

Shimpling Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting of the Council

Monday 13th July 2026, 7:00pm at Shimpling Village Hall

Present:

Councillors: Gerry Shrimpton, Jen O'Reilly-Turner (Chair), David Dunkley, Laurence Rooke

District Councillors: Stephen Plumb

County Councillor: John Nunn

Clerk: Natasha Byford

1. **Declaration of Acceptance of Office:** Cllr Dunkley and Cllr Rooke signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- 1.2 **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Brunwin, Cllr Millhench and Cllr Holt sent their apologies, these were noted.

2. Declarations of Members Interest(s):

- a) **To receive disclosure of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interest(s) including gifts of hospitality in excess of £25:** None received.
- b) **To consider requests for dispensation for the agenda item(s) under discussion:** None received.

3. Public Participation session

One member of the public (MOP) attended.

4. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting:

- a) The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 11th May 2026 were approved. These were signed by Chair O'Reilly-Turner

Action: Clerk to publish these on the website and Social Media.

The Clerk noted that these are discussed in the agenda at different points so didn't require a separate discussion.

5. Chair's report:

Chair O'Reilly-Turner gave the following report:

Good evening everyone.

As this is my first Chair's report since taking office in May, I wanted to take the opportunity to provide a brief update on some of the matters that have arisen over the past couple of months.

Overall, it has been a relatively quiet period for the Parish Council, which is perhaps no bad thing after a particularly busy start to the year. Behind the scenes, work has continued on a number of ongoing projects, including the Neighbourhood Plan, the ongoing saga of the proposed electric vehicle charging point, accessibility improvements at the Village Hall and the routine governance and financial responsibilities of the Council. We look forward to receiving further updates on these projects during this evening's meeting.

I would like to begin by recording the Council's sincere thanks to David Campan, who recently carried out remedial repairs to the playground fence. The playground is one of our most valued community assets, used regularly by local families, and David's willingness to give his own time and practical skills has helped ensure that it remains safe, well maintained and welcoming for everyone.

Acts of quiet community service such as this often go unnoticed, yet they make an enormous difference to the appearance and upkeep of our village while saving the Parish Council valuable resources. On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to express our sincere appreciation to David for his hard work and generosity. We are incredibly fortunate to have residents who are prepared to volunteer their time, expertise and effort for the benefit of the wider community, and his contribution is a wonderful example of the community spirit that makes Shimpling such a special place to live.

We also continue to await further clarity regarding the future of local government in Suffolk. Members will be aware that Reform UK is seeking permission to bring a judicial review in relation to the Government's proposals for local government reorganisation. Should permission be granted, this may lead to further delays before the future structure of local government is confirmed. Whatever the outcome, the Parish Council will continue to monitor developments closely, as any changes will have implications for parish councils across Suffolk.

One area that the Council has also been giving careful consideration to is our ongoing responsibility to ensure that we meet the highest standards of governance, data protection and information security.

As a public authority, we hold information on behalf of our residents and have a duty to ensure that it is managed securely, responsibly and in compliance with all relevant legislation. Following recommendations arising from our annual governance review and internal audit, we have been reviewing our IT systems, document storage and communication platforms to ensure they remain fit for purpose.

As part of that work, we are exploring whether it remains appropriate to continue using cloud-based services that may store or process Parish Council data outside the United Kingdom.

Whilst such services can be entirely lawful where appropriate safeguards are in place, we are considering whether UK-based alternatives would provide greater assurance in terms of data governance, privacy, security and long-term resilience. Although much of this work takes place behind the scenes, protecting residents' information is a fundamental responsibility of the Council and one that we take extremely seriously.

Many residents will also have experienced the introduction of the new recycling arrangements across Suffolk, including the separate weekly food waste collections. Whilst these changes represent an important step towards improving recycling rates, the initial rollout has inevitably presented some challenges. Some households experienced delays in receiving the correct bins and caddies, while others have encountered occasional collection issues as the new system has become established. During the recent spell of exceptionally hot weather, timely food waste collections have been particularly important, and we appreciate that any missed collections have understandably caused frustration. We hope these initial teething problems will continue to reduce as the new arrangements become fully embedded.

