group.** 26/006
There were none.
7. **To agree the 2026-27 Budget, Precept Demand and Asset Register.** 26/007
Following a discussion, the Council **AGREED** the budget for the forthcoming financial year, and maintained the current precept of £18,000.00. This would effectively result in a reduced cost per household, due to the increased number of households in the village. The Council also **AGREED** the Asset Register.
8. **Financial matters.** 26/008
a) The bank reconciliation was reviewed and approved.
b) Following receipt of the relevant invoices these payments were approved:

Payee	Detail	Net	Vat	Gross
D Wickham	Clerk's Expenses Nov and Dec	£61.00		£61.00
D Wickham	Clerk's Salary January	£356.85		£356.85
HMRC	Clerk's PAYE January	£93.79		£93.79
D Wickham	Clerk's Salary February	£357.05		£357.05
HMRC	Clerk's PAYE February	£93.59		£93.59
TAFRA	Hall Hire	£17.00		£17.00

9. **To elect a trustee for the Tacolneston Fuel Allotment Charity.** 26/009
The Council **AGREED** to elect T Chisolm as trustee, following nominations from two existing trustees.
10. **Any planning matters.** 26/010
There were none.
11. **To receive an update in relation to the possible refurbishment of the thatched bus shelter.** 26/011
Cllr Pincher had posted a survey on the local residents' Facebook page which had received 142 responses, more than half of which were in favour of re-thatching the bus shelter. No members of the public had volunteered to join a working group to progress the matter, so Cllrs Pincher and Butcher offered to obtain and coordinate some quotes for works. Cllr Pyle noted that match-funded grants may be available from SNC if some public benefit could be shown in relation to the refurbishment of the unused shelter.
12. **To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting as 11th March 2026 at 7pm.** 26/012
This was **AGREED** by the Council.

The meeting ended at 8.15pm

Signed:

Date: