

Dullingham Parish Council

www.dullingham.org.uk

Chairman: Rob Algar
Address: 10 Cross Green
Dullingham, Newmarket
CB8 9XH

Tel: 01638 508572

Email: cllr.algar@dullingham-pc.org.uk

Clerk: Karen Peck

Email: dullinghamparishclerk@dullingham.org.uk

Members of the Council are summoned to and Full Parish Council Meeting of Dullingham Parish Council to take place on

Thursday 10th July 2025 at Dullingham Pavilion at 6pm

In attendance: Cllr Algar (RA) Chairman, Parkins (GP), Robertson (MR), Cameron (MC), Park (SP), Simpson (CS) District Councillor Lay (JL) and County Councillor Jonny Edge (JE). One member of the public.

MINUTES

100725/1 CHAIRMANS WELCOME

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

100725/2 TO RECORD APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor Murden – apologies accepted.

District Councillor Sharp – apologies accepted.

100725/3 TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

1. Declaration of any disclosable pecuniary interest in any item of business
2. Declaration of any personal and/or prejudicial interest in any items on the agenda
3. Written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests
4. Grants to any requests for dispensation

None were made.

100725/4 TO SIGN AND APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF:

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of Dullingham Parish Council of 5th June 2025 were **APPROVED** unanimously as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed RA Seconded MC

100725/5 OPEN FORUM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair welcomed Mr John Dalton from Dullingham Parochial Church Council to address council in 100725/6 (1).

100725/6 MATTERS ARISING:

1. Request for support from Dullingham PCC

John Dalton had written to the Parish Council in advance of the meeting requesting support.

I am writing on behalf of St Mary's Parochial Church Council (PCC) to raise two matters which we very much hope you can assist us with. Request for Funds The PCC is responsible for funding all operational costs of the church, such as utilities, maintenance and insurance, and together with the other five parishes in the benefice, the salary of the incumbent rector. We receive no funds from the Church of England to cover or underwrite any of these costs. Furthermore, we have to raise funds to cover repair and refurbishment of the Grade I listed building: the amount we need to raise currently stands at approximately £100k. Again, we cannot request funds from the Church of England to cover or contribute to these costs. We raise funds principally through our services, regular giving by members of the parish, and through fundraising events such as the village fete (see below). Funds raised from these various sources just about cover our operational costs, with small sums set aside for unexpected maintenance bills, and a small reserve we are accumulating as a required contribution to any grants we are fortunate to receive to undertake capital works. Grants are extremely competitive, but are the main route by which we can seek capital funds, and our strategy is to pursue this

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avenue to finance our most urgent repair needs for the interior of the church. Turning to the matter-at-hand, we are seeking funds from the Parish Council to cover: 1. replacement of the path that runs through the churchyard and 2. Refurbishment of the tower clock face. The path is used by many villagers: dog walkers, as a cut-through between Church Lane and Church Close, to connect to the public footpath to the east of the church, to visit loved ones who are buried or remembered in the churchyard, or simply to enjoy the peaceful environment. The path is, however, in a terrible state, potentially dangerous underfoot and urgently in need of replacing. Quotes for this work range from £7,000 to £10,500. On many evenings the chimes from the church clock can be heard throughout the village. Through the generosity of a member of the parish, we have recently part repaired and refurbished the clock's mechanism, but the strike hammer needs repairing and the clock face is horribly weathered, and is in need of restoration. It would be wonderful if the clock can be fully reinstated to its former glory and enjoyed visibly and audibly by villagers for many years to come. The cost of these works is £10,230. We very much hope the parish Council will be minded to contribute to these costs, recognising the value that the external environment of the church brings to village life, and would allow us to focus on raising funds for the many repairs needed to the interior of the church. Organising the Village Fete The annual village fete has been a staple of village life for many years, enjoyed by many, and it is our main fundraising event. Over the past few years, however, it has become increasingly clear that as a small and ageing congregation we cannot continue to organise the fete without external help. Each year we put out a call for volunteers and helpers, and indeed a handful of villagers do sometimes assist on the day, but the current model is unsustainable and for the village fete to continue beyond this year, it needs to be put on a more robust footing. We are therefore seeking partnership with the Parish Council on a profit and risk sharing basis, working together to organise and host the fete, and thus continue this intrinsic aspect of village life. We thank you for your time to consider our requests, and would be happy to provide additional information and discuss further. If it is at all helpful, we can also attend a meeting of the Parish Council or Parish Council representatives.

Having discussed at length in an open forum it was agreed that the Parish Council fully support the PCC in helping to find a solution to keep the beautiful church in Dullingham thriving for years to come and as a result they will:

They would write directly to the diocese to express their concerns on the current guidelines the PCC are managed under and ask for them to assist further. (the draft letter will be forwarded to the PCC for proof reading).

This letter will openly be shared with the community alongside the PCC's public announcement, which again the Parish Council are happy to provide a platform for this to be shared on the Parish website or help share this on the village Facebook page should assistance be needed. *****If the announcement requires printing the Parish Council advised they would find the printing costs to assist and help in delivering*****

The Parish Council hope the communication to be shared will be the catalyst needed and the revival of the Church, its congregation and hopefully some further Church Council members will be found. Dullingham is a wonderful community and the Parish Council know they can come together as they have done so many times before.