On the subject of recycling, I would encourage everyone to continue making use of the clothing, paper and bottle recycling banks at The Bush.

I would also like to recognise the excellent work of Greening Shimpling. Through a wide range of practical environmental projects and community initiatives, the group continues to bring together residents of all ages who share a commitment to protecting, enhancing and nurturing our local environment. Their enthusiasm and commitment make a valuable contribution to village life, and I know the Parish Council looks forward to working even more closely with Greening Shimpling over the coming months as we identify opportunities to support projects that benefit both our community and our natural surroundings.

Finally, I would like to mention the recent periods of exceptionally hot weather. Whilst many of us enjoy the sunshine, prolonged heat can present real challenges, particularly for older residents, those with underlying health conditions and anyone living alone. I would encourage everyone to continue checking in on neighbours, friends and relatives during periods of extreme weather. A simple phone call, a knock on the door or offering practical assistance can make a real difference.

One of Shimpling's greatest strengths has always been its community spirit. Our village WhatsApp community group has demonstrated on several occasions just how valuable it can be, enabling residents to respond quickly when someone has required urgent medical assistance or other kinds of practical support. It is a wonderful example of neighbours looking after one another, and I would like to thank everyone who contributes to making it such a positive, caring and supportive community resource.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow councillors, our Clerk Natasha, our volunteers, community groups and all those residents who quietly give their time throughout the year to help make Shimpling such a wonderful place to live. Although much of this work often goes unseen, it is these collective efforts that keep our village thriving.

As your new Chair, I am very much looking forward to working collaboratively with fellow councillors, local organisations and residents as we continue to protect what makes Shimpling special whilst embracing opportunities to improve our village for future generations.

Thank you.

6. District Councillors report:

Cllr Plumb gave the following report:

Have your say: Residents invited to help shape future of Babergh and Mid Suffolk

Residents, businesses, community groups and stakeholders are being invited to help shape the future of Babergh and Mid Suffolk as the councils launch the first stage of consultation on their new Joint Local Plan. If you have a place to display any promotional material about the consultation, a poster is attached to this email.

Sudbury bus station set for improvements after council secures £250k funding

Improvements will be made to Sudbury's bus station after Babergh District Council secured £250k to enhance the travel experience for both passengers and operators.

New weekly wellbeing walk launches in Sudbury Sudbury's new guided wellbeing walk brings a much needed, friendly walking option to a town that previously had no wellbeing walks.

Families in Babergh urged to claim Healthy Start support Families across Babergh are being encouraged to check if they are eligible for the Healthy Start Scheme – with a recent increase in payment levels putting even more money into the hands of those who need it most.

New campaign launched to showcase Suffolk vineyards A new Suffolk Wine Trail has been launched to help showcase Suffolk's growing collection of local vineyards.

Residents urged not to miss out on heating oil help Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Councils have joined forces with local Citizens Advice services to reach residents who may be missing out on financial help with heating oil – having already helped households unlock £100k in unclaimed benefits over the last year.

New Babergh Chair pledges support for charity close to his heart The new Chair of Babergh District Council will be supporting a cause 'close to his heart'.

No further questions, Cllr Plumb left the meeting at 7:17pm

7. County Councillors report:

Cllr Nunn gave the following report:

New events lined up for much-loved Brecks Outdoor Festival

A festival of outdoor activities returns for a third year to celebrate the Brecks, taking place from 8 to 23 August 2026, with regular favourites and some new events.

60 events, many of which will be free, will take place over the fortnight recognising the collaboration of 27 partner organisations in the Brecks Landscape Partnership.

