

# Tuddenham St Martin Parish Council

Minutes of Tuddenham St Martin Parish Council meeting, held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026 commencing at 7:30 pm at the village hall, chaired by Mr W Pipe.

Present: Cllr Mr W Pipe (Chairman), Cllr Mr H Brightwell (Vice Chair), Cllr Mrs K Lindsay, Cllr Mr H Beckett, Cllr Mr J Bird, Miss S Charalambous (Clerk & RFO), County Cllr Elaine Bryce, District Cllr Colin Hedgley and 4 members of the public.

**Meeting started at 7:32pm**

**1. Chairman's welcome, apologies and approvals of absence**

Councillor Mrs P Procter and Councillor Mr D Lugo send their apologies for not being able to attend.

**2. To receive declarations of interest**

Cllr B Pipe raised a declaration of interest regarding the following planning applications DC/26/0370/P3Q, DC/26/0366/P3Q, DC/26/0368/P3Q, DC/26/0369/P3Q, DC/26/0367/P3Q. Therefore, he did not participate in the discussion or decision of these applications.

Cllr J Bird has a non-pecuniary interest in the following planning applications: DC/26/0370/P3Q, DC/26/0366/P3Q, DC/26/0368/P3Q, DC/26/0369/P3Q, DC/26/0367/P3Q.

**3. To approve the minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

Approved.

**4. Matters arising from the minutes, which are not covered in the agenda**

None.

**5. Comments from members of the public on matters on the agenda**

A member of the public raised concerns on behalf of the local community regarding the planning applications DC/26/0370/P3Q, DC/26/0366/P3Q, DC/26/0368/P3Q, DC/26/0369/P3Q, DC/26/0367/P3Q.

They requested the Parish Council submit an objection due to the following concerns:

- a) Access - The existing access is not suitable as it is a single-track road used by vehicles and pedestrians, which cannot be modified or widened.
- b) Visually exposed – The appearance of the barns fit into the rural location and surroundings, however there will be no control over the appearance of the new buildings or the growth/vegetation surrounding the building.
- c) Risk to human health – 10 properties will generate 3-5 cubic metres of foul water each day. Anglian Water need to be notified if the properties will include mains drainage. Otherwise, if a septic tank or similar is to be used, the Environmental Agency are to be consulted to ensure this is adequate.

## 6. Reports of County and District Councillors

- **County Cllr Elaine Bryce**

**Devolution** – Outcome of the ‘One Suffolk’ or ‘Three Suffolk’ Government will be announced next year.

**Elections** – Elections have now been announced they will go ahead this year on the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2026.

**Budget** - The budget has been set for 2026/2027 with £4.6 million approved savings. Focusing on roadworks and potholes, ensuring funds are spent wisely.

**Quarry** – They are awaiting clarification for a number of requests. Therefore, the application will not be considered by Suffolk County Council’s Development & Regulation Committee before the County Council elections on 7th May. There is a six-week “moratorium period” before local elections. During this time, major decisions cannot be made by the current administration.

**Libraries** – SCC have taken over the local libraries to prevent the risk of some closing causing potential job losses.

- **District Cllr Colin Hedgley**

Planning changes are still ongoing with an increase in new build homes.

**Planning Enforcement** – A stringent process is in place which requires checking applications thoroughly, therefore resulting in a delay with decisions. There is currently a backlog of applications due to this time-consuming process.

**Recycling** – Cllr Colin Hedgley discussed the new recycling bins that will soon be distributed to residents, and stressed not to use them until notified to do so.

**Funding** – A cycle fund is available up to £1000 for villages to apply for to pay for bicycle storage.

**Boot Street Bridge** – Damage was caused to Boot Street Bridge and has caused it to close until further notice. Diversions are in place and both District and County Councillors are liaising with highways regarding the repairs and reopening.

**New funds**- To be announced later in the year.

## 7. Planning matters

- **Bennett Homes feedback**

The meeting with Bennett Homes was postponed and is to be rearranged. Cllr K Lindsay will report back after the meeting takes place.