The Parish Council would like to revisit the subject in October, which is also budget and Precept season and if you would kindly ask a PCC Representative attend this meeting to update the Parish Council, we can potentially look at Precept a small annual contribution to the Church as a long term contribution.

In addition the Parish Council also **RESOLVED** to donate all Village Green parking fees to the PCC going forward. This is only a small sum of £25 but every little helps.

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Councillor Parkins and the Parish Clerk will also be the PCC representative to help form a direct liaison and point of contact for you which will hopefully mean the PCC's concerns and interests are considered and heard by the Parish Council and the wider community. The Parish Council reiterated their support of the Church Council and will do everything in our power to keep Dullingham Church used and loved as it has been for so many years.

2. Request from The Ellesmere Centre Trustee for Appointment of Representative
A letter had been received from the Ellesmere for a PC Representative; Councillor Simon Park (SP) agreed to sit on the committee. Clerk to notify The Ellesmere Centre and ask they liaise with SP directly.
3. Parish Council Representatives for Village Groups
In light of village groups requesting support, the Parish Council **RESOLVED** a list of Village Representatives:
Pavilion and Recreation Ground/Groups and Bookings – RA
Play Area – MC
Assets and Ellesmere – SP
School and PCC – GP
Planning - MR
Environment and footpaths – JM
Taylor Hall - CS
This will mean a Parish Councillor can act as a liaison between specific community groups, helping to ensure group's needs and concerns are heard and there is a clear line of communication. **Proposed RA Seconded SP**
4. Pavilion Matters
 - a) To note small business rate relief granted
It was noted 100% relief had now been granted.
 - b) Pavilion Windows
Matter deferred to September meeting
 - c) Update on BT Openreach
No further update
 - d) Charity Event being held by Newmarket Cricket Club
The Parish Council confirmed that all relevant documentation has been received.

A further matter relating to the Recreation ground and Newmarket Cricket Club was raised by CS but as this was not on the agenda the Parish Council were unable to discuss the matter. The Clerk reminded all that matters requiring a resolution must be on the agenda to ensure transparency and allow for proper decision making. Items should be presented to the Proper Officer well in advance of their need for discussion. The agenda provides advance notice to the public and Councillors on topics to be discussed and voted upon.
5. Highways – Cllr Robertson
MR raised concerns on historic works.
6. MVAS Unit Repair Update – Cllr Robertson
MR to gain clarification from MVAS Company.

100725/7

PLANNING

(Any plans the PC are aware of after posting of the agenda will be discussed at the next meeting. The application numbers and brief details will be posted via the notice board prior to said meeting.)

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Applications to discuss:

25/00720/FUL Colbert Stud, 40 Dullingham Ley

Removal of existing barn on site, and the conversion of existing barn to two rural worker dwellings associated access parking and landscaping.

Having strived to discuss the above application Dullingham PC felt that full plans had not been uploaded to the portal to allow them to discuss the application and make a determination.

Therefore they would like to ask that full plans are added as soon as possible and they are made aware of when this has happened and also request an extension to 13th August to allow council to revisit the application and comment accordingly. This was sent directly to the planning officer

Updates

25/00161/FUL 32 Brinkley Road, Dullingham

Single Storey rear extension to create garden room – pending consideration

25/00510/FUL Dullingham Sports and community Pavilion

Replacement of cricket practice net facility – pending consideration

25/00451/SON Colbert Stud 40 Dullingham Ley, Dullingham

Solar panels on quad barn roof – Permitted

100725/8

PLAY AREA

- MC had circulated a full report prior to the meeting.
- The council discussed the recent site survey and agreed to make the play area more multigenerational a Mini Bowl Spinner would be a good addition and enhance the area for the Community. It was agreed to **APPROVE** the quotation from OLP for £1200.00 equipment and £680.00 install cost¹ the motion was carried unanimously.

Proposed MC Seconded RA

100725/9

COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Both County and District reports are attached as Appendix.

JE was pleased to advise the resurface of the Kings Head section of road has now been approved and will take place this year.

100725/10

ENVIRONMENT AND FOOTPATHS

Concern raised that dead branches overhanging the path on station road (almost opposite the entrance to the sports field).

Ailsible Stud have done an excellent job of clearing the footpath that runs alongside Watery Lane.

Path at the back of Cross Green has now been cleared.

100725/11

ASSETS

A full report was circulated to all before the meeting by SP.

100725/12

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Bank Reconciliation for Signature up until 30th June 2025 and approval of payments and income to date

Payments:

010.2

HMRC, Wages and Expenses	£1430.89
K & M Lighting – Maintenance	£73.92
Lloyds – service charge	£4.25
McGregor Services – Grass Cutting	£840.00

¹ FR 5.15

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Redshoes Accounting – payroll	£50.40
MWP – Maintenance and pond	£350.00
New Flame – Fire Equipment service	£48.48
Yu Energy – Pavilion Electricity (DD)	£112.78
Lloyds – Service Charge	£4.25

All the payments, income and bank reconciliations were unanimously **APPROVED**.

Proposed RA Seconded SP

100725/13

COUNCILLORS FORUM

Newsletter examples from various other parishes were circulated for information.

100724/14

DIARY DATES 4th September 2025 at 6pm Dullingham Pavilion

Meeting closed at 20.07

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K Peck

Karen Peck
Clerk and RFO
Dullingham Parish Council

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R Algar

Rob Algar
Chair
Dullingham Parish Council