



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 30 June 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)

In Attendance: Clerk/RFO

Non-Attendee: Cllr. Patricia Judd

Absent: Cllr. Andy Drummond

Members of Public: 1

	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. Cllr. Judd - Personal reasons. Resolved C.Cllrs. Whittle, Burton and D.Cllr. Dicker – 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) None. Noted	
6.	Confirmation of Minutes of the meeting held on 26 May 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	C.Cllr. Whittle circulated a newsletter. Suffolk County Council has engaged King's Counsel for expert legal advice on the Government's proposed Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) for Suffolk, which would replace the current two-tier structure with three unitary authorities. The new Reform administration has introduced a simplified, neutral policy on flags flown from County Council buildings, ending the previous administration's virtue signalling. Following the death of Henry Nowak, the SCC Cabinet wrote to the Chief Constable of Suffolk Constabulary on 11 June 2026, to seek assurance that the DEI and CRT influenced training is not impairing officers' ability to act decisively to protect the public, and that training remains impartial, evidence-based, and focused on operational effectiveness. No ideological content is creating hesitation or confusion about officers' lawful powers Collaboration with local police to address the ongoing problem of antisocial behaviour, including the use of illegal e-scooters and e-bikes that are often linked to organised crime Financial discipline has enabled the achievement of £21m savings through efficiency and waste reduction, and not cuts in service to residents. The County Councillor enjoyed attending the Red Lodge Summer Event and meeting both Red Lodge Parish Councillors and local residents Noted	
7.2	District Councillors No reports Noted	
7.3	The Police Newsletter was circulated to all Members. Aa additional report had been circulated by the Police: Two 13-year-old boys have been arrested on suspicion of assault following an incident in Red Lodge. Police were called to Hundred Acre Way at 7.20pm on Thursday 4th June, following reports that two teenage boys were involved in a fight and a knife was seen. Both boys were reported to have left the area. A short time later, officers were informed that one boy had been taken to hospital by his family for stab wounds to the hand. He was later arrested by police on suspicion of assault causing Grievous Bodily Harm. The second boy was located in Beck Row and arrested later that evening for the same offence. He was taken first to hospital then transported to Bury St. Edmunds Police Investigation Centre for questioning. Police believe that the parties involved are known to each other and are not seeking anybody else in connection with the assault at this time. A scene was in place as the full circumstances of the incidents were investigated. Officers will be providing reassurance through high-visibility foot patrols in the area and encourage residence to approach officers if they have any concerns or information. Both foot and mobile	

	patrols have been increased in the area. Any witnesses who have not already spoken to police, or anyone with information relating to the incident are asked to contact West CID at Suffolk Police quoting 37/32055/26 via Website www.suffolk.police.uk/tell-us or by Phone on 101. Noted	
7.4	A resident presented an initial proposal for the installation of two multi-use courts (45m x 25m) on the sports field, designed to accommodate both padel and squash. The resident advised that Red Lodge residents currently travel to other locations, including Ely and Haverhill to access these facilities. It was noted that padel is one of the fastest growing sports in the UK, and the proposal aims to meet increasing local demand. The resident explained that court bookings would be managed via an online booking system and that the courts would require minimal maintenance and equipment. It was further advised that the project would be privately funded, with a lease agreement established for the use of the land. Members enquired whether any community engagement or public consultation had been undertaken and sought further information regarding the financial viability of the project Members thanked the resident for the presentation and advised the resident to contact West Suffolk Council to discuss the proposal and obtain advice on pre-application planning. Members raised several concerns, including the potential impact of noise and light pollution, the terms and implications of any lease agreement, and the long-term financial viability of the project. Noted	
7.5	Cllr.Dwan thanked the Events Working Party for organising the summer event Red Lodge Round up. The event was very successful and well attended. Noted	
8.	Financial and Clerk Reports	
8.1	Members approved all Receipts and Payments in May 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	
8.2	Members noted the Bank Balances on 24/06/26, for the following accounts:	

	<table><tr><th>Account</th><th>£</th></tr><tr><td>Lloyds Bank - Business Account</td><td>498,481.10</td></tr><tr><td>Lloyds Bank - Commercial Instant Account</td><td>110,440.87</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>100,397.07</td></tr></table>	Account	£	Lloyds Bank - Business Account	498,481.10	Lloyds Bank - Commercial Instant Account	110,440.87	Lloyds Bank - Fixed Term Deposit	15,104.89	The Cambridge Building Society - Council Saver	10,000.00	Natwest - Liquidity Manager 95 Day Notice	100,397.07	
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8.3	Members noted the Ear Marked Reserves at 31/05/26. Noted													
9.	Discuss and approve purchases and authorise payment of related invoices upon receipt.													
9.1	Members all approved a donation request from Red Lodge Youth FC, for £260. Resolved	Clerk												
9.2	Members all approved the payment of the invoice for Internal Audit Services, SALC, £558 exc. VAT. Resolved	Clerk												
9.3	Members all approved payment of the invoice for 2300x copies A5 Red Lodge Turnpike booklet, Corporate Tiger, £609 inc. VAT. Resolved	Clerk												
9.4	Members noted that requests for funding towards the Summer Event have been submitted to the County and District Councillors. It was further noted that D.Cllr. Dicker has approved a grant of £200 towards the event. Noted													
10.	To Consider Planning Applications													
10.1	DC/26/0803/HH Proposal: Householder planning application - single storey side extension Location: 1 Clematis Close, Red Lodge, Suffolk IP28 8JS Members agreed a No Comment. Resolved	Clerk												
11.	Correspondence Received													
11.1	Members reviewed and approved the Play Area Reports for June 2026 from West Suffolk Council. Resolved													
11.2	Members agreed that the correspondence from a resident regarding the installation of padel courts had been dealt with in agenda item 7.4. Noted													

11.3	Members agreed that the proposed schedule of works from The Lodge would be considered as part of the mediation process with West Suffolk Council, in accordance with the previous agreement. Resolved	Clerk
11.4	Members noted the invitation from the Red Lodge Millennium Centre to an Annual General Meeting on 15/07/2026. Noted	
11.5	Members considered the updates on Sunnica Energy Farm. The scheme is up for sale, final offers need to be placed by late July and the sale finalised by October 2026. The non-material change request to amend and include further land in the Sunnica Scheme at Burwell Substation has been approved by the Secretary of State for Department for Energy Security and Net Zero. Noted	
11.6	Members noted the West Suffolk Local Plan 2045 scoping consultation. Noted	
11.7	Members considered the correspondence regarding the Mickleton Against Inappropriate Development campaign. Members agreed that the response should highlight the lack of facilities and activities available for teenagers within the village, which contributes to increased incidents of antisocial behaviour. Resolved	
12.	To confirm the date of the next Red Lodge Parish Council meeting scheduled for Tuesday 28 July 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. Members all agreed to exclude the public. Resolved	
13.1	Members to discuss Police matters. Refer to Confidential Report 300626. Noted	
13.2	Members to discuss an update on a business matter. Refer to Confidential Report 300626. Noted	
18.	Close of the meeting.	

	There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20:35 Resolved	
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