- **DC/26/0122/FUL** - Construction of two houses, car ports, vehicular and pedestrian accesses, landscape planting, and ancillary development.

Expiry date Tuesday 10th March 2026

There are no comments from the Parish Council.

- **DC/26/0370/P3Q** - Prior Notification - Change of use and conversion of agricultural building E to create 2 no. C3 residential dwellings.

Expiry date Tuesday 10th March 2026

- **DC/26/0366/P3Q** - Prior Notification - Change of use and conversion of agricultural building A to provide 2 no. C3 residential dwellings

Expiry date Tuesday 10th March 2026

- **DC/26/0368/P3Q** - Prior Notification - The change of use and conversion of agricultural building C to provide 2 no. C3 residential dwellings.

Expiry date Tuesday 10th March 2026

- **DC/26/0369/P3Q** - Prior Notification - Change of use and conversion of agricultural building D to create 2 no. C3 residential dwellings.  
Expiry date Tuesday 10th March 2026
- **DC/26/0367/P3Q** - Prior Notification - Change of use and conversion of agricultural building (B) to provide 2 no. C3 residential dwellings.  
Expiry date Tuesday 10th March 2026  
Applications DC/26/0370/P3Q, DC/26/0366/P3Q, DC/26/0368/P3Q, DC/26/0369/P3Q, DC/26/0367/P3Q were discussed by the Parish Councillors, not including Cllr B Pipe who had a declaration of interest and played no part in the discussions or decision.  
The decision was made to object against the planning applications which was proposed by Cllr H Brightwell and seconded by Cllr H Beckett.  
Reasons for the objection include:
  - Concerns of safe access into the village
  - Class Q application - Is this appropriate as they would like full scrutiny over the plans which requires full planning.
  - Village integration and the visual impact on the surroundings.
  - Human health and correct procedures for the disposal of foul waste.**ACTION – Clerk to submit objection online by 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026 with the pre-approval from Cllr K Lindsay.**

## 8. Financial matters

- **Receipts & Payments since last meeting, approve payments due**  
These payments were approved.

<b>Payment</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Total</b>
CAS One Suffolk Web Hosting	£11.00	£66.00
Advert for Parish Clerk & RFO Ref: 0398	£15.00	£90.00

- **To approve the annual grass cutting quote**  
£957.60 + VAT = £1149.12 Total  
This payment was approved by the Parish Councillors.
- **Replacement 50litre dog bin at the Fynn Lane entrance to Fountain Field at an approximate cost of £300 including VAT, and delivery.**  
The Parish Councillors agreed to fund up to £350 to replace the existing dog bin, which will need to meet local authority requirements to ensure it is emptied regularly.
- **Review of Tuddenham St Martin asset register**  
This will be amended and approved at the next Parish Council meeting.

## 9. Governance

- **To review the Privacy Policy**  
This was approved and will be published on the Parish Council website.
- **To review the Risk Assessment**  
This will be reviewed at the next Parish Council meeting.

- **Approval of new IT Policy**

This was approved and will be published on the Parish Council website.

## **10. Highway matters**

- **SID and ANPR update**

The Parish Council SID is now operating on a new taller post in Main Road.

Thanks to Cllr J Bird and Cllr H Lugo for maintaining this.

The ANPR camera appeared not to be functioning for the full week.

Cllr P Procter has written to the ANPR coordinator to express concern about this and request the Parish Council is provided with the data being recorded.

- **HGV lorries - Tuddenham St Martin & Westerfield PC meeting**

This is to be confirmed and discussed at the next Parish Council meeting.

- **20's Plenty**

The Parish Councillors discussed accepting an invitation to join the Suffolk Parishes Road Safety Group. They agreed it will have a positive impact joining forces with local villages.

## **11. Playground and Village Maintenance**

- **Update on play equipment repairs**

Plans to repair the play equipment is to be arranged as the wood has now been received.

**Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2026 at 7:00pm.

Meeting closed at 9:25pm