

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF HOCKHAM PARISH COUNCIL ON MONDAY
22ND JUNE 2026 AT 7.30PM IN HOCKHAM VILLAGE HALL

Attending: NCC Councillor Hussey, Cllr Cowen, Cllr Bennett, Cllr Lambert; Cllr Wiltshire; Cllr Thomas; Cllr Lloys and Cllr Loft plus the clerk C Garrod and 13 members of the public.

The chair welcomed the County and District councillors.

- 1) **Apologies for absence;** Cllr Leech
- 2) **Declarations of Interest;** Cllr Lambert as landlord and owner of the eagle and a Woodsford Charity Trustee. Cllr Wiltshire as. Woodsford Charity Trustee, Cllr Bennett as an allotment holder and trustee of Townlands, Cllr Loft as an allotment holder.
- 3) There were no requests for dispensation.
- 4) **The minutes** of 18th May 26 were approved.
- 5) **Progress Report;**
 - a) Ideas for the info board had come forward but more were needed.
 - b) The Vicarage Rd sign had been researched; and would cost £60.30 a pole needed sourcing. Permission was now required to site it.
 - c) The speed camera results for Watton Rd were looked at. Highest speed was 37mph but the results were by and large very good.
- 6) The meeting was adjourned for public discussion.
- 7) **County and District Councillor Reports.**

Cllr Cowen commented on the potential 3 tier system to local government which could bring challenges with how council tax was calculated. He commented that the harmonisation would likely bring a council tax rise. It was all a bit of a muddle.

Cllr Hussey introduced himself. He praised the previous hard work of Cllr Eagle. He had only been at county hall for a few weeks along with the biggest influx of councillors ever at NCC. Lots of changes were being made. NCC is in big debt he said. Police commissioner elections were soon.
- 8) **Highways and Traffic Safety.** Verges had been cut Little Hockham Lane verge would be done.
- 9) **Planning.** PL/2025/1331/OMAJ the Xmas tree field application should go to committee on July 14th. Tom would represent the parish council. It had been ascertained at local level that the sewerage works was over capacity and that the local team were struggling to avoid pollution incidents. Work was being done at local level to try and get the truth in the public domain. Awareness of the Forest Edge

Court property numbers were not fully understood at AWA, due to no past planning application.

It appeared that Sapienta trust doesn't have the local connections nor interests. Land locking the school does not seem to be fully understood. The school is vital as a service and is a good school.

PL/2026/0755/OMIN, Vicarage Rd Application. This one has been in before and refused before. The parish council would collate comments based on the sub-standard road splays and widths.

There was some debate over comments dates as all letters sent by Breckland Council had no dates on them. This had been reported.

It was noted the lack of a 5-year land supply was not in the parishes favour.

PL/2026/0816/LB Hornfair Thatch No objection.

Local Plan. The plan would likely be approved for going to the next stage at a July full cabinet meeting.

10) **Finances.** The clerk gave a resume of finances. There was some money to transfer from the playing field to the parish council.

Payments due Clerks salary £193, Pearce and Kemp £45.60; N Power DD £46.69 ICO data protection DD £47. Fireworks had been ordered.

Stage 2 of the play equipment had been completed. It was asked if Townlands might assist in a contribution for phase 3.

11) **Allotments.** Some progress had been made on getting water from a ditch, more work needed.

12) **Footpaths and Rights of Way.** There were concerns regards some dead trees that belonged to Hockham Estate. The clerk would follow up.

13) **Playing Field.** The fireworks had been identified and ordered by the parish council. Summer Show was on August 30th 2026. Profit for Hornfair was in the region of £726.

14) **Forest Edge Court.** Nothing to report.

15) **Councillor Updates.** Cllr Lloyd had taken up some offers of watering the flower boxes. The cost of plants was £133.

The access ramp would be looked at for next Hornfair.

The culvert in front of the playing field would be looked at as it may be a safety hazard.

16) **Next Meeting.** Monday 20th July 2026 at 7.30pm.