HOE & WORTHING CIVIL PARISH MEETING

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL, HOE ON THURSDAY 28TH MAY 2026 AT 7.00 P.M.

Present: - County Cllr Tom Dickerson, Dist. Cllr Roger Atterwill, Dist. Cllr Richard Duffield and Mrs Griselda Hubbard, Parish Clerk

Attendees were:- Mrs Celia Daniel, Mr Dick Malt, Mr Trevor Wood, Ms Tracey Green, Mr James Keith and Mr Carl Watling

1. Welcome, Introductions and to receive apologies for absence.
James Keith– Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. He especially welcomed County Cllr Tom Dickerson.

Apologies for absence were received from:- Mrs Keith, Mr Graham Lewis, Mrs Johanna Lewis, Mrs Glenys Watling, Mrs Susan Malt and Mrs Anna Cooper, Mrs Jennifer Tuckwell and Mr John Tuckwell.

2. Election for Chairman and to confirm Parish Clerk/Treasurer and Planning Committee.
Those present agreed for Mr James Keith to continue as Chairman. Mr Keith accepted the position but stated that someone else needs to take on the role of Treasurer to deal with payments. Mr Watling and Mr Dunn are currently signatories. Mr Keith stated that he wished for a Planning Committee to be in operation. There was lengthy discussion regarding the fact that there does not seem to be an operational Planning Committee at the moment. In the past there were quite a few people involved with a Planning Sub Committee but not at the moment. Mr Keith intends to call an Extra Ordinary General Meeting in the near future to discuss the subject of planning applications and to formalise a complaints procedure.

3. To confirm the last parish minutes of the meeting held on Thursday October 23rd 2025.
Mrs Daniel proposed these minutes be adopted as an accurate record of the meeting, seconded by Mr Malt and carried, all were in favour.
Item 10. Footpath over the railway. There has not been much progress made om this and a decision has yet to be made regarding whether or not to put a bridge over it.
Ayers Lane. Compromised Vision.
The occupant was written to and photos sent. The hedge has been cut back to the fence.

Regarding the issue of large lorries are coming from Bilney and Bittering through Hoe, Mr Keith has spoken to the drivers and he has spoken to Breckland Council and Norfolk County Council and he will continue to try to stop the vehicles. Cllr Dickerson offered to help with this matter. He said he could supply Mr Keith with some maps. Mrs Danield reported that she had received complaints from residents that there were problems in Worthing with speeding vehicles on the Worthing to Swanton road,

4. To receive reports from:
District Councillor Roger Atterwill He said he thought the website could do with updating. Mr Keith thought some money should be spent on updating the website. He proposed this action be undertaken, seconded by Mrs Daniel and carried Mrs Hubbard will contact Mr S Jackman for a price to compile a new website.

Parish Chairman and Planning Mr Keith gave a verbal report and spoke about the lack of progress regarding Robertson Barracks in Swanton Morley. A few planning issues have been raised and the DIO had some work to do to resolve highway and access issues. He said he had attended meetings regarding the Robertson Barracks and these were well attended. Dist. Cllr Atterwill is working hard to get the best possible outcome regarding this project and it will possibly close in 2031. Breckland Council is taking a pragmatic approach. Regarding Devolution, the 3 Unitary Councils idea is favoured. A review of the new ward boundaries is taking place. He thinks the new structures will be good.

Regarding the Breckland Council idea of land transfers, there were none in Hoe and Worthing to consider. Dist. Cllr Atterwill had been helping other Parishes obtain some parcels of land. The Local Plan Review was changed early in 2025. And there will be a consultation this summer.

Worthing Barn. Objections were raised and nothing has been heard since. New residents are now in the cottage.

3PN/2022/0036/UC Worthing Barn, Church Rd., prior approval for change of use and conversion of an existing agricultural building into 3 residential dwellings under class Q of Part 3, Schedule 2 of the Town & Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015. This currently is undecided.

The Corner Nurseries has been taken over by a local person and it will be turned into a Farm Shop. Mr Wood spoke about the difficulties involved for people getting to the Corner Nurseries. Improvements need to be made and Cllr Dickerson will look into the situation. Those present discussed having a trod put in, through the Parish Partnership Scheme, similar to the one beside Hoe Rough a few years ago. The Norfolk Wildlife Trust carried out some work on the hedge beside this trod last November.

