



Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council
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Monday the 23rd of February 2026 at 7.15
Meeting of the Parish Council at the Village Hall

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Declaration of Interests**
- 3 To agree the minutes of the 26th of January**
- 4 Matters arising from the minutes**

10 minutes public speaking time

- 5 Report from County Councillor**
- 6 Report from District Councillor**
- 7 Emergency Plan**
- 8 Communications**
- 9 Planning**
GNLP
2026/0295 Forge End
- 10 Steam Museum Defib**
- 11 Roads**
- 12 Mindful Towns**
- 13 Footpaths**
- 14 School**
- 15 Allotments**
- 16 Parish Council land**
- 17 Any Other Matters**
- 18 Date of next meeting**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Mortimer', written over a horizontal line.

Parish Clerk



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Bressingham and Fersfield Parish Council Minutes of the Meeting held on the 23rd of February 2026

The meeting opened at 7.15pm

Present: Councillors, Chair, Mr M Edwards, Miss M Lanchester, Mrs K Le Grys, Mrs H Farstad McKeown, Mrs S Barton and Mr M Blee. Also present were District Councillor, Mr James Easter, County Councillor, Dr Catherine Rowett and the clerk, Mr M Mortimer

1 Apologies

Mr Le Grys

2 Declaration of Interests

None

3 To agree the minutes of the 26th of January

The minutes were agreed and signed.

4 Matters arising from the minutes

None.

Public Speaking Time

There were no public comments

5 Report from County Councillor

Dr Rowett had sent a report which is in the minute book and on the website. She explained that she had made contact with the appropriate people regarding NCC footpath clearing and an additional bus back from Diss each day. She referred to the Community Energy Scheme and suggested someone might volunteer as a local community energy champion.

6 Report from District Councillor

Mr Easter reported that he had been approached by the Steam Museum and had agreed to pay for a new defibrillator. With regard to Diss Grab Hire he explained that he had spoken with Mr Blee and the appropriate person at South Norfolk. Mr Blee had suggested a conversation with Mr Davey which had taken place. Mr Easter announced that council tax for a band D property was going up by £5.

7 Emergency Plan

Mrs Farstad McKeown explained that a lot of material had been gathered and that now was the time to decide what to do with it. It was agreed that the information should be distributed to each household and the clerk agreed to draw up "postal" rounds for councillors. Miss Lanchester suggested there be a supply of sandbags at Fersfield and Mr Edwards agreed to approach local residents about the suggested site and try to arrange delivery from the central site at Shelfanger.

8 Communications

None not already circulated.

9 Planning

Mr Easter pointed out that the GNLP call for new sites was not relevant to South Norfolk as it had made its own arrangements.

Approval was recommended for 2026/0295 Forge End and refusal for the amended 2022/1930 The Oaks.



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10 **Steam Museum**

Mr Easter had already agreed to pay for a new defibrillator

11 **Roads**

Miss Lanchester pointed out that the failure of utility companies to make proper repairs after carrying out work was contributing to the general decline in the state of the roads. Opinion was that reporting the problem to Highways was the only hope.

12 **Mindful Towns**

Mrs Le Grys explained that Bressingham and Fersfield was now a Mindful Parish as she with Miss Lanchester and Mr Le Grys had attended a course aimed at making them aware of where to direct those who needed psychological help.

13 **Footpaths**

Mrs Farstad McKeown had provided the precise location of a particular problem but nobody was able to identify the landowner. Mr Edwards suggested reporting a broken bridge beyond the blockage as that would lead NCC to the problem themselves. Miss Lanchester pointed out that the nesting season would stop any immediate work.

14 **School**

Mr Edwards reported on a meeting he had had with the Head. He explained she was facing a number of problems including complaints from residents about parking. The developers of the site opposite were planning to make her responsible for policing the parking they were proposing and which she didn't want. Mr Edwards recommended to her that he accompany her in any dealings with the developer involving the school. There were financial pressures too and the school was relying on donations to fund new play equipment. It was agreed that the PC donate £500.

15 **Allotments**

Mr Edwards reported that Mr Le Grys had looked at the AA gate and would provide an estimate for repair shortly.

16 **Allotment Land**

Enquiries into the possibility of using the site for solar panels had proved fruitless. The future of the land to be considered at the next meeting.

17 **Any Other Matters**

Mr Blee wondered if the green play area in Fersfield could be made more use of. Several councillors pointed out that it was used at times and the possibility of installing play equipment would not be viable financially. Mr Edwards raised the matter of a litter pick and Mrs Farstad McKeown agreed to pick up litter on her walks.

18 **Date of Next Meeting**

23rd of March 7.15 in the Village Hall