

GOODMANHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on 12th January 2026 at The Fiddle Drill, Manor Farm, Goodmanham

Attendance: Cllrs, Mary Rook, Nigel Hammond, Fran Preston, Andrew Goodwin, Derek Dunston, Tony Warnock-Smith, Zoe Shinkins
 Parish Clerk Jeremy Sherlock; ERYC Cllr Cary
 1 member of the public

78. Apologies, Dispensations and Declarations

Apologies: Cllr Chris Buswell, Anita Greener, Andrew Goodwin; ERYC Cllrs Leo Hammond

79. Public Session

The History Research Group are continuing to review old minutes and have found the following:

- In 1969 the Parish Pit was cleared and a fence erected. The site was recorded as having been awarded to the village in an Enclosure Award of 1777. It had been decided not to register the site as Common Land.
- In 1980 it was recorded that the Council was no longer managing the Parish Doles (charitable funds). This had been passed to the Church.

Cllr Cary reminded that EGL2 have opened a new grant fund. There is a meeting about the project on 27.1.26 in Market Weighton. The Chair advised she will attend if available.

Cllr Cary advised that the Brown Bins are moving to a weekly cycle.

80. Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 10th November 2025

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting of 10th November 2025 be approved

81. Matters Arising – none.

82. Budget and Precept – the Clerk had prepared draft budgets with alternatives for 2026-27. ERYC have asked for the Precept figure by 16th January 2026. The Council's Tax Base has changed from 125.9 to 125.0. This small reduction will not have much impact on the Precept. The carry forward figure is lower than anticipated due to additional expenditure in a number of areas including contributions to grant funded activity, room hire costs from the previous year, and insurance due to having additional assets. For a number of years the Council has held additional reserves following the receipt of a windfall grant during the pandemic. It had been agreed to use this reserve to minimise the need to increase the precept. The reserve has now been fully utilised, and there has been a need to use the revenue reserve due to the additional expenditure above. It is recommended that the revenue reserve is a minimum of 25% of the precept. It is important to hold a reserve for cash flow – some grants and VAT are claimed in arrears. However this reserve could be built up over a number of years rather than in one go.

The Council reviewed the options presented by the Clerk and the budget details. The following was considered:

- a. The income generated by the Events Group should only be used for activities proposed by that Group, and should not be used for core expenditure.
- b. Revenue savings can be achieved by volunteers maintaining the planting boxes (Cllrs Rook and Shinkins have volunteered to do this), and by cancelling the SLCC subscription.
- c. Some of the additional costs referred to above have been caused by the Council doing things, and acquiring additional assets.
- d. It has been possible to limit increases for a number of years due to the windfall grant.
- e. The Council should allow for the potential of other expenditure, such as tree maintenance.

In the light of the above it was agreed to set the Precept at £5,500 which requires an increase of

£7.46 per year for a Band D taxpayer. This would allow the Reserve to be built up, and will maintain a budget to support other activities.

The regular payments schedule for 2026-27 was considered. This schedule covers budgeted payments to be made without the need for additional approval.

Resolved that

1. **The Precept for 2025-6 be £5,500**
2. **A revised Budget be considered at the next meeting based on the drafts presented, but allowing for the identified revenue savings**
3. **The following regular payments be approved:**

Payee	Purpose	Frequency	Most recent payment
J Sherlock	Salary	Monthly	£206.92
HMRC	Tax	Monthly	£45.00
Fiddle Drill	Room Hire	Annually	£420.00
ERNLCA	Subscription	Annually	£316.85
All Hallows PCC	Grass cutting	Annually	£350.00
Zurich Municipal	Insurance	Annually	£418.64
Parish Online	Mapping	Annually	£43.20
Information Commissioner	Registration	Annually (Direct Debit)	£47.00
Stuart Davies	Internal Audit	Annually	£62.80
MGS Beverley Ltd	Weed Killing	Twice a year	£116.15
Norton	Internet Security	Annually	£49.99
ReCoded Solutions	Domain name	Annually	£108.00

83. Parish Pit – Cllr Dunston had prepared some suggestions following the Council site meeting:

1. A wildlife/ habitat survey to find out what the area is supporting and identify ways of increasing / reinforcing populations of the birds & wildlife that already exists,
2. No public access (with the exception of naturalists who may use the area for research reasons with permission). This minimises the risk of accidents / incidents and reduces wildlife disruption, misuse and it turning into a play, dog walking /littering area.
3. Planting of indigenous trees and shrubs to encourage wildlife. Grants are available for this.
4. Installation of both bat & bird boxes in appropriate areas (to be identified during the survey).
5. Ensuring that the outside fence is secure.
6. Minimal upkeep once the site has been cleared of surface rubbish.
7. Consideration should be given by the Parish Council to the need to install and the wording of signs and the insuring the area.

It was agreed that this was a good way to progress this project, with implementation to be discussed further at the next meeting.

84. Auto Speedwatch Camera – at the last 2 meetings the Council have discussed the potential of acquiring an Auto Speedwatch (ASW) camera to supplement the recently acquired Speed Indicator Device. The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) have advised that a grant funds for cameras is now open. If approved this would cover up to 50% cost of acquisition. The PCC advise that

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"AutoSpeedWatch cameras are designed to capture those that are offending. It is an educational tool which results in the production of letters initially followed by potential police action. It guides enforcement to target locations or specific vehicles appropriately, whilst being an effective deterrent by its presence."

If acquired, there would also be a need to agree an arrangement for monitoring the cameras in line with data protection rules. This would include signage which would be an additional cost.

