

Nettlestead Parish Meeting

7.30 pm Tuesday 4th November 2025 at Nettlestead Church

Present: Nick Cooper (Chair), Fran Cooper (FC), Jeanna McCarthy (JM), Neil McCarthy (NM), John Pratt (JP), Anne Pratt (AP), Sarah Fournier (SF), Pam Shephard (PS), Alison Taylor (AT), Mercury Hare (MH)

Clerk: Janet Gobey

District Cllr. Adrienne Marriott.

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.30 pm with a welcome to all attendees.

1. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Sue Southall, Ken Southall, Dan Fournier and Emma Evans.

2. Election of Chair.

The Clerk asked for nominations for the office of Chair of the Meeting. NM proposed Nick Cooper. This was seconded by AP and approved unanimously by the Meeting.

3. Approval of the Draft Minutes of the Meeting of 27th May 2025.

NM proposed that the Meeting approve the Draft Minutes as a true and correct record of the meeting. JM seconded this and it was agreed unanimously by the Meeting. The Chair signed the Minutes.

4. Matters Arising from the Meeting of 27th May 2025

The Clerk had received a response from County Councillor Kay Oakes on progress on the speed survey on Hall Lane. Unfortunately, Suffolk CC Highways had refused to fund one as they consider that the lack of reported accidents does not justify it.

5. Reports

a. To receive the County Councillor's Report (if present)

Councillor Oakes was not present.

b. To receive the District Councillor's Report (if present)

Cllr. Marriott presented her report. Energy upgrades to existing buildings are being made easier. This includes listed buildings. Recycling small electrical appliances is being made easier as there will be a new drop off point in Needham Market.

Cllr Marriott was asked about Port One and said that is due to be decided by autumn 2026. The Chair noted that the Meeting had not been invited to join the multi parish group organised by BMSDC Planning to discuss the application and queried why no invitation had been issued. Cllr. Marriott undertook to raise this with Planning. JM also queried why the developer had already cleared an area which was habitat for nightingales and turtle doves.

6. Finance

a. To receive the Meeting's Financial Report and to approve any payments to be made, including any contribution towards the cost of improvements to the path in St. Mary's churchyard.

The Meeting noted the Financial Report. SF signed the Financial Report and the paper copy of the bank statement to confirm that the balance stated on the Financial Report matched that on the bank statement.

The Chairman explained that the work on the path in the churchyard was complete and a copy of the invoice had been received. £5000.00 had been allocated to the path upgrade in the 2025/2026 budget. NM proposed that the allocated money now be paid to the PCC. This was seconded by JP and agreed unanimously by the Meeting.

b. To note the March 2025 to October 2025 Community Infrastructure Levy Receipts and Payments Report.

The Meeting noted this.

c. To consider any S137 donation

It was agreed to take item 7 before considering this.

7. Future Financial Status

a. To consider and vote on the Chairman's paper on definancing the Meeting.

The Chair explained the background to this. The Meeting discussed various options, including what would happen if the Meeting wished to raise money in the future.

JP proposed that the paper be accepted. This was seconded by NM and agreed unanimously by the Meeting.

b. To consider and vote on the provisional definancing plan.

The Clerk talked the Meeting through this. JP proposed that the plan be accepted. This was seconded by NM and approved unanimously by the Meeting. ACTION: Clerk and Chair to begin the process of reducing the bank balance to achieve a nil balance by the beginning of March 2026. It was agreed that another meeting would be called in February 2026 to review progress and authorise the closure of the the Meeting's bank account.

8. Governance

a. To approve the Meeting Financial Regulations.

NM proposed that the Financial Regulations be approved. This was seconded by FC and agreed unanimously by the Meeting.

b. To approve the Meeting Risk Assessment.

NM proposed that the Risk Assessment be approved. This was seconded by FC and agreed unanimously by the Meeting.

c. To approve the Meeting Privacy Policy.

NM proposed that the Privacy Policy be approved. This was seconded by FC and agreed unanimously by the Meeting.

d. To review the arrangements for cheque signatories and officers of the Meeting.

The Meeting unanimously approved that these should stay the same.

9. To consider the Meeting registering as an Interested Party for the Norwich to Tilbury power line public enquiry.

The Chair explained the background to this and gave a brief overview of the process. Becoming an IP (Interested Party) entitles an organisation or individual the opportunity to make written representations or be given a three-minute slot to speak during the public examination phase. The Chair urged those present to register as an IP to ensure their views were heard. The advice from SALC is that representations make it clear what would improve things for the parish and how it would be achievable. The Chair proposed that he register the Meeting as an IP. He also volunteered to do a leaflet drop about to all houses in the parish asking for their views and he would then put them into a response' along with comments made by those attending the meeting. JM proposed that this plan be approved. This was seconded by JP and agreed unanimously by the Meeting.

ACTION: Chair.

10. To note and consider any response to the BMSDC Community Governance Review.
The Meeting agreed that it did not wish to make any response.

11. AOB.

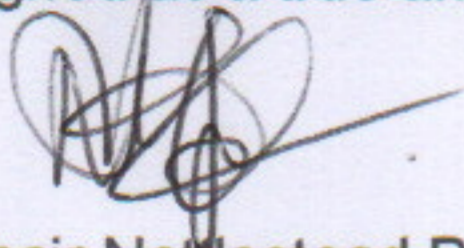
Cllr. Marriott stressed that she wanted to know the views of as many residents as possible on the latest Port One planning application and asked that any comments are sent to her.

The Chair thanked PM for the use of the church.

NM thanked the Chair and the Clerk for all their efforts on behalf of the Meeting.

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.49pm with thanks to all for attending and contributing.

Signed as a true and correct record of the Meeting.



Chair Nettlestead Parish Meeting

Name: N, J, P, COOPER

Date: 18/2/2026