

Brinkley Parish Council
Minutes of the Parish council meeting at 7pm on 23rd February 2026
At Brinkley Memorial Hall

Present: Cllr M Coley, Cllr A Aubert, Cllr S McIntyre, Cllr I Monks, Cllr N Beamish

Cllr John Trapp

Hayley Livermore

1 member of the public

Item	
25-26/73	<p data-bbox="225 891 405 927">Public Forum</p> <p data-bbox="225 976 1450 1088">Member of the public attended to discuss the poor state of the footpaths especially in the High street which need clearing. Cllr John Trapp suggested using the Community payback scheme and will send the clerk details.</p> <p data-bbox="225 1137 683 1173">Member of the public left at 7:15pm</p>
25-26/74	<p data-bbox="225 1218 504 1254">Apologies of absence</p> <p data-bbox="225 1303 424 1339">Cllr Jonny Edge</p>
25-26/75	<p data-bbox="225 1406 533 1442">Declarations of Interest</p> <p data-bbox="225 1509 309 1545">None</p>
25-26/76	<p data-bbox="225 1599 730 1635">Approval of minutes 3rd December 2025</p> <p data-bbox="225 1635 1422 1671">It was resolved to approve the minutes of 3rd December 2025, and these were signed by the chair.</p>
25-26/77	<p data-bbox="225 1792 544 1827">District councillor report</p> <p data-bbox="225 1881 999 1917">Circulated before the meeting and appended to these minutes.</p> <p data-bbox="225 1962 1450 1993">The Parish council asked Cllr Trapp if ECDC responded to the Kingsway consultation as we have not</p>

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seen the response. JT to follow up.
New bins will be rolled out in the coming months.

25-26/78

County councillor report

Circulated before the meeting

25-26/79

Planning since the last meeting

26/00059/CLP|Single storey rear extension replacing an existing conservatory|Aysgarth House High Street Brinkley Newmarket Suffolk CB8 0SE- Pending consideration

26/00069/TRE|T1 Hollow Bramley apple - Fell to ground level T2 Lawson Cypress - Reduce by approximately 2m T3 Hawthorn - Fell to ground level T4 Leyland cypress hedge (x15) - Reduce height and overhanging growth by approximately 50% T5 Yew trees (x3) - Reduce by approximately 35% T6 Mixed trees and mature shrubs - Face up to reduce encroachment and reduce height to maintain a natural appearance Ash tree- Primrose Cottage High Street Brinkley Newmarket Suffolk CB8 0SF- Pending consideration

25-26/80

To discuss any issues with the Play area/maintenance

There is a plastic bolt cover missing on the climbing frame. Cllr Coley to follow up.
Cllr Coley will investigate the cost of replacing the trim trail and the zip wire.

25-26/81

To discuss any issues/plans relating to the allotments

One of the empty plots at the allotment is now being used as a 'community orchard' and trees have been planted.

There are at present 2 vacant allotment plots.

25-26/82

To approve letter signing legal letter as a member of Kingsway Parish Council Alliance/To discuss any updates on Kingsway Solar Farm

It was agreed that Cllr Monks will sign on behalf of Brinkley PC, the letter confirming the agreement between the members of the Parish Council Alliance and Richard Buxton Solicitors regarding representations to oppose the Kingsway Solar DCO.

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25-26/83

Village maintenance including plans for village gates

It was agreed to proceed with the quote of £850 for the painting of the gates as discussed at a previous meeting. Cllr Beamish will clear vegetation from the set of gates near to the Red Lion pub.

Cllr Trapp left the meeting at 20:25

25-26/84

To review asset register

New play equipment and land purchased at Coles Lane, Brinkley was added. Value of old play equipment was reduced to £6000. It was resolved to approve the asset register.

25-26/85

To review risk register

General, allotment and play area risk reviewed.

No change to allotment risk register-Allotment holders are sent an email annually reminding them of the rules that need to be adhered to.

General risk register-changes made to add web failure, fraud by councillors and libel and slander.

Play area risk register-New equipment added. Risks reviewed and remained the same.

It was resolved to accept all risk registers.

25-26/86

To review the following policies1. Disciplinary 2. Grievance 3. Model publication scheme 4. Biodiversity 5. IT

After review of the Model publication scheme and Biodiversity policy by the clerk, minimal changes were made and these were circulated to all councillors before the meeting. New Disciplinary, grievance and IT policies based on NALC templates were circulated before the meeting, discussed and it was resolved to adopt these. Proposed by SM, seconded by AA and agreed by all.

25-26/87

To discuss the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government consultation on Local Government reorganisation

The proposal A previously supported by the Parish Council (grouping ECDC with SCDC and Cambridge City Council) is now known as Option 2. It was agreed that we continue to support this option for Local Government reorganisation. Cllr McIntyre to respond to consultation on behalf of the council.

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25-26/88

Finance:

i. To ratify payments since the last meeting

It was resolved to accept the payments that have been made since the last meeting:

Vision ICT	Emails	43.20
Capalc	Internal audit	207.88
McGregor services	Grass cutting	114.00
A Welbourn	Play area work	260.00
Anglian water	Allotment water	2.00
H Livermore	Clerk wages	332.37
Unity Trust bank	Service charge	6.00
West Wratting PC	Donation	250.00
HMRC	Clerk tax	28.20
H Livermore	Clerk wages	54.99
H Livermore	Expenses	17.09
Anglian water	Allotment water	10.00
H Livermore	Clerk wages	387.36
Unity Trust bank	Service charge	6.00
Anglian water	Allotment water	10.00
SLCC	Clerk membership	64.00
Action play and Leisure	Play equipment	11,520.00
Playdale	Play equipment maintenance	919.44
Vision ICT	Emails	144.00

- ii. Bank reconciliation-** There is currently £15499 across the 2 accounts with expected spends of around another £1500 before end of March.

Meeting closed at 21:15

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

District Councillors' Report February 2026

Operational Services Committee 26 January

- **Roll out of the new Waste Collection project remains on budget and on track. Further information will be sent to all residents to prepare them for the change. It was noted that discussions on collecting waste from flats and shared bins were ongoing, and that the operating crews were being consulted on the changes which was sadly lacking when the collection rounds were last changed.**
- **The Committee approved the RECAP Waste Strategy; a joint document produced by the**

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Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Waste Partnership. Unfortunately we are still locked into a contract for dealing with waste which is no longer suitable for us.

Local Government Reorganisation

There will be a public consultation on this issue. This is currently expected to be in February.

Finance and Assets Committee 29 January

- The East Cambridgeshire Biodiversity Report was presented and discussed. Some members felt that it had not enough ambition; reports will be submitted bi-annually in the future.
- The revenue budget for the next year was presented, but there was little debate as the major discussion will be at Full Council on 24 February.
- The contingency budget for the Mepal Crematorium has been fully committed since more subterranean structures were encountered despite assurances that a full ground survey had been done before the project was costed. There was some concern that this was a fixed cost agreement with the construction company, and that we should not be giving more money. With the Chair's casting vote, it was agreed that an additional £300,000 should be made available for the project to go ahead. No other option, e.g. reducing some of the facilities, was presented to the committee.

Cllrs Charlotte Cane MP (charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk) and

John Trapp (john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk)

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