The Brecks is an invaluable part of the UK's landscape, covering nearly 400 square miles:

- Over 40% of the landscape is covered by conservation areas
- Nearly 13,000 species have been recorded in the area
- 28% of the UK's rarest species are found there
- It contains Thetford Forest and Kings Forest, making the largest lowland forest in the UK
- It is home to eight registered parks and gardens, 157 scheduled monuments and over 1,000 listed buildings

I'm delighted that one festival can champion local food producers at the Elveden Estate, as well as highlighting the great conservation initiatives in the area. Councillor Morgan Brobyn, Suffolk County Council's Cabinet Member for food, Waste and Rural Affairs

Now a staple feature of the local calendar, a number of popular events will return, including:

- **Elveden Estate tour and meal** - a behind-the-scenes tour and estate-grown meal
- **River Discovery Day** - family river dipping activities, themed games and crafts on Thetford Riverside and free guided paddleboarding along the Little Ouse
- **The Nine Stiles Walk** - a guided walk of the ancient 'Beating the Bounds' route, around the town of Brandon
- **Saints, Sites, and Sights** - a long-distance walk following the Little Ouse trail from Brandon to Thetford
- **Groove & Meditation** - a wellbeing guided walk including elements of music and dance
- **Archaeology for Kids** - a day-long workshop at West Stow Country Park
- **Eclipse Effect Adventure** - a special night walk to coincide with the summer solar eclipse
- **Help Create a Video Game** – a drop-in art activity, encouraging children to develop nature-inspired artwork for a new Brecks video game

Other events will include guided walks, creative activities, outdoor yoga, family activities and trails, outdoor swimming and more.

Councillor Morgan Brobyn, Suffolk County Council's Cabinet Member for Food, Waste and Rural Affairs, said:

"The Brecks is a fascinating and unique landscape, and the outdoor festival truly helps show it off in all its glory.

"I'm delighted that one festival can champion local food producers at the Elveden Estate, as well as highlighting the great conservation initiatives in the area.

"Whether you want to get active with the walks or cycling, or get creative with music or crafts, there really is something for everyone to enjoy."

Credit: Joanne Sclater

The Brecks Landscape Partnership is a legacy of two previous Partnership Schemes funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund and decades of successful local collaboration. Using the money raised by the National Lottery players, the project has been creating positive and lasting change for people and communities in and around the Brecks.

Starting in November 2025, The National Lottery Heritage Fund awarded a Resilience Grant of £248,073 to build on everything that's been achieved so far and create a permanent, self-sustaining Partnership - a long-term united voice for the landscape.

A small partnership delivery team hosted by Suffolk County Council has facilitated successful management of the project, bringing together more than 60 local, regional and national groups, as well as many volunteers - all with a central vision and plan.

The festival runs from 8 to 23 August 2026, the full programme of events can be found at www.brecks.org

Blast off for an out-of-this-world adventure to the moon

The Moon: Meet Our Nearest Neighbour, a touring exhibition from Bespoke Scientific, touches down at The Hold Ipswich from 26 June to 19 September.

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The chance to touch a real moon rock, marvel at a giant inflatable solar system, and explore Suffolk's space stories awaits adventurers to Suffolk Archives' free, family friendly summer exhibition.

The Moon: Meet Our Nearest Neighbour, a touring exhibition from Bespoke Scientific, touches down at The Hold Ipswich from 26 June to 19 September.

The exhibition includes a giant, inflatable, solar system installation by Glow Inflatables suspended from the ceiling of The Hold in Ipswich, the home of Suffolk Archives. Credit: Suffolk Archives

Discover the science and mythology of the moon. Re-live historic moments in lunar discovery, including how the space race unfolded and the lead up to the 1969 moon landing. Explore how the moon influences our natural environment from tides and seas to nighttime animals. Learn about Alice Grace Cook, a pioneering female astronomer from Stowmarket. Search for the truth behind the mystery of the Rendlesham UFO. Look to the sky with local astronomical groups to understand how you can safely observe its wonders closer to home.

There is loads happening alongside the exhibition.

