

Dullingham Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting
Thursday 7th May 2026 6.30pm
Dullingham Sports Pavilion on Dullingham Sports Field

MINUTES

Present: Councillor Algar (RA) Chairman, Murden (JM), Park (SP), Guenigault (RG), Leighton Scott (JLS), Parkins (GP), Jonny Edge (JE) Local Councillor. There were 3 member of the public present.

1. To record apologies for absence
Councillor Simpson.

2. To sign and approve minutes of Annual Meeting of 2025 – 1st May 2025
The Annual Parish Meeting minutes from 1st May 2025 were unanimously **APPROVED** and signed by the Chairman of the Parish Council, Mr R Algar.

3. To receive Chairman's Annual Report
Chairman's Report 2025/26:

It's been another busy year on the Parish Council. Two of our Councillors have stepped down. A big thank you to Mark Robertson for serving on the Council for 25 years. His knowledge of all matters, particularly related to planning and his experience built up over those many years will be greatly missed. Also Mick Cameron who stepped down due to external factors. A big thank you for his work over the last few years, mainly focusing on our play area. Mick has been invaluable in keeping up with monthly reporting, yearly inspections and renewing equipment when necessary.

We must also thank our Clerk, Karen Peck, who also decided to move on. Karen has been a tremendous help to us over many years with her knowledge of all things Parish Council and keeping us on the straight and narrow. Best wishes to her in the future.

Meanwhile were are very pleased to welcome our new Clerk, Lynn Cole, and we look forward to working with her in the future.

We also give a warm welcome to two new Councillors from the village, James Leighton-Scott and Rich Guenigault. This brings us back up to full strength again.

Other News:

Sports Field and Pavilion: We've replaced the wooden rear windows of the pavilion, which were in a very poor state, with UPVC windows. This was carried with the help of a generous donation from Dullingham Sports Club, which was very much appreciated. We have had a problem with the drains of the pavilion which we have been investigating for many months. It was eventually tracked down to a telegraph pole obstructing the pipe. It's taken a while, but the pole has been moved and the drain repaired. All is running well at the moment.

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The field and building are now being used on a regular basis which is great to see. Newmarket Cricket Club is obviously using it a lot during their season and more football has been played this year, but it is still available for hire outside of any booked fixtures and training.

NCC has funded a new modern practice net which has replaced the old one and many young people from the surrounding area are getting involved with their junior training programme. They now run a ladies team as well which is also proving very popular.

Traffic signs/speeding matters: We have been successful in our local Highways Improvement Bid for two new MVAS (moveable vehicle activated signs). These are the flashing speed signs you see around the village. Some of the old ones are coming to the end of their life and the new ones are much more modern. These should be up and running shortly.

The Speedwatch Team is still carrying out sessions along the Brinkley Road and this all helps to reduce vehicle speed along this stretch of road. We appreciate their time and effort.

Play Area: The old roller piece of play equipment broke and it was decided to remove it rather than repair it. This was replaced with a toddlers s pinner but the rest of the equipment and fencing is starting to get a bit tired and we will be looking at a bigger project at some stage in the future. It has a few years left yet and we will keep it going as long as possible as it is very popular.

Footpaths and Environment: Jules, our footpaths person, has been working on progressing bringing the footpath definitive map up to date and we would like to eventually have an information board with a map of the surrounding footpaths erected in the village.

Tree work has been carried out around the green and sports field area and is now up to date. Another survey will be carried out in a couple of years.

The pond was covered in duckweed again last summer and many solutions were sought. We now have a small group of volunteers to help with its removal if and when this occurs again.

Finally, many thanks to the verging team who have worked their way through the village tidying up the footpaths. This has received many positive comments from people who live the village and is much appreciated. That's what makes Dullingham still a great place to live.

4. To receive County Councillors Annual Report (JE): (attached).

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5. An opportunity to discuss parish matters informally with members of the Parish Council, District Council and County Council.

It was commented that the rubber pieces in the Children's Play Area stains the shoes and is almost impossible to clean off. This was noted and will be kept in mind when the area is renovated.

Meeting closed at 6.50

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To be signed by the Chairman of Dullingham Parish Council in May 2027

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