

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HOCKHAM PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY JAN 5TH 2026
AT 7.30PM IN HOCKHAM VILLAGE HALL

Attending; Cllrs Bennett, Lambert, Wiltshire, Thomas, Lloyd and Loft and the clerk C Garrod, plus 5 members of the public.

- 1) **Apologies for absence** received from County Councillor F Eagle, District Councillor P Cowen and Cllr J Leech
- 2) **Declarations of interest;** A Lambert as landlord of the eagle and trustee of the Woodsford Charity, C Wiltshire as a trustee of the Woodsford Charity, Cllrs Bennett and Loft as allotment holders.
- 3) **Requests for dispensation;** None
- 4) **Approval of the minutes of Nov 24th 2025;** These were unanimously approved.
- 5) **Progress Report:** The clerk would liaise with Cllr Bennett regards the info board. There was no more information on drainage issues.
- 6) **Public Participation:** The meeting was adjourned to hear questions form the public.
- 7) **County and District Reports;** Cllr Eagle had sent a message advising the No parking boards were ready and these would be dropped at The Eagle. Cllr Cowen had reported that the Breckland Council budget is close to being completed. He had also raised concerns over the planning application to the east of Watton Road for 12 properties PL/2025/1331/OMAJ.
- 8) **Highways and Road Safety.** Nothing new to report
- 9) **Planning.** The local plan consultation was now closed. May 26 was the next likely time for hearing more.
PL/2025/1859/PAAF, there was insufficient information regards the application to make any comment.
PL/2025/1331/OMAJ, the changes were discussed. It was noted that car park spaces were further reduced and some spaces appeared inaccessible. Highways were still objecting. Councillors were disappointed and further comments would be put forward.
Brookside Farm had many objections online.
- 10) **Finance. Payments due were,** Pearce and Kemp 45.60, The clerk's salary of £193, and SLCC membership at £84, plus 3 new sets of Xmas tree lights were all approved.
There was £28,596.08 in the bank. The clerk predicted £5000 of spend before financial year end, though a play equipment purchase could increase that figure.
- 11) **Allotments.** Cllr Bennett would look into the cost of running a mains water feed.
- 12) **Footpaths and Rights of way,** nothing to report.
- 13) **Forest Edge Court,** nothing to report.
- 14) **Playing Field.** Fencing to complete the dog fence area had been purchased. This would be done when the ground was better. There was £19,666.12 in the account.
- 15) **Councillor Updates,** Cllr Lambert asked if info boards on the pingo trail at Cranberry Rough could be cleaned and a tree overhanging the trail be looked at. The clerk would investigate.
A large hole in the Pightle track would be looked at. The clerk would action.
Some signage for Vicarage Road illegal A1075 access would be considered.

The clerk would investigate the flexibus and arrangements for assisting the elderly/infirm with access to local towns. Offers of assistance were gratefully received.

- 16) **Correspondence**, The clerk said Breckland council were offering land to be taken over by parish councils. The only land left in their ownership in Hockham was a verge and a road/parking area on Chestnut Square. The parish councillors did not wish to consider owning these.

- 17) **Next Meeting Monday 9th Feb 2026**