Blast off with the pop-up Wonder Dome Planetarium in August. Fully immersive shows that'll take you on a thrilling trip through the cosmos and its many wonders - from the birth of planets to the death of stars.

Book on to Suffolk Archives' space-themed craft sessions, including relaxed options; and look out for free craft pop-ups in Suffolk Libraries. The Hold also has star-studded films for little ones with WALL-E and E.T. and a fun trail.

The exhibition will include two visits from the pop-up Wonder Dome Planetarium, a fully immersive cosmic adventure for all ages. Credit: Wonder Dome Planetarium

Enjoy a step-free Stars of Science walk highlighting Ipswich's contributions to science and exploration. There are also talks about Suffolk archaeologist Basil Brown's work in astronomy and an evening with Space East about technological developments happening here in Suffolk.

Suffolk invests £3.6 million in new fire engines to support community safety.

New fleet of modern appliances will help Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service maintain fast, reliable emergency response and keep communities safe across the county.

Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) has invested £3.6 million in a new fleet of fire engines to support the continued safety of communities across the county.

The 11 new standard B Type frontline appliances, which complement the existing SFRS fleet and are designed to respond to a wide range of emergencies, have been procured as part of an ongoing fleet renewal programme, which helps ensure vehicles remain reliable and up to date.

The new vehicles are currently in production and undergoing specialist fitting and testing before being delivered later this year. They are expected to enter service at fire stations across Suffolk between November and December this year.

Chief Fire Officer Jon Lacey said: "The new appliances are a vital investment. Designed around our crews' needs, they provide the tools and technology required for a range of incidents and will ensure we are able to continue to respond quickly and effectively when our communities need us."

Councillor Tristan Gale, Suffolk County Council's Cabinet Member for Planning,

Devolution and the Fire Service, commented: "We are proud to support Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service and recognise that ongoing investment plays a vital role in maintaining a safe, efficient and dependable emergency response across the county."

New 30-second approach to help patients reduce air pollution exposure

Suffolk County Council is joining forces with health partners across Suffolk and Essex to launch a new campaign that helps healthcare professionals talk to patients about air pollution in as little as 30 seconds.

Suffolk County Council is getting ahead of Clean Air Day by joining forces with health partners across Suffolk and Essex to launch a new campaign that helps healthcare professionals talk to patients about air pollution in as little as 30 seconds.

A joined-up approach to cleaner air

The initiative, funded by Suffolk County Council and Colchester City Council's DEFRA air quality funding, brings together NHS partners and local Primary Care Networks to raise awareness of the health impacts of air pollution and the simple steps people can take to reduce their exposure.

Why air pollution matters for our health

Air pollution is one of the most significant preventable public health threats in the UK, contributing to around 30,000 deaths each year. It is linked to a wide range of conditions, including heart disease, lung disease, cancer, stroke and dementia, as well as affecting children's development and increasing health inequalities.

Everyone is affected by air pollution, but some people are particularly vulnerable, including older adults, pregnant women, children, and those with existing heart or lung conditions.

Research shows people are more likely to trust and act on advice from healthcare professionals, making routine appointments a key opportunity to share practical guidance.

A simple conversation that can make a difference

The campaign introduces a 'Very Brief Advice' approach, based on the proven Ask, Advise, Act model used in smoking cessation. This enables healthcare professionals to start a quick conversation with patients and direct them to simple actions that can help protect their health, such as choosing routes away from busy roads, improving ventilation at home and reducing everyday sources of indoor pollution.

To support this, partners have developed a package of training and resources, including short videos, briefing materials and patient-facing leaflets. These tools make it easy for busy healthcare professionals to include air pollution advice in everyday consultations.

Jenny Casey, Respiratory Nurse Specialist, is amongst the first in Suffolk to make use of the resources as part of her training offer. She said:

"Air pollution is an important and often overlooked public health issue that can significantly affect respiratory and cardiovascular health. I welcome this collaborative Suffolk and Essex programme, which provides healthcare professionals with practical information and resources to help raise awareness of air pollution and support patients in taking simple steps to reduce their exposure."

