

Homersfield Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING *Homersfield Black Swan* Tuesday 15th July 2025 at 6.00 pm

Councillors Present: Lucy Hammond (Chair), Debbie Bird, Lynne Elliott & Peter Kent

Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer (RFO): Sally Chapman

Also Present:

A. To Receive Reports from the County & District Councillors'

County Councillor Judy Cloke sent apologies and a report:

<https://homersfield-pc.gov.uk/parish-council/meetings/>

District Councillor Toby Hammond sent apologies.

B. Public Forum – for Members of the Public

None present

MINUTES

1. To Approve Apologies for Absence

None

2. To Record Declarations of Interests and to Consider Requests for Dispensation

None

3. To Approve the Minutes of the Meetings held on Tuesday 6th May 2025

The Minutes from the Meeting held on Tuesday 6th May 2025 were confirmed unanimously as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

4. To Consider Co-option to fill the Casual Vacancy

None

5. Finance

a) To Note the Certificate of Exemption has been Registered with the External Auditors

The Clerk confirmed the Certificate of Exemption has been Registered with the External Auditors.

b) To Appoint the Internal Auditor for 2025/26 – update

The Internal Auditor, Mr Peter Strange has confirmed his appointment for 2025/26.

c) To Receive the Financial & Budget Reports and Approve the Income & Expenditure

Councillors Resolved unanimously to Approve the following Receipts and Expenditure:

DATE	REFERENCE	DETAILS	RECEIPTS	EXPENDITURE
28/05/2025	S/O	Clerk's Salary - May		226.08
30/05/2025	Transfer	ICO - Data Protection		47.00
31/05/2025	D/D	Bank Fee		6.00
17/06/2025	5	Slate Commemoration Sign		68.94
19/06/2025	Transfer	Homersfield Community Park - Play Area Sale	10,000.00	
28/06/2025	S/O	Clerk's Salary - June		226.08
30/06/2025	D/D	Bank Fee		6.00
15/07/2025	6	Clerk's Expenses - June-July		28.00
15/07/2025	7	Meeting Costs		11.65
		Total	£ 10,000.00	£ 619.75
		Reserves		
		General Reserves		£ 19,978.65
		Restricted Reserves		£ 1,851.74
		Total		£ 21,830.39

Signed: _____ Chair

Date:

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d) To Consider a Poppy Wreath for Remembrance Day

Councillors Agreed to purchase a new poppy wreath for Remembrance Day at a cost of £19.99 excluding postage.

Action: Clerk

e) Church Wood's Information Board – update

The draft of the information board will be worked on next week and circulated to Cllrs for their approval and comments.

Action: PK

f) New War Memorial Sign & Wooden Crosses – update

The new memorial sign has been received and installed on the village sign. The prototypes of the wooden crosses have been viewed and approved, and it is hoped they will be delivered before Remembrance Day.

Action: Clerk

g) Homersfield Playing Field Transfer Document & Payment - update

The Clerk was pleased to confirm that the signed transfer document and payment have been received for the play area.

6. Planning Applications and Decisions

Cllrs noted the following:

Applications

None

Decisions

a) Planning reference: Ref. No: DC/25/1186/VOC

Variation of Condition No 2 of DC/21/3884/FUL - Single storey side and rear extensions - Change of glass roof to solid flat roof. Issue updated drawings showing change of door into folding sliding door and change of proposed door material from timber to aluminium pale green to match existing.

Site address: The Thatched Cottage Church Lane Homersfield Suffolk IP20 0EU

Status: Permitted

7. Homersfield Phonebox

Cllr Bird is arranging a display with children's clubs and societies in Harleston and Bungay and hopes it will be in place soon.

Action: DB

8. Homersfield Church Wood

a) Removal of Circular Bench – c/f

9. Homersfield Community Park

The Chair of the Homersfield Community Park Committee, Mrs Bird, confirmed they are advertising for volunteers to cut the grass in the play area on a regular basis. This has been advertised, and it is hoped someone will step forward soon.

10. Village Maintenance

a) Nature Reserve White Post – update

The white post at the Nature Reserve has still not been replaced. The Chair agreed to contact Suffolk County Council again.

Councillors Approved the Clerk to obtain a quote from EPS for a replacement sign. Action: Clerk

11. Correspondence

a) SCC Residents' Survey - Local Government Reorganisation

The Clerk confirmed that the SCC Residents' Survey has been circulated and details have

Signed: _____ Chair

Date:

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been placed on the HPC website to inform parishioners.

12. AOB (For discussion only – the Council cannot make decisions on these items unless stated on the agenda)

a) East Suffolk Council Affordable Housing

Councillors Resolved that there is no spare land, employment opportunities, or resources in Homersfield to support this initiative.

b) East Suffolk Council Free Packs of Daffodil Bulbs Offer

Councillors Approved the Clerk to apply for a free pack of Daffodil Bulbs for the village.

c) October Litterpick

The Chair informed Cllrs that the next litter pick in Homersfield would take place on 11th October 2025 at 10:00 am, meeting on the Village Green.

d) Coffee Caravan Invitation

The Chair hopes to invite the Coffee Caravan to Homersfield Community Park in September.

Action: Chair

e) Homersfield Canoe Portage Platform Removal – update

No further information has been received.

f) Village Communication Leaflet – update

The Chair circulated the village communication leaflet, which will be distributed in the Community News in the near future. The Clerk requested a copy for publication on the website.

Action: Clerk

g) Flixton Quarry Liaison Meeting - Wednesday 4th June 2025 – update

Cllr Elliott and Cllr Kent attended the meeting and toured the site. They observed 13 archaeologists working across three phases of excavation. The site is located off Flixton Road, and after excavation, gravel will be extracted to create a boating lake near the café and swimming pool, as well as a fishing lake.

No significant archaeological finds have been made so far. There have been no complaints from villagers. Lorries operate with one on site while another is off-site, and their wheels are washed to prevent mud on the roads. A road sweeper is also in use when necessary.

The next meeting is scheduled for 3rd December 2025.

h) Trees – Church Lane

Cllrs reported that the trees on Church Lane have been pruned; however, the area around the streetlight was not addressed as requested. The Clerk will contact the County Councillor to see if this can be resolved.

Action: Clerk

13. To Receive items for the next Agenda

None

14. To Confirm the Future Meeting Dates:

- Tuesday 16th September 2025 at 6.00 pm
- Tuesday 18th November 2025 at 6.00 pm

The meeting ended at 7.15 pm

Signed: _____ Chair

Date: