



Parish Office, Sports Pavilion, Hundred Acre Way, Red Lodge, Suffolk, IP28 8FQ 01638 551257
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Minutes of the Meeting of Red Lodge Parish Council.

Date: Tuesday 28 July 2026
Time: 19:00
Venue: St. Christopher's Church, Boundary Road. Red Lodge. IP28 8JQ.

Present: Cllr. Rachel Ahmed
Cllr. Michael Berry (Vice-Chair)
Cllr. Jonathon Burns
Cllr. Sandra Dwan (Chair)
Cllr. Andy Drummond

In Attendance: Clerk/RFO
D. Cllr. Dawn Dicker

Non-Attendee: 0

Absent: 1

Members of Public: 8

	Item	Action
1.	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Noted	
2.	All those present are reminded of The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 and that the meeting may be filmed or recorded by any members of the public. Noted	
3.	Apologies received and accepted by all Members. An apology for absence was received from C.Cllr. Whittle following the meeting due to work commitments. Noted	
4.	Declaration of pecuniary and local non-pecuniary interests (i) To receive declarations of pecuniary, local non-pecuniary interests and personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature including gifts of hospitality exceeding £50. None received. Noted (ii) To receive requests for dispensation None received. Noted	
5.	Members of the public are invited to speak on any item on the agenda for up to 3 minutes. (Public session is maximum 15 minutes)	
5.1	A member of the public expressed the requirement for a skate park facility in Red Lodge, stating that the village has approximately 2,000 children. The resident has a dedicated Facebook page with around 150 followers. The residents' proposal is for an approximately 400 square metre concrete skate park, designed with input from the village. The facility would provide a social hub, improving physical fitness and health and wellbeing of residents. The resident added that a skate park could also contribute to reducing antisocial behaviour, keeping the streets safer and that this has been shown in other areas. The skate park developments in nearby areas, including Newmarket and Mildenhall, have been successful. The resident has contacted skateboard developers and is seeking capital funding from the Council. Three stakeholders have expressed willingness to work on the project. The resident requested the Parish Council to support the proposal, by endorsing the vision, identifying a suitable site for the facility, and considering the use of Section 106 developer contributions towards the project. Noted	

