

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on Monday 11th MAY 2026 at the British Legion, Long Lane – commencing 7.00 pm.

COUNCILLOR'S PRESENT: - Messrs Rayner (Chair), Cole, Fenn, Lambert and Storey, Mesdames Edwards, Grown, McGeeney, Peacock, Peckham and Wilson. Also present 5 members of the public and Norfolk County Councillor Sue Prigg

APOLOGIES: Apologies received from Ms V Quamina (Community Relations Advisor, RAF Lakenheath)

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

MINUTES: Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on Monday 13th May 2025 were approved. Mrs Wilson proposed, Mrs Edwards seconded, 7 in favour, Mrs Grown and Mr Storey abstained having not been present.

MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

CHARITY ACCOUNTS – Clerk gave report of Rawlins Charity: In 2025, 27 donations of £5 were giving an expenditure of £135.00. Balances @ 31.3.26 were £2282.04 COIF Deposit and £22.63 Barclays, a total of £2304.67. Mr Fenn proposed accepting the accounts, Mr Cole seconded, all agreed.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS – Members of the public were invited to speak.

1. Sue Prigg - Mr Storey welcomed Cllr Sue Prigg, the newly elected County Councillor for Feltwell Division, and thanked her for attending. He advised Cllr Prigg of the ongoing Highway matters he had been dealing and asked the Clerk to furnish her with the details. Cllr Prigg thanked Mr Storey and gave a brief outline of her background and her intentions to do her best for the Feltwell division.

2. Migrants – Following a recent post on social media regarding possible migrants living in Feltwell and residents' concerns that they were asking for food and hanging around the playing field, Mrs Peckham said she understood there were cultural differences but asked Cllr Prigg who the Parish Council should contact if there was ever an issue. Cllr Prigg said she would investigate and furnish the Clerk with the details. Mrs Wilson said the Parish Council should be informed if migrants were being homed in the village so that it is better prepared if any issues arise.

3. Feltwell United FC – Neil Edwards, representing Feltwell United FC, reported that the team were now only one promotion away from senior football having been promoted again this season, and thanked the Parish Council for their continued support. He said the competitors often comment that the Changing Room facilities are the best in the league but that the pitch is the worst in the county. He understood it was situated on a public playing field and hosted other village events but said if the club wanted to attract better players then the pitch would have to be vastly improved and he asked for the Parish Council's support in achieving this. Mr Storey said the pitch should be completely re-laid and Mr Edwards agreed but said the area would have to be completely closed off over the summer whilst this work is

ANY OTHER BUSINESS (CONT)

undertaken which would affect other events. Mr Fenn was fully supportive of this project and said the Football Club gave the village youth a focus as well as supporting the village Social Club. He said conversations could be had with one of the country's largest turf suppliers who were situated in the village but that turf would need an awful lot of watering in dry conditions and Mr Edwards assured him that the team would take care of this. Mr Edwards said grants were available and a pitch analysis was being undertaken by the FA so that these could be applied for. Mr Lambert felt the Council should support the club and suggested setting up a working party consisting of members from both parties. He asked Mr Edwards to forward the pitch analysis report to the Parish Council once received. Mrs Peckham said the pitch may need to be relocated elsewhere on the field as the work shouldn't disrupt other events. Mr Edwards thanked the Parish Council for this. He will send the Clerk the pitch analysis report and advise which Football Club members will join the working party.

4. Church Clock – Christine Parker, Churchwarden of St Mary's Church, said Barrie Reeves had handed over his clock-winding duties to David Cordner. She thanked the Parish Council for paying Mr Reeves a regular fee to undertake this service and said she assumed the Parish Council would now pay Mr Cordner for this. She said as a new clock winder had come forward, the process of automating the clock was no longer imperative however the maintenance and servicing of the clock mechanism was still hugely necessary and long overdue. She had received a quote of £375 + VAT from Haward Horological for this work and asked if the Parish Council could assist with funding this. Mr Lambert felt the Parish Council should fund this work and all agreed. To be ratified at the June Parish Council meeting. Mrs Peckham said the invoice should be made out to the Parish Council so that the VAT element could be reclaimed. Mrs Parker thanked the Parish Council for this and then said she had received a revised quote from Haward Horological of £5100 + VAT for repainting and regilding the clock face. The Chair confirmed the Parish Council were holding donated funds of £1905.80 collected at the funeral of Mr Malcolm Cock, a longstanding village resident, which his family had asked to be put towards revamping the clock face. Mrs Peckham asked Mrs Parker if the Church had any other means of funding this work but she replied that there were no immediately available funds. Mrs Peckham said the Council had CIL funding of £1940.16 which could be put towards this work, leaving a balance of approx. £1500. Mr Storey said an application could be made to Norfolk County Council's Community Project Fund which gave each member £5000 to support community projects and Borough Councillors had a similar community fund of £1000 each which the Church could tap into. Mrs Parker would consider these two funding sources and revert to the Parish Council.

5. Falcon Road Entrance to Playing Field – A member of the public said the reconfiguration of the gateway onto the field was perfect and much appreciated and although the surfacing was not great, it was much better than before.

Meeting declared closed at 7.48 pm.
