

HEMPNALL PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 11 August 2026 at 7:00 in The Mill

Present

Chairman Mr David Hook, Mr Phil Bates, Mrs Joan Cann, Mr Richard Delf, Mr Ken O'Leary, Mr Hamish Rose, Mr Peter Workman and the Clerk Mr Ian Nelson.

Members of the public present

There were none.

Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr Mike Turner.

Declaration of interests

Mr Hook declared a non-financial interest in the East Pye Solar Project as he is a trustee of CPRE Norfolk.

Minutes of the previous meeting

Mr Delf proposed, Mrs Cann seconded, and it was unanimously agreed by those who were present at the last meeting the minutes of the meeting on 21 July 2026 be approved.

Public Participation

There was none.

County Councillor Update

Mr Catchpole had not sent a report.

District Councillor Update

Mr Hooton had not sent a report.

Planning Applications

New applications since the last meeting:

There were none.

Applications approved since the last meeting:

2026/1136 - Mr Simon Hodd, St Edmunds, Bungay Road Hempnall - Demolition of existing garage and erection of rear extension. External changes to include removal of front dormer, replace with 5 velux windows and clad property with cedar

2026/0880/1 - Mr Michael Ayton, Villa Farm, Alburgh Road Hempnall - Part retrospective: Replacement of Softwood casement windows at the front of the property with like-for-like uPVC sash wood-effect windows. Ground floor windows have been replaced, first floor windows to be replaced.

2026/1604 - Mr T Green, Torbay House, Broaden Lane Hempnall - Proposed garage conversion.

2026/1127 - Mr S Drake, 22 Old Market Way Hempnall - Details of condition 9 of 2024/2027 - habitat management and monitoring plan and approval of details reserved by the statutory biodiversity gain plan condition.

Prior approval not required

2026/2035 - Berries Direct Farming Ltd, Spring Farm Spring Lane Hempnall - Siting in relation to heritage assets with archaeological interest, following prior notification application 2026/1425 (Excavation of land to create a reservoir for the storage of water for crop irrigation).

Chairman's initials -----

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Applications withdrawn since the last meeting:

There were none.

Applications refused since the last meeting:

2026/1647 - 46 Old Market Way Hempnall - Lawful development certificate for the proposed loft conversion to side facing neighbour.

Applications outside the parish boundary since the last meeting

2026/2068 - Jack In The Box Nursery, Jack In The Box Nursery Hempnall Road Morningthorpe - Retrospective planning application for the installation of external lighting.

Mr Hook proposed, Mr Bates seconded, and it was unanimously agreed that the application be refused for the same reasons relating to lighting as made for their neighbour's applications and our original response to the original application 2014/1495.

DH/IN

East Pye Solar

Lobbying the Prime minister & Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero

Mr Hook & the Clerk had written to the Prime Minister, Mr Burnham and the new Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, Miatta Fahnbulleh's MP to enlist their support to stop the EPS development.

Factual errors / inconsistencies in EPS documents, maps and photographs

The Clerk had contacted parish councils and interested parties in the scheme area again to request that they examine documents, maps and photographs and note errors inconsistencies and misrepresentations in their areas. To date no other parishes have indicated they are taking action.

Responses have been received from Woodton and Heddenham and the Clerk has responded to assist them.

Registration to attend and talk at preliminary and issue specific hearings

Mr Hook and the Clerk will register after meeting on Friday and indicate we wish to speak on item 4 of the agenda of the preliminary meeting and on the issue of landscape and visual in the issue specific hearing. It was noted that there will only be a 3-minute slot in which to speak.

DH/IN

General update

Mr Hook gave an overview of the work being undertaken on the Landscape report.

Before 01/09/26 Mr Hook & the Clerk will submit a list of site visit suggestions for the inspectors.

DH/IN

Mr Hook reported that Hempnall parish council now has official right to use the CPRE tranquillity map.

BEPS update

Mr Bates reported on fund raising activities and the cost of various expert reports. He also gave a general update of activity preparing for the next stages of the NSIP.

Matters arising from previous Parish Council meetings – for discussion.

Road Safety

Mr Hook and the Clerk met with County Councillor Catchpole for a tour of the village re road safety issues this was followed up with an email and map highlighting the priorities for road safety throughout the village. The Clerk to monitor a response.

IN

Chairman's initials -----

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Dates for next year's meetings

The Clerk had circulated proposed dates for councillors to consider prior to the meeting. Mr Delf proposed Mr Bates seconded and it was unanimously agreed the following dates be set for next year's meetings, generally being the 3rd Tuesday of the month. The Clerk to make the relevant Mill Centre bookings.

IN

19/01/2027	7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting - Full
16/02/2027 P	7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting - Planning
16/03/2027	7.00pm	Parish Meeting
16/03/2027	8.00pm	Parish Council Meeting - Full
20/04/2027 P	7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting - Planning
18/05/2027	7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting - Full - Annual Meeting
15/06/2027 P	7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting - Planning
20/07/2027	7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting - Full
17/08/2027 P	7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting - Planning
14/09/2027	7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting - Full
19/10/2027 P	7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting - Planning
16/11/2027	7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting - Full
21/12/2027 P	7.00pm	Parish Council Meeting - Planning

Flood Management – contact with Mornighthorpe & Fritton PC

Mr Bates will continue to pursue this. It was noted that the councillors were new and spending time on EPS issues.

PB

Play area shelter

Mr Delf will consider for a future meeting.

RD

Correspondence

Correspondence from Parishioners

Closure of Hempnall Football Club

The Clerk had circulated, prior to the meeting, letters from Mr Shurmer on the subject and expressions of interest for use of the pitches from Stoke United FC, Tasburgh FC and Mulbarton FC.

It was noted that agreement had already been made with Tasburgh to use the small pitch for 2026/7 and they were now interested in using the large pitch as well.

Mr Delf proposed, Mr Workman seconded, and it was agreed, with 1 abstention, that Messrs Delf and Workman meet with Tasburgh FC to discuss arrangements for 2026/27 season having regard to the extra costs incurred by the parish council if the field is used for football re grass cutting, field maintenance, use of the container etc. A figure to seek from Tasburgh FC was agreed (not in minutes for commercial reasons) to cover the extra costs and a rent. Messrs Delf & Workman to inform the Clerk asap of the result of negotiations.

RD/PW

The Clerk respond to Stoke United FC and Mulbarton FC following the above discussions.

IN

The Clerk to also write a thank you letter to Mr Shurmer for his services to the club over many years.

Chairman's initials -----

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Retired Speedwatch co-ordinator

Mr Hook proposed, Mrs Cann seconded, and it was agreed unanimously that the Clerk write a thank you letter to the retired co-ordinator.

IN

CCTV of public places

An email had been received complaining about a CCTV camera being inappropriately used by a parishioner to film the public at large whilst using the Tea Room area of the village.

A councillor reported that he had spoken to the owner of the Tea Room who was satisfied that the matter had since been resolved and the CCTV was no longer being used inappropriately by the parishioner concerned.

The Clerk to respond to the complainant accordingly.

IN

Items for next newsletter

The Clerk to draft and publish, when appropriate, articles on the following:

- Loose stones on pavements
- Keep hedges cut so not to encroach on pavements
- EPS update
- Speedwatch coordinator

IN

Items for next main meeting

- D Cracknell
- Village Hall AGM
- Gravestone wobble test

IN

Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council meetings will take place as follows:

24 September 2026 at 7:00pm in The Mill - main meeting

20 October 2026 at 7.00pm in The Mill – planning meeting

IN

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 9.05

Signed _____ Date 24/09/2026

Chairman's initials -----