Treasurers & Internal Audit Reports, including adopting the end of year accounts and the Annual Governance Statement, the Accounting Statements and the Certificate of Exemption.
Mrs Daniel proposed the end of year accounts be adopted, seconded by Mr Watling and carried.
Mr Watling proposed the Annual Governance Statement, the Accounting Statements and the Certificate of Exemption be adopted, seconded by Mr Malt and carried.

Parish Highways. Mr Watling had prepared a report and he read it out to those present. It will be attached to the minutes and go on the website. The main points of the report were:-

The Offshore wind project has increased HGV volume over the past month, which has impacted traffic flow infrequently on the b1146.

In 2021 and 2023 the Police conducted Software Defined Radar monitoring adjacent to the properties at NR19 2QR (B1146). These surveys revealed similar statistical evidence that around 52,000 vehicles pass this location over a 7-day period, of which 33,000 were driving in excess of 40 m.p.h. limit and 17,000 were driving at speeds that the National Police Chief would prosecute. A successful application was made for funding through the Parish Partnership Scheme to purchase 2 permanent solar-powered speed signs, to be match funded by the Vattenfall Community Fund. Unfortunately the application was unapproved and the project cancelled. A further application has been made through the Police to conduct another SFR survey and on the basis of the findings, the Traffic Management Officer will be requested to advise on the way forward on traffic calming measures. Mr Watling suggested that Cllr Dickerson become involved with the speeding problems.

Hoe Common. Thanks were given to the Mid Norfolk Conservation volunteers, they had dug up a lot of gorse, all at no cost. The local volunteers are a great help. There are about 4 people and they are reinforcing the northern boundary. Work started in February 2024 and there now is a good growth of heather. A tractor was borrowed to cut down the gorse and the bracken is rolled every year. A new gate has been put in. Mr Flack is an enthusiastic photographer and he continues to take great photos. Mr Keith thanked Mr Malt for all he did. ~~Mr Wood asked Mr Malt if he thought the Trustees of Hoe Common would be interested in selling the land. Mr Malt said the Trustees would need to be asked if this idea interested them.~~

St. Andrew's Church P.C.C. and Village Hall. Attendance at the Church is static. Three windows have been replaced. The Church is looking for a new Vicar and this is being advertised. Other than that, nothing more to report.

The Village Hall belongs to the Church and there is no Hall Management Committee because it has been defunked. Dist. Cllr Atterwill discussed with those present what checks are necessary when hiring out the Village Hall. Mrs Malt had prepared a report and it will be attached to the minutes and put on the website.

Mrs Daniel proposed, and supported by Councillor Atterwill, that Hoe and Worthing meeting really should become a Council, to facilitate more structured meetings and greater recognition within the wider Council. It was recommended that a meeting takes place to discuss this idea, seconded by Mr Watling and carried.

St. Margaret's Church P.C.C. The Church replaced all the heating and lighting in 2024. The final cost figure was £21,000.00 and half of this was paid for by grants.

5. Planning Applications as notified recently via Breckland District Council.
This subject was covered earlier.

6. To note, next set of Parish meetings, starting with:
Tuesday 20th October 2026 Finance Meeting at 7.00 p.m. at Worthing Church, Worthing

Thursday 20th May 2027 Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00 p.m. at the Village Hall, Ho
Thursday 21st October 2027 Finance Meeting at 7.00 p.m. at Worthing Church, Worthing
Thursday 21st May 2028 Annual Parish Meeting at 7.00 p.m. at the Village Hall, Ho

7. **Agenda items for the next meeting to be held on 22nd October 2026 at 7.00 p.m. at Worthing Church, Worthing.**

Finance – half yearly review.
Budget Setting.
Review any requests received from Charities for financial support.
Update on new and/or outstanding Planning Applications.
To discuss the forming of a Sub Committee to deal with necessary maintenance of the Village Hall.
To discuss the Village Hall account and possibly create a Village Hall Management Committee to deal with the maintenance of the Village Hall and deal with any problems.
To discuss whether or not the Parish should become a Parish Council. A Governance Review is required.

Mr Keith mentioned that if any fly tipping rubbish is fund, then the person should contact Breckand Council and give them the details. There being no more business to discuss, The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.10 pm

Signed 20/10/26

Date: 20th October 2026