Cllr Paul Sutton, Deputy Cabinet Member for Communities and Public Health at Suffolk County Council, said:

"Clean, unpolluted air makes a difference to the health and wellbeing of people of all ages. I'm pleased to be working with partners, supporting healthcare professionals to have these crucial conversations with patients to raise awareness of the issue."

Cllr Darius Laws, Portfolio Holder for Culture, Heritage and the Environment at Colchester City Council, said:

"Clean air is essential for our health and wellbeing, and this campaign shows how we can all play a part in reducing our exposure to pollution. By working with trusted healthcare professionals, we are helping residents better understand the risks and the small steps they can take in their daily lives to protect themselves and their families."

"This project is a great example of what can be achieved when local authorities and health partners work together to make a real difference to people's health."

The campaign will officially launch on Clean Air Day, Thursday 18 June, aligning with national efforts to improve awareness of air pollution and its impact on health.

Patients and residents can find more information about the campaign, including practical advice on reducing exposure to air pollution at home and outdoors, at www.healthysuffolk.org.uk/air-quality-advice.

Suffolk County Council and its partners hope the initiative will help more people understand the risks of air pollution and feel empowered to make small changes that can have a positive impact on their health.

Suffolk unites to fight fraud

Suffolk's fight against fraud takes a major step forward with the launch of a new partnership today.

Suffolk Constabulary and Suffolk Trading Standards have joined forces with businesses and community interest groups from across the county to launch Suffolk Against Fraud.

The launch took place today in Framlingham with a welcome address from Police Crime Commissioner, Tim Passmore, as well as presentations from Police and Trading Standards. Being scammed or targeted by fraud can have a devastating impact on vulnerable people in Suffolk. It can also destroy small businesses. This partnership sees statutory organisations, local businesses, charities and community groups working together to support residents and businesses in Suffolk to help protect them from fraud.

As well as bringing together investigative resource, expertise and intelligence to tackle and combat fraud, Suffolk Against Fraud will see joined up campaigns and media messaging and improved quality of victim support.

Fraud poses a significant threat to the people, prosperity, and security of the residents of Suffolk. It is by far the most common crime and now accounts for over 40% of all offences in the County.

Suffolk Against Fraud was launched in Framlingham today (17 June 2026)

Cllr June Mummery, Suffolk County Council's cabinet member for coastal affairs, communities and public health, said:

"These prolific predatory scoundrels take money out of the pockets of hard-working people, businesses, and organisations – callously targeting the most vulnerable, online and in their own homes.

"Bank accounts can be emptied in minutes and life savings lost. The impact however goes beyond financial loss. Victims often feel ashamed, blame themselves, and may hide what has happened. Many experience stress, illness, and negative effects on their work, relationships, and wellbeing, which can also lead to increased reliance on health and social care services.

"The launch of Suffolk Against Fraud is an important step forward, bringing agencies together to share information, protect vulnerable residents, and prevent further harm. By working collaboratively, we can strengthen our response to fraud, crack down on these criminals and better safeguard our communities."

Suffolk's Police and Crime Commissioner Tim Passmore said:

“Fraud is a very serious issue and an increasing threat, locally, nationally and internationally. “This pernicious and wicked crime affects everyone regardless of age and background; and even if you are not a victim of crime yourself, the chances are you’ll know someone that has fallen victim to a fraudster, it is sadly so widespread.

“I was delighted to be involved in the launch of Suffolk Against Fraud which is a fantastic example of partnership working; two organisations working together, harnessing the power of collaboration for the common good. It’s exactly what makes this county great.

“Prevention is key. Our aim is to reduce the likelihood of Suffolk residents and businesses falling victim to fraud, but if you have been defrauded it is most important that you report the incident. I can understand why some people might feel embarrassed but, as a victim of fraud myself, I’d say there is nothing to be ashamed of, it really is so important that all fraud is reported.”

