

Barnham Parish Council

Chair: Cllr John Vice Chair: Cllr Martin Belsham

**Draft Minutes of an extra ordinary meeting of
Barnham Parish Council held on
Tuesday 28th July 2026, commencing at 6.00pm.
Venue: Barnham Village Hall, Mill Lane, Barnham IP24 2NG**

Present: Cllr Bauer (Chair), Cllr Belsham (Vice Chair), Cllr Beck, Cllr Webb, Cllr Wyer.
Clerk: Pauline Smith, Cllr Andrew Smith (West Suffolk District Cllr)

1. **To receive apologies for absence** and consider requests for approval for absence

Cllr Matthew Hawthorne: Apologies were accepted and approved.

Cllr Susan Watson: Apologies were accepted and approved.

2. **To receive declarations of disclosable pecuniary interests, other registrable interests and non-registrable interests as detailed in Appendix B of the LGA Model Code of Conduct.**

To consider requests, not already received and determined, for dispensations relating to matters on the agenda: None received

3. **Public Forum: To receive questions and comments from members of the public relating to matters on this agenda:** An email had been received supporting the proposal for internet provision.

Several members of the public present in the hall were early arrivals for the community engagement session at 7pm. They did not involve themselves in this meeting.

- **Internet provision for Barnham Village Hall.**

To receive an update regarding arrangements for implementation of Internet provision, including funding support.

To determine whether the parish council is willing to take responsibility for placing the contracts in its name.

Councillors considered the information received to-date from the Village Hall Treasurer (attached).

Internet provider: Zen Internet

- **Service:** Business Full Fibre Essentials 300
- **Contract Length:** 18 months
- **Price:** £34.00 Ex VAT per month

Resolution: The Parish Council considers that internet/wifi provision will be a beneficial asset to the village hall and its hirers, including the parish council.

Councillors unanimously agreed to taking responsibility for the contract and payment of internet charges for 2 years.

Monthly internet provision charges will be paid via direct debit from the parish council's bank account.

Proposed: Cllr Beck. Seconded: Cllr Belsham. Unanimously agreed.

In advance of the two-year period coming to an end, the parish council will carry out a review with the Village Hall Committee, to determine the future requirements and arrangements re ongoing financial responsibility.

(Note contract with Zen is 18 months. Therefore, an initial review will be required 2 months prior to end of contract to determine whether to continue with Zen or transfer to another supplier.)

Barnham Parish Council expressed appreciation to West Suffolk Council for their willingness to provide funding towards the internet installation costs plus internet provision for a period of two years. Confirmation of the installation costs awaited. The village hall is also looking to implement a new CCTV system. This part of the project is separate to the internet/wifi provision and will be wholly the responsibility of the village hall committee.

Information relating to known costs and estimates previously circulated (attached).

4. **Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 8th September 2026, commencing 7.00pm
Venue: Barnham Village Hall, Mill Lane, Barnham IP31 1BA

Minutes signed as an accurate record by:

Date: 8th September 2026

P Smith, Clerk/RFO
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