5.2	A member of the public raised concerns regarding the proposed installation of a skate park in Red Lodge; highlighting that the skate park in Newmarket has experienced an increase in antisocial behaviour, with Police involvement and assistance required to address related issues. The resident also commented that skateboarding appears to be less commonly used by children currently and suggested that a pump track may be more appropriate for the community. The resident stated that a pump track has been successfully introduced in Mildenhall providing a wider range of opportunities for young people and residents to participate in outdoor activities. Noted Members agreed to bring forward Agenda Item 11.7 for consideration at this stage of the meeting. Resolved 5.3 A resident raised concerns regarding persistent speeding on Hundred Acre Way. The resident advised that this is a regular occurrence, particularly between the hours of 9:00pm and 11:00pm, with vehicles frequently travelling at excessive speeds. The resident reported incidents involving tyres screeching and drivers appearing to be close to losing control of their vehicles. The resident became understandably emotional during the meeting, explaining that she had recently lost her cat in an accident involving one of the speeding vehicles. The resident requested that consideration be given to whether any monitoring or enforcement activity could be undertaken during the times identified, with the aim of addressing the concerns and improving road safety in the area. The resident also expressed an interest in establishing a Community Speed Watch group, which may encourage safer driving behaviour. The Parish Council informed residents that the Police are keen to set up a speed watch group in the village and require volunteers, the PCSO will be contacted for further details. The Parish Council advised residents to report any relevant incidents or concerns directly to the Police and to Suffolk Highways using their online reporting tool. The Parish Council also agreed to report these concerns to both the Police and Suffolk County Council. Noted 5.4 A resident raised concerns of vehicles speeding around St. Christopher's School on Hundred Acre Way, at drop-off and pick-up times. The resident reported near misses in road traffic accidents and requested speed restrictions and speed humps on both sides of the school. The resident reported overgrown vegetation on Hundred Acre Way, which is reducing visibility for vehicles. The Parish Council advised residents to report any incidents or relevant concerns directly to the Police and the Highways authority, in doing so, an increased number of reports will demonstrate the scale of the issue and support the prioritisation of appropriate action and resources.	Clerk
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	The Parish Council agreed to report these matters to the Police. The Council will also report the overgrown vegetation to Suffolk County Council and raise concerns regarding speeding in the vicinity of the school, including consideration of a 20mph school zone and the introduction of appropriate traffic-calming measures, such as speed bumps. Noted	Clerk
6.	Confirmation of Minutes of the meeting held on 30 June 2026 and the Confidential Report. The minutes for the above meeting and Confidential Report were agreed as accurate records and duly signed by the Chair. Resolved	Clerk
7.	Reports and Invited Speakers: 7.1 County Councillor Whittle circulated a newsletter post meeting. Noted 7.2 District Councillors: D.Cllr. Dicker informed the meeting that free parking for one hour had been introduced in Newmarket. Better Recycling is operational, so far 100 tonnes of food waste has been collected and has created 36 jobs. West Suffolk Council have opposed the RAF Barnham site to house asylum seekers. The proposal will double the size of the current population. There is opposition also as the area is found to be part of a conservation area, it is home to a rare species of a bird. The Local Plan is open for consultation at the moment. Thriving communities funding is open for applications for funding ranging from £2000 to £20,000, depending on the scale of the projects. D. Cllr. Drummond advised the meeting that a Local Plan 2045 working group had been established and that the Government requires local authorities to hold a number of Local Plan meetings. Members were informed that approximately 15,000 new homes are required to be delivered across West Suffolk. The District Councillor raised concerns regarding further housing development in Red Lodge and encouraged the Parish Council to submit a response to the Local Plan consultation, including recommendations for Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) contributions and consideration of a new settlement to accommodate future housing growth, rather than further housing development in Red Lodge. The West Suffolk Local Plan 2045 had previously been considered and noted by Members at the meeting held in June 2026. Members agreed that a response should be submitted to the consultation, highlighting the following key considerations: The introduction of appropriate Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and contributions to support the maintenance and future-proofing of existing community assets. No further housing development without the necessary supporting infrastructure being	Clerk

	provided. Improved provision for young people, including consideration of a skate park or pump track. Provision of a community hub facility. Consideration of a new settlement to accommodate additional housing requirements. Progression of secondary school provision. Improved access to emergency and medical services. Consideration of employment opportunities within future development plans. Improvements to waste recycling facilities at Tuddenham. Enhanced public transport links. Provision of additional green spaces. Improvements to existing road surfaces. Upgrades to footpaths and cycle routes to improve connectivity between Red Lodge, neighbouring villages, and Kennett railway station. Ensuring that newly developed areas are not reliant on private management companies for maintenance. Resolved	
7.3	The Police Newsletter was circulated to all Members. A report from the new Sergeant had been circulated to all Members which highlighted the increased Police patrols in Red Lodge which had subsequently reduced the level of antisocial behaviour in the village, The Police will continue the increased patrols throughout the summer. Noted	
7.4	The Events Working Party are Making plans for an event at Halloween and Christmas. A request was made for volunteers to run events. Noted	
7.5	The Play Areas Working Party met with suppliers to consider the refurbishment of the Pavilion play area. The working party is looking at schematics and obtaining quotations from the suppliers. Noted	
8.	Statutory Business Members considered the application for co-option to the Parish Council to fill one of the three casual council vacancies. Members all agreed to co-opt Hannah Sammons on to the Parish Council. The applicant requested to join as of September 2026. Resolved	Clerk
9.	Financial and Clerk Reports	
9.1	Members approved all Receipts and Payments in June 2026 for the following: Parish Bank Account; Deposit Account; Petty Cash Pavilion; Petty Cash Council; Credit Card; Lloyds Savings A/C; Cambridge Building Society; Natwest Saver 95 Days. Resolved	