Detective Chief Inspector Craig Powell said:

“I see every day how fraud affects people, families and businesses across Suffolk, and with it now accounting for over 40% of recorded crime, we have to act collectively. Working alongside Trading Standards, I believe Suffolk Against Fraud will bring businesses, organisations and charities together through shared knowledge to prevent harm before it happens and better protect our communities.”

Anyone who believes they may have been targeted is encouraged to report it to Report Fraud at www.reportfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040. If money has already been transferred, they should contact their bank immediately.

Minerals and Waste Plan now under way

Work has begun to shape the future of minerals and waste provision across Suffolk.

The existing Suffolk and Minerals Waste Plan was published in 2020 and is now in the process of being updated.

The plan plays a vital role in supporting economic growth, protecting the environment and ensuring communities continue to benefit from well-planned development.

The first stage of work on a new plan is a ‘call for sites’ survey which is now open and closes on 27 July 2026.

It invites landowners, operators and others to suggest possible sites. This helps the county council understand what land is available and where development could take place, before any decisions are made.

Once adopted, the new plan will set out how Suffolk will provide for a steady and adequate supply of minerals - such as sand and gravel - alongside identifying the infrastructure needed to manage waste.

However, there are a number of stages to go through, including further public consultations and Examination, before the new plan is formally adopted - which is expected to be in late 2029.

Surface dressing season for Suffolk's roads gets underway

Road space equivalent to 106 full-sized football pitches will be treated between now and August

New ways of working will be trialled as Suffolk Highways launches its annual surface dressing programme to help maintain and improve roads across the county.

During the 2026 season, running from this week to August 8, 759,000 square metres of road – equivalent to 106 full-size football pitches - will be treated, delivering safer, longer-lasting surfaces for residents, businesses and visitors.

Surface dressing is a fast, efficient and sustainable way to maintain roads. It seals the surface, restores skid resistance and protects against water damage, helping extend road life and reduce the need for more costly repairs.

This year will also see new innovations introduced:

- Variable Message Signs (VMS) at busier sites, providing advance warning and live updates
- A new product called Lockchip will be trialled on nine sites across Suffolk, helping to seal down the new surface and reduce loose chippings.

Residents can support the works by moving vehicles from affected areas in advance, helping teams complete the programme quickly and efficiently.

Councillor Christopher Hudson, Suffolk County Council Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways, said: "Surface dressing is a speedy process which means that disruption to road users, local businesses and emergency services is minimised, but I would urge people to be patient if they are affected by works.

"This approach is significantly faster and cheaper than full resurfacing, helping to extend the life of our roads and ensuring that limited public funds go further across the county.

"By preventing deterioration early, we reduce the need for more expensive repairs later, protecting both the network and the taxpayer."

Surface dressing is significantly quicker than full resurfacing, reducing disruption for road users.

Before work begins, targeted patch repairs are completed to ensure the surface is fit for treatment.

The road is then fully cleaned before a layer of bitumen is applied, followed by stone chippings which are rolled in to create a durable surface.

The process is completed with further sweeps to remove loose material and ensure safety for road users.

Drivers should take extra care going through sites and keep speeds down to protect both their vehicles and the workforce.

Residents are advised to avoid newly treated surfaces until instructed and to check footwear if walking on it is unavoidable.

Businesses will remain open throughout the works and pedestrian access will be maintained wherever feasible.

Suffolk Highways also reminds residents to stay alert to scams - neither the organisation nor its contractors will offer to carry out private driveway or property works.

Suspicious cold callers can be reported to Citizens Advice on 0808 223 1133.

Information boards will be placed at the ends of affected roads, and more details can be found at www.suffolk.gov.uk/surfacedressing.

For further enquiries, contact Suffolk Highways at customer.services@suffolk.gov.uk or call 0345 606 6171 (Monday–Friday, 8:30am–5:30pm).

Questions raised were potholes – if people want to raise issues then please report it on the Council website and also email John Nunn. It is one of his big issues that he will hope to tackle. The more people that raise the issue on the website, the better. The same applies to flooding issues.

