

DRAFT MINUTES

Barnham Parish Council

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Chair: Cllr John Bauer Vice Chair: Cllr Martin Belsham

Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of Barnham Parish Council held Monday 9th February 2026, commencing at 6.00pm in Barnham Village Hall, Mill Lane, Barnham IP24 2NG

In attendance: Cllr John Bauer (Chair), Cllr Helen Beck, Cllr Martin Belsham (Vice Chair), Cllr Susan Watson, Cllr Adrian Webb, Cllr Ed Wyer, Suffolk County Cllr Joanna Spicer MBE, Clerk/RFO Pauline Smith Members of the public: None

1. **To receive Apologies for Absence**
Cllr Matthew Hawthorne – absence approved
2. **To receive Declarations of Interest** and to consider requests for
Dispensations relating to items on this agenda- None
3. **Public Forum**
To receive questions and comments from members of the public relating to
items on this agenda - None
4. **Planning Application Consultation received from Suffolk County
Council for consideration and response.**
Councillors had been requested to view the documents online.

Ref: SCC/0205/25FH

Proposal: The construction and operation of an anaerobic digestion (AD) plant and associated infrastructure.

Location: Land North of Barrow Clump Farm, Elveden, Suffolk, IP24 3TD.
Full details of this application can be viewed on-line at:

<http://suffolk.planning-register.co.uk/Planning/Display?applicationNumber=SCC/0205/25FH>

If the parish council submits an objection and the application is taken to Development Control Committee for a decision, Cllr Spicer is willing to attend in support of the Parish Council

Councillors had a detailed discussion including reference to previous issues experienced during a very bad winter when vehicles were using the village of Barnham en-route to and from the Euston Anaerobic Digester.

Concerns were also raised in relation to

- the dangers of HGV's and Agricultural vehicles/tractors driving in opposing directions along the C633 (also for other road users meeting such vehicles particularly to the stage the road bends and larger vehicles find it necessary to manoeuvre into the centre of the road.
- transgressions by HGVs in relation to existing TRO's along C633 and C634.

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In principle the parish council does not object to the planning application for the anaerobic digester but there are serious concerns about the lack of detail within the transport statement, specifically the lack of any reference to the C633/C634.

Will the transport statement be followed up with a transport management plan?

Resolution: Councillors unanimously approved the decision to object to this application. However it will be prepared to remove its objections subject to conditions that

- the C633 and C634 would not be included within the routing for HGV's to and from the Anaerobic Digester at any time, including the construction period
- there will be no exemptions for agricultural vehicles to use these routes

Action: Clerk to respond to Suffolk County Council accordingly.

Note: Formal response to Suffolk County Council is attached together with Cllr Spicer's response.

**5. Finance: 2026/27 Precept application form for signature
To ratify the precept request figure for 2026/27: £11,107 submitted to
West Suffolk Council on 22nd January 2026.**

Following the meeting at which the precept/budget was initially agreed (13 January 2026), concerns were raised regarding the level of increase, prior to the details being submitted to West Suffolk Council.

As a consequence, it was agreed to reduce the budget and precept to £11,107 and this figure was submitted to West Suffolk Council with the agreement that this would be ratified and the precept form signed at this meeting.

Resolution: *The reduced/amended precept request was proposed by Cllr Wyre, Seconded by Cllr Webb and unanimously agreed.*

The precept request form was then signed by the Chair for confirmation/submission to West Suffolk Council.

(Clerk's note: Form submitted 12th February 2026: see attached)

6. Next meeting: Tuesday 10th March 2026 at Barnham Village Hall

Meeting ended at 6.35pm

Minutes signed as an accurate record by

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Cllr John Bauer (Chair)

Date 10th March 2026

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----- Original Message -----

From: Pauline Smith <clerk@barnham-pc.gov.uk>

To:

"planning@suffolk.gov.uk" <planning@suffolk.gov.uk>

Date: 25/02/2026 12:12 GMT

Subject: Barnham Parish Council: SCC/0205/25FH - OBJECTION - AD Plant and associated Infrastructure - Land North of Barrow Clump Farm, Elveden IP24 3TD

Barnham Parish Council - Response to Planning Application Consultation

Ref: SCC/0205/25FH

Proposal: The construction and operation of an anaerobic digestion (AD) plant and associated infrastructure

Location: Land North of Barrow Clump Farm, Elveden, Suffolk IP24 3TD

Barnham Parish Council OBJECTS to this planning application due to a lack of clarity within the Transport Statement, resulting in highways safety and traffic impact concerns re C633 and C634

Within the Planning application: Transport Statement - Part 1 of 3

Section 3: Projected Transport Movements (3.2 Routing) identifies that approximately **43% of transport movements will be routed via the public highway**. Barnham Parish Council notes with concern that the statement **omits any reference to the C633 and C634 (Barnham)**, both of which are wholly unsuitable for regular HGV or agricultural traffic.

The **C633 and C634 are subject to existing Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs)** restricting HGV movements. Despite these restrictions, the Parish Council already observes **regular breaches of the TROs**. The submitted Transport Statement fails to identify these routes or to demonstrate:

- How HGV and agricultural vehicle movements both to and from the application site would be prevented from using these restricted routes.

Parish Council Concerns

Barnham Parish Council is concerned that:

- Any increase in HGV or agricultural vehicle movements (along the C633 and C634) would **materially worsen an already constrained highway situation;**
- Additional transgressions would exacerbate non-compliance with existing TROs; and
- Increased use of the C633 and C634 by large vehicles - including agricultural vehicles - would **significantly increase risk to pedestrians, cyclists, equestrians, and other vulnerable road users**, as well as to general traffic.

Required Mitigation

The Parish Council considers that its concerns could be satisfactorily addressed subject to **Conditions** and a **Traffic Management Plan** that:


- **Explicitly prohibit use of the C633 and C634 for all HGV's and Agricultural Vehicles (including tractors)** whether travelling to or from the site;

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- Clearly defines approved routes for **all HGVs and agricultural vehicles** (No exemptions for agricultural vehicles to apply).
- Applies at all times, including during the **construction, operational, and maintenance phases**.
- Provides a clear and enforceable breach management protocol.

Kind regards
Pauline
Pauline Smith, Clerk
Barnham Parish Council




barnham-pc.gov.uk

From: Joanna Spicer (SCC Councillor)
Sent: 10 February 2026 13:13
To: Planning@suffolk.gov.uk
Subject: RE: Planning Application SCC/0205/25FH - Land North of Barrow Clump Farm, Elveden

Thank you for this letter and attachments.

I write after discussing the application at a meeting of Barnham Parish Council last night.

I have no objection to the principal, the design or the access to the site.

However there is a lack of clarity about access routes in the Transport Statement and as a result there will be an objection I believe from Barnham Parish Council. This relates to 2 roads which are to the east/north east of the site :

The C633 from Barnham to Elveden already has an HGV ban west bound – although the TRO is complicated about access travelling west and that difficulty was apparent at the public enquiry in to a previous quarry application

The C634 from Barnham (A134) through to Euston (A1088) has an HGV ban both ways. The interpretation of “exemption for agricultural vehicles” to the Anaerobic Digester at Euston has been a source of a great deal of challenge and difficulty in the past.

I believe the objection and concerns for protecting both the C633 and C634 could be resolved is any planning approval included an explicit **condition** that these 2 roads should not be used by any tractor or lorry at any time to access the site. There are other reasonable routes from all directions

Please can you give me early notice if this is going to committee

Best wishes
Joanna Spicer
County Councillor