Bubwith PC have installed a camera. Their costs were: £779+VAT for the camera which include 1 year's data. The signs are £58.60+VAT each each (presuming at least two are needed). £112+VAT for a solar booster (Bubwith found that the solar panel on the camera is not always able to power it for the whole day, so they needed a solar booster which the company also produces for the camera).

A PCC grant would require a contribution of £504.10+VAT from the Parish Council with the annual licence cost after year 1 is currently £179 per year.

It was agreed that Auto Speedwatch cameras are a useful tool is helping to manage excessive speed. However the Parish Council do not have the resources to match a 50% grant, so it was agreed to explore other potential grants.

Resolved that the Council support the acquisition of an Auto Speedwatch Camera providing it is grant funded.

85. Boot Scraper, Fleetbeck Lane – it was agreed that this would be a suitable item to include in a Windfarm Grant application for 2026.
86. Windfarm Grant 2025 – Environmental Enhancement – the grant application has been approved in full, and ERYC have been invoiced. This will allow implementation to commence as soon as funds are received. The majority of the enhancements should take place this financial year, but daffodil acquisition will need to wait until they are in stock in the summer.
87. IT Policy - NALC have advised that Parish Councils need to have an IT Policy. It is a requirement of the Practitioners' Guide 2025. A draft Policy, was considered which includes the recently adopted Whatsapp Policy.

RESOLVED that the IT Policy be adopted

88. Website – ERYC have confirmed that significant changes to the website are not possible, and it was agreed that the cost of creating a new one would not be justified.
89. Future Meeting Venues – it has been confirmed that the Fiddle Drill will not be available after July. Paxwold is available at a cost of £15ph, which would mean that the cost would remain the same. It was agreed that this venue was acceptable, and that the Clerk would liaise regarding logistics.

Resolved that Paxwold be used for future meetings

90. Meeting Dates 2026-27

Resolved that meetings be held on the following dates: 13th July 2026; 14th September 2026; 9th November 2026; 11th January 2027; 8th March 2027; 10th May 2027 (Every 2nd Monday of alternate months).

91. Planning

Applications **for consideration** by ERYC (*with actions taken under delegated powers*)

25/03277/TCA - GOODMANHAM CONSERVATION AREA - Remove 1 no. Willow tree due to a heavy lean at base of split stem, has not been maintained/pruned so has become very dense, has outgrown its location with significant overhang over neighbouring property, and early signs of disease at Oak View Church Side

The Parish Council have no observations.

25/03335/PLF - Erection of an additional poultry shed and associated infrastructure at Goodmanham Grange, Cross Gate

The Parish Council have no objection to the application, but feels that there should be a clear timescale for the implementation of the Biodiversity Net Gain plan

25/03420/TCA - GOODMANHAM CONSERVATION AREA - Remove 9 no. Ash trees due to poor condition and potential Ash die back at Church Farm, Churchside

The Parish Council have no objection to this proposal

Applications approved by ERYC

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92. Finance

a. Clerk's Finance Report - the current balance is £6,182.84. This includes invoices for the Speed Sign balance (£664.00) and Windfarm Grant (£2,546.86), though the money has not yet been received. The Speed Sign invoice was submitted in November, and I have chased twice. A copy of the accounts and reconciliation has been circulated. ERYC have refunded £235 for an overcharge for the Speed Sign post installation.

The Events balance is £2,416.43, and there is a grant commitment for £2,546.86, leaving a general balance of £1,219.55.

Bank Card - It was reported at the last meeting that TSB have decided not to allow paying in of cash at Banking Hubs without a Bank Card. Due to the activities of the Events Group 8 cash deposits have been made this year. Without a Bank Card the only option is to pay the money in at Beverley or York which is less convenient and would be likely to result in delays to the deposits. Bank Cards are used to confirm the identity of the person carrying out any financial transaction. The main issue for the Parish Council is that they also allow cash withdrawals to be made. A Bank Card would allow purchases to be made when only Credit or Debit Cards are permitted. To date this has required use of personal Cards with expenditure refunded.

If it is agreed to use a Bank Card I would propose the following:

- a. The Bank Card would be held by, and used only by the Parish Clerk.
- b. The Clerk would advise Councillors in advance by email when the Bank Card is to be used for purchases.
- c. A copy of the PIN number would be kept by the Chair in a sealed envelope.

Resolved that

- 1. The financial situation be noted**
- 2. The Council acquire a Bank Card subject to the controls above**
- 3. A revised version of the Financial Regulations to include use of a Bank Card be considered at the next meeting**

b. Payments

J Sherlock	Salary	£180.92
HMRC	PAYE	£45.00
J Sherlock	Home working expenses	£26.00
MGS	Weed Spraying	£116.15
J Sherlock	Salary	£180.92
HMRC	PAYE	£45.00
J Sherlock	Home working expenses	£26.00

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c. Income

TSB	Interest	£4.19
Cheese & Wine etc	Events fundraising	£164.55
TSB	Interest	£3.65
Firework and Bonfire Event	Events fundraising	£742.00
Firework and Bonfire Event	Events fundraising	£123.00
ERYC	Refund	£235.20

93. Councillors Reports – Cllr Rook suggested widening the footpath under the Railway Bridge to create a chicane. The Clerk will write to Highways.

It was queried whether the ERYC grit bin next to the Church could be swapped with the one at the end of Red Lane. Some of the PC bins are low on grit.

Cllr Cary advised that the skate ramp has been delayed due to objections, but is due to go to Planning Committee tomorrow.

94. Clerks Report (for information) – the Clerk reminder Councillors about Defibrillator Training
 95. Agenda Items for Next Meeting – Goodmanham Pit, Revised Budget, Financial Regulations
 96. Date and time of next meeting –Monday 9th March 2026 at 7:00pm at the Fiddle Drill, Main Street, Goodmanham

..... Signature of Chair