

Shimpling Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting of the Council

Monday 11th May 2026, 8:00pm at Shimpling Village Hall

Present:

Councillors: Liz Brunwin, Gerry Shrimpton, Mark Milhench, Jen O'Reilly-Turner (Chair)

Clerk: Natasha Byford

1. **Apologies for absence:** Cllr Dunkley, Cllr Rooke, Cllr Kemp, Cllr Holt and Cllr Plumb 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**

No members of the public (MOP) attended.

4. **Approval of minutes of the previous meeting:**

- a) The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9th March 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 noted that we had the Chair annual report in the AGM and there was nothing further to add except a massive thank you to Cllr Dunkley for his hard work during his years as Chair and also a thank you to Cllr Kemp for his dedication and devotion to his role over the last 30 years.

6. District Councillors report:

Cllr O'Reilly-Turner read out the following report on behalf of Babergh as the District Cllrs couldn't attend:

Local elections: 7 May

Next Thursday, polls across the county will open from 7am to 10pm for residents to vote in local elections. In Babergh, residents will be able to vote for their next Suffolk County Councillor. Results will be promoted by Suffolk County Council via their website and social media channels. In the meantime, relevant information remains on the Babergh District Council website and we will continue to promote this to residents via our Facebook page.

New recycling collections in Suffolk less than six weeks away

From the end of next week, residents will begin to receive an information pack which includes details on what items can be put in each of their bins in preparation for the new service starting on 1 June. You can find digital versions of the information packs on the Suffolk Recycles website and attached to this email. We are continuing to promote Better Recycling across our social media channels.

Developer faces £146k bill after failing to pay levy for community

A district judge has ordered a business to pay a total of £146k after it built homes without making any contribution towards local facilities.

7. County Councillors report:

We received the annual report already in the earlier meeting for the evening and there was nothing further to add.

8. Village Hall:

a) Village Hall Committee – This was given from the VHC representative at the Annual Meeting, there was nothing further to add.

b) The update on re rendering the wall was that the working party was still being put together and hopefully there will be another update by the July meeting.

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	£11,529.46
Business Account	£18,333.12
Including CIL of	£4,947.62
Earmarked Reserves of	£9,726.78
General Reserves of	£8,929.18

9b) To acknowledge payments made outside the meeting

- **Dropbox Subscription** **£95.88**
(LGA 1972, s.111)
- **Village Hall Rates** **£117.60**
(LGA 1972, s.133)
- **SALC Payroll** **£27.00**
(LGA 1972, s.111)
- **Shimpling Signs** **£238.08**
(LGA 1972, s.111)
- **Playground remedial works** **£1654.80**
(LGA 1976, s.19)
- **ICO payment** **£47.00**
(LGA 1972, s.111)
- **Scribe accounts** **£260.06**
(LGA 1972, s.111)
- **Printer Ink** **£38.87**
(LGA 1972, s.111)
- **SALC Membership** **£221.16**
(LGA 1972, s.111)
- **Playground Work (Nest Swing)** **£807.60**
(LGA 1976, s.19)
- **Fixtures for Shimpling Sign** **£52.00**
(LGA 1972, s.111)
- **New Laptop and setup** **£650.40**
(LGA 1972, s.111)
- **SALC Internal Audit** **£284.40**
(LGA 1972, s.111)
- **Zoom Subscription** **£83.94**
(LGA 1972, s.111)

9c) The following amounts were approved for payment:

- **Clerk's Net salary after Tax** **£610.04**
- **HMRC Tax payment** **£152.40**
- **Clerk's expenses (Fuel)** **£8.55**
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 £7.03 (March) and £7.78 (April). We have received recycling credit of £755, precept of £7,602.50 and CIL of £1,886.96, as well as the £343.40 from Cllr Kemp locality budget for the Shimpling Sign.

- 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 (2nd March 26 – 3rd May 26), I have worked 4 hours 0 minutes over the given time frame of 5 hours per week, this included organising all the paperwork for the 3x May meetings, agendas, actions from the March meeting, organising payments, internal audit, as well as general administration.

11. Neighbourhood Plan:

- a) Members discussed and agree the response to comments, as given in appendix 1
- b) Members discussed and approved the proposed modifications, as given in appendix 2
- c) Members discussed and approved the submission to Babergh of the Plan and necessary supporting documents, which will include the Consultation Statement and Basic Conditions Statement which will be prepared as soon as possible following the PC meeting

12. Planning:

The Clerk gave an update on planning applications:

Planning Decisions:

- a. DC/24/04287 - Rectory Cottage, Old Rectory Lane, Shimpling, Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP29 4HQ - Full Planning Application - Erection of 1No replacement dwelling including enhancement of 5 acre horse paddock (existing dwelling to become Bat Habitat) – Granted
- b. DC/26/00922 - The Hermitage Bury Road Shimpling IP30 0JL - Application for Listed Building Consent. Strip the existing late C20 cementitious render and re-render in lime render. Decorate in a mineral paint, colour to match existing – Granted
- c. DC/26/01035 - Red House Cockfield Road Shimpling Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP29 4HX - Householder Application - Erection of a Two Storey Rear and Single Storey Side Extensions – Granted

- d. DC/26/01161 - The Winery Mount Farm Vineyard Blooms Hall Lane Shimpling Sudbury Suffolk CO10 9BY - Change of use from agriculture to flexible use for cafe/restaurant for part of existing barn. (7 day response) - Permission not required

Planning Applications:

- e. DC/26/01848 - Land At Shimpling On The Chadacre Road - Application to determine if Prior Approval is required for a Proposed: Erection, Extension or Alteration of a building for Agricultural or Forestry Use. Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 as amended Schedule 2, Part 6. - Steel portal framed building with a lean-to for general purpose agricultural use – No comments

13. Playground:

Members agreed the quote for additional works on the nest swing from the playground remedials post the inspection.

14. EV Charger:

Clerk updated members that we are no further forward with the EV chargers.

15. Village Defib:

Cllr Milhench said he was still looking into the defibs and hopefully would have an update by the July meeting.

16. Halifax Trust:

The Parish Council confirmed the appointment of Mark Haselhurst as a new Halifax trustee. The reappointment was confirmed of the current trustees: Richard Weller-Poley, Darren Hickey, Stuart Palmer and Tina Campan.

17. CIL:

Members approved the annual CIL statement for 2025/2026.

18. AGAR and Audit:

- a) Members agreed and signed off the Annual Governance Statement (Section 1 of the AGAR) for the 2025/26 year.
- b) Members agreed and signed off the Accounting Statements (Section 2 of the AGAR) for the 2025/26 year with the variance's explanation.

- c) Members reviewed the 2025-26 Internal Audit Report.
- d) Members reviewed the Audit Action Plan which was produced by the Clerk following the audit. Members agreed that all actions and additional comments were being worked on.
- e) The certificate of exemption was agreed and signed.

Action: Clerk to publish the AGAR, internal Audit and Audit Action Plan on the website

19. Local Tradespeople:

Members discussed whether the PC should feature a page of local tradespeople on the website and it was discussed and decided that we should try and ask people who get recommendations to advertise in the Village magazine. It was also noted that we should advertise the fact that you can advertise in the village magazine on Facebook.

Action: Clerk to post that adverts can go in the Village magazine for a small fee.

20. Rubbish:

Members discussed if there was anything they could do about a householder have a sofa in their front garden. It was thought that land registry should be checked to see if it was on the householders land or council land and proceed from there.

Action: Cllr Milhench to check land registry.

21. Correspondence Received:

None received

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

None

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 9:01pm.