9.2	Members noted the Bank Balances on 17/07/26, for the following accounts:													
	<table><tr><td>Account</td><td>£</td></tr><tr><td>Lloyds Bank - Business Account</td><td>480,312.68</td></tr><tr><td>Lloyds Bank - Commercial Instant Account</td><td>110,495.33</td></tr><tr><td>Lloyds Bank - Fixed Term Deposit</td><td>15,104.89</td></tr><tr><td>The Cambridge Building Society - Council Saver</td><td>10,000.00</td></tr><tr><td>Natwest - Liquidity Manager 95 Day Notice</td><td>100,610.42</td></tr></table>	Account	£	Lloyds Bank - Business Account	480,312.68	Lloyds Bank - Commercial Instant Account	110,495.33	Lloyds Bank - Fixed Term Deposit	15,104.89	The Cambridge Building Society - Council Saver	10,000.00	Natwest - Liquidity Manager 95 Day Notice	100,610.42	
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	Noted													
9.3	Members noted the Ear Marked Reserves at 30/06/26.													
	Noted													
9.4	Members reviewed and approved the budget for the first quarter 2026/27.													
	Resolved													
10.	Discuss and approve purchases and authorise payment of related invoices upon receipt.													
10.1	Members considered and approved a donation requested from Red Lodge Lightwave towards summer activities for the youth. Members agreed a donation of £260.	Clerk												
	Resolved													
10.2	Members approved the quote for The Music licence, PPL PRS Ltd., £955.35 exc. VAT.	Clerk												
	Resolved													
10.3	Members approved the quote for a sliding glass hatch for the Sports Pavilion corridor, George Collin & Sons Ltd., £1640.45 exc. VAT.	Clerk												
	Resolved													
11.	Correspondence Received													
11.1	Members reviewed and approved the Play Area Reports and Annual Play Area Reports for July 2026 from West Suffolk Council.													
	Resolved													
11.2	Members noted the correspondence from the Red Lodge Millennium Centre, regarding Natural England’s vascular plant assemblage assessment on the SSSI site.													
	Noted													
11.3	Members noted the Road Traffic Collision report received from the Police, following an incident on 4 th August 2025, in which a vehicle collided with the height barrier. The driver failed to report the collision, resulting in enforcement action by the Road Traffic Police, including the imposition of a fine and penalty points on the driver's licence.													
	Noted													
11.4	Members noted West Suffolk Council’s launch of an online portal for landlords to report tenancy issues.													
	Noted													

11.5 11.6 11.7	Members noted the free summer holiday activities and food programme in West Suffolk. Noted Members considered West Suffolk's Thriving Communities Fund 2027/28. The Events Working party agreed to discuss potential application for the fund for viable opportunities for the youth. Noted Members discussed the correspondence regarding the request for a skate park in Red Lodge. Members agreed that the Parish Council is supportive of this concept. The Parish Council has previously enquired about a skate park, this was rejected by the District Council, most likely due to environmental factors including noise and the close proximity to residential housing. The Parish Council has not acquired any land which could be considered for a skate park. Existing play areas and allotment land have been agreed as part of the original Master Plan, it would be an extremely lengthy and difficult task to change the use. The Parish Council have requested a skate park as part of the development in the Northern Land and are waiting to hear back from the developer. The Parish Council has sought clarification from the Planning Department at West Suffolk Council, to identify possible sites for a skate park, or a pump track that could be considered under legislation, within the development of Red Lodge. The Chair informed the meeting that West Suffolk and Ipswich are the only two council's that do not implement Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). Other areas in Suffolk and Cambridgeshire receive this levy. The Chair gave an example whereby Kennet Parish Council will receive £2million as a result of the development of 500 homes. In comparison, Red Lodge North has a proposed development of 300 homes, for which the Parish Council will not receive an automatic levy. This is an important issue for villages in West Suffolk, particularly those which have had significant development. The Chair stated that the matter regarding CIL, should be given due consideration by the County Councillor and raised at the appropriate level within the County Council. Noted	EWP
12.	To confirm the date of the next Red Lodge Parish Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday 29 September 2026 at 19:00, St. Christopher's Church, 2 Boundary Road, Red Lodge, IP28 8JQ. The next meeting was confirmed as above. Noted	Clerk
13.	To resolve that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public be excluded from the meeting, on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. None advised Noted	

14.	Close of the meeting. There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20:00 Resolved	
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