

MINUTES OF MARTHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 19 November 2025 at 7.30 pm.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - Six members of the public were in attendance.

SMEE: Steve – lead volunteer shared an update. The latest session on the SMEE had to be cancelled due to Storm Benjamin. Four benches have been made by Cllr Colin Starkings using the grant received from the Martham Boat Dyke Trust. The remaining money will be used for materials for the benches to be installed and wild bluebells for the areas which need reseeding.

Dissenters Graveyard Wild Area: people walking their dogs had been seen allowing their dogs to leave mess which volunteers are having to clear up. A suggestion of a 'no dog fouling' sign was suggested. The Clerk confirmed the agreed budget for a sign to be produced. **Action: Steve**
It was also suggested to report to GYBC here: <https://www.great-yarmouth.gov.uk/report-a-street-problem> Or here: <https://lovecleanstreets.info/report>

Speeding: another member of the public raised the speeding of cars in certain areas. The Chair confirmed that the cars were not actually speeding but were going fast especially around the corner. More locations had been agreed for the SAM2 Sign to be placed, and more locations are to be added to the list for survey. Speed Awareness sessions will be arranged when the weather improves, and more volunteers are trained.

Norfolk County Councillor James Bensly: shared a report via email. He invited members to attend a 'Mardle' in the village on Saturday 22 November 2025 at 10.00am with the Conservative Norfolk and Suffolk Mayoral candidate. The appointed mayor will oversee what is called a combined county authority – which would be made up of Norfolk and Suffolk's councils. Government ministers revealed devolution plans in December 2024 for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) of local authorities in Norfolk and Suffolk – existing councils will be scrapped and replaced by new ones – both counties will share a mayor. Proposed Unitary Models include one, two and three council options. Unitary Council/s will be given extra powers over areas including transport and housing, with elections for the mayoral role due to take place in May 2026, next year.

456/25: ATTENDANCE: Present: Cllr Fossey (Chair), Starkings (Vice-Chair), Bradford, Bye, Coates, Neave, and Smith. **Apologies** were received from Norfolk County Councillors Grant and Bensly in addition to Great Yarmouth Borough Councillor Mogford. **Officer/s:** The Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer was also in attendance.

457/25: DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS - no new declarations were made.

458/25: CO-OPTION/S: An application for co-option for a vacancy onto the council was considered. In line with the agreed co-option policy and process, Andy Neave was co-opted onto the council and joined the meeting. Cllr Neave signed the 'Declaration of Office' witnessed by the Clerk & Proper Officer of the Council.

459/25: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 15 October 2025 were AGREED and signed by the Chairman Bob Fossey.

460/25: MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES – for information only

Safer Neighbourhood Action Plan Meeting (SNAP) – Cllr Fossey and Coates attended the meeting scheduled on Thursday 23 October 2025 -7.30pm in Winterton Village Hall. Priorities include anti-social behaviour. A Public Spaces Protection Order in place covering the whole of the borough. This means there is a ban in place to stop drinking of alcohol in public. Priorities remain focused to Great Yarmouth. The next meeting is to be held in Hemsby – dates to follow.

461/25: CORRESPONDENCE/COMMENTS/CONSULTATIONS/CLERK REPORT - Daisy Close

Boundary Clarification – ongoing

Action: Chair/Clerk

462/25: PLANNING: GREAT YARMOUTH BOROUGH COUNCIL (GYBC)

To consider any applications received and note any decisions received [GYBC](#)

06/25/0725/F: Change of use from agricultural field to dog walking facility, including fences, gates, hedges, and field shelter. Location: Land adjacent to 29 Hall Road, Martham, NR29 4PD.

Concerns were raised in relation to the potential to improve the management of the site. Reference to the dangerous dog’s act and children with special needs requires clarification in terms of safeguarding procedures and any potential anti-social behaviour. Council wishes to ensure all comments were seen to be fair.

APP/U2615/W/25/3373500: Planning Appeal against refusal of planning application

06/24/0877/F at 26 The Green, Martham. Council Decision: Cllrs UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to support the appeal to improve the exterior into residential features.

463/25: VILLAGE MATTERS

a) Chairmans Update - the Chairman's verbal update included: Defibrillator fund raising, Remembrance Sunday Service attendance and SAM2 Sign placement.

b) Councillor updates - to receive any other updates from Cllrs.

Cllr Smith – communications, magazine entry and newsletter, Cllr Bradford – attendance at the Remembrance Sunday Service, Cllr Bye – Village Hall AGM attendance and work on the allotments map, Cllr Coates – Defibrillator work, SNAP meeting, litter picking, Christmas Tree decorations, and Footpath reporting. Cllr Starkings – made four benches for the SMEE.

c) Volunteer Support - A strategy to support for volunteers who are working alongside the council was considered and AGREED.

Action: Cllr Coates/Clerk

464/25: FINANCIAL MATTERS*

a) **Accounts:** to receive an update on monthly income received and bank balance reconciliation/s to 30 September 2025. NOTED. b) **Expenditure:** expenditure payments for October/November 2025 were AGREED.

465/25: NEXT FULL COUNCIL MEETING - Wednesday, 17 December 2025.

466/25: The meeting closed at 8.41pm

Chairman.....

Date.....

***Payments Nov 2025**

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
BT Group	Phone	85.5
Broadland Computers	IT Support	190
Martham DIY	Supplies	23.97
The Flower Gallery	Wreath	25
Environment Agency	subscriptions	15.68
Unity	Service charge	6
Plan	Mobile Phone	60.82
Administration	Council/Community Centre	5191.05
Viking	Supplies	£125.14
Konica	Printer	£116.03
Cllr Coates	Xmas Event	£18.00
Norse	Bin	£32.10
Total		<u>£5,889.29</u>

Balance per bank statements 31 October 2025

Santander Savings	1,677.24
Santander Current	2,178.50
Nationwide Savings Building Society Account	32,097.05
Unity Trust Current Account	101,735.10
Lloyds	354.53
<u>Total</u>	<u>138,042.42</u>

Income

Interest	Nationwide	£40.84
Room Hire	Community Centre	£125.00
Alford	Recycling	£5.00
Fusse	EVCP	£7.79
Total		<u>£178.63</u>