Cllr Nunn left the meeting 7:21pm.

8. **Village Hall:**

a) Village Hall Committee – Chair O'Reilly-Turner read the the following report on behalf of the VHC:

Finance - we continue to plan and hold events that generate a modest income for the running of village hall.

Hall Usage

Private Bookings - we have had one booking for local resident's children's birthday parties since the last report and a resident has started up Table Tennis sessions on a weekly basis which is great.

Alpheton PC (meeting) and Babergh (May Elections) have used the hall and Alpheton have booked for future meetings.

Regular Events – The regular classes of **Pilates and Zumba** restarted after the Easter break and the **WI** continue to use the hall on alternate months for their meetings. Unfortunately, due to the heat some sessions were cancelled so the income is reduced this month.

Film nights attendance was good at the last couple of sessions so hopefully this will continue into the summer as it is anticipated that the licence will increase in cost in the Autumn.

The Rural Coffee Caravan continues to attract a good attendance, with the charity bringing their van, advice and expertise to the village in 2025/6. A representative from Babergh Customer services has been in attendance helping residents with council related issues.

Other activities

The PCC held their spring market which was well attended.

During Easter, hall hire was free to encourage families to use it, and we had 3 groups book sessions - We will do this during all school holidays to encourage use.

The Arts & Crafts session was held on the 21st of March - a Spring Wreath making session.

Greatly enjoyed by those who attended

Maintenance & Improvement Projects

The annual PAT testing of electrical equipment has been completed - no issues identified.

We have uncovered that there is **a woodworm issue** in the hall affecting the trestle tables doors and notice boards. The tables have gone to Shimpling Park Farm where Alice Pawsey has agreed to spray them along with some items she needs to do. The fixtures in the hall will need to be dealt with and it is proposed to get a quote from an external company.

As previously highlighted, external maintenance and redecoration should ideally be done during the summer.

We still await confirmation of the installation of the EV car Charger point which will hopefully generate income for the hall.

The PC discussed the woodworm issue and it was left that Cllr Dunkley would look further into this and report back at the next meeting.

Action: Cllr Dunkley to liaise with the VHC and report back to the PC

- b) The update on re rendering the wall was that the working party was most likely not going to be able to happen. The idea is to consider completing a project which includes adding a fire escape from the mezzanine floor, hopefully this will include the render of that end wall, railing the mezzanine floor so it is safe and the access to it made easier. This work and the work to ensure the disabled access to the hall is improved. The PC decided to get some advice in order to get a full specification for all the work together so quotes could be asked for.

Action: Clerk to organise getting specialists to meet at the VH in order to get advice and a specification together for what would be required for this project

9. Responsible Finance Officer's Finance Report:

- 9a) The Clerk gave a finance report, details of which were circulated to members prior to the meeting. The Chair signed the bank reconciliations.

The Clerk stated which invoices (please see below) needed to be paid.

Leaving balances as follows:

Treasurers Account	£6,629.57
Business Account	£18,348.45
Including CIL of	£4,947.62
Earmarked Reserves of	£7,000.00
General Reserves of	£8,929.18

- 9b) To acknowledge payments made outside the meeting

- **Lark Valley Willow** **£1248.60**
(Public Health Act, 1875, s.164)
- **Neighbourhood Plan Consultant** **£2184.60**
(Town and Country Planning Act 1990, s61)

- **Campan Playground Repairs** **£15.00**
(Public Health Act, 1875, s.164)
- **Lark Valley Willow** **£697.80**
(Public Health Act, 1875, s.164)
- **Printer Ink** **£37.43**
(LGA, 1972, s.111)

9c) The following amounts were approved for payment:

- **Clerk's Net salary after Tax** **£504.18**
 - **HMRC Tax payment** **£126.00**
 - **Employer Income Tax and NI** **£204.22**
 - **Clerk's expenses (Fuel)** **£10.45**
- LGA 1972 s. 111 (ancillary Powers)

The above payment schedule was approved by members.

9d) The Clerk noted that the Council have received money from bank interest £8.04 (May) and £7.29 (June).

10. **Clerks Report:** A full copy of the Clerk's report was circulated to members prior to the meeting. The following matters were considered for resolution:

Summary of Progress: During the period (4th May 26 – 5th July 26), I have worked 4 hours 30 minutes under the given time frame of 5 hours per week, this included organising all the paperwork for the July meeting, agendas, actions from the May meetings, organising payments, as well as general administration.

11. **Neighbourhood Plan:**

The Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted to Babergh with the necessary supporting documents, which will include the Consultation Statement and Basic Conditions Statement. The consultation runs from Monday 13th July to Friday 4th September.

Members wanted to extend their thanks to all of the NP working group, who have worked tirelessly on this for over 2 years, their efforts are much appreciated.

12. **Planning:**

The Clerk gave an update on planning:

Planning Decisions:

None

Planning Applications:

- a) DC/26/02718 - The Hermitage Bury Road Shimpling Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP30 0JL - Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a Proposed Use or Development - Confirmation that planning permission B/06/00924 dated 10/11/2006 and Listed Building Consent B/06/00924 dated 10.11.2006 have been lawfully commenced in accordance with Condition 1 of the respective permissions. – No comment
- b) DC/26/02657 - Cracketts The Street Shimpling Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP29 4HU - Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/25/00787 - 3 (Fenestration), 4 (Eaves, Verges and Abutments), 5 (Roof Materials), 6 (Wall Cladding Materials) and 7 (Rainwater Goods) – No comment
- c) DC/26/02654 - 1 Mill Hill Shimpling IP29 4HH - Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a Proposed Use or Development. Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) - Erection of single storey extension (following demolition of conservatory) Please see the accompanying plan showing existing / proposed. The works are small scale and follow permitted development guidelines – No comment

13. Playground:

Members discussed adding signage to ask people to use the gate, as opposed to jumping the fence, which is leading to the rapid deterioration of the fence. It was discussed and members decided the best plan of action was to order 6x signs to say please use the gate and screw these to the playground fence. In conjunction with this, put a notice in the newsletter and on the Whatsapp group to ask people to assist with this and suggesting that the deterioration of the fence due to these actions is costing the Parish Council, and therefore all the residents, money.

Action: Clerk to order 6x signs and to ask David Campan if he would be able to put them up. Clerk to arrange wording to go out on the Whatsapp group and in the newsletter.

14. EV Charger:

Clerk updated members that Believ have completed surveys and have had the quote for the Point of Connection back from UKPN; the scheme has now been sent to their QS for costing. Simultaneously, the detailed design has been requested so once this has been returned and reviewed internally, they will provide it to the PC for final approval.

15. Village Defib:

Marion spoke as a MOP regarding the defib at The Bush, members discussed this and both parties were happy that the defib is transferred to the PC as an asset and then the PC can cover the insurance. Cllr Milhench is still looking into defibs and hopefully would have an update by the September meeting regarding the renting of new defibrillators, members said perhaps one at the VH and one by the Church and then in 2 years when the one at The Bush is out of date, to then replace that. Marion said she was still happy to maintain the defib at The Bush. Bernard currently pays for the electric for it, so the PC have assumed that he would still be happy to do this. Members did want to express their thanks to Marion for all her hard work in keeping such a valuable asset to the community working and maintained.

Action: Clerk to liaise with Marion to get the defibrillator transferred to the PC and add it to our asset list and get it on the PC insurance.

Action: Cllr Milhench to get quotes for the renting of further defibs.

16. Correspondence Received:

None received

17. Urgent Matters to be brought to the attention of the council:

Chair O'Reilly-Turner noted the idea of bringing back the Village Fete. Members thought this would be a good idea, if we could get enough volunteers to help. Chair O'Reilly-Turner to put some feelers out about the idea to see if we could host on next year.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 8:53pm.