

BURNHAM THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Burnham Thorpe Parish Council Meeting held on 14 September 2026 at 6.30 pm at The Nelson Memorial Hall, Burnham Thorpe

Present: Cllrs Will James (Chair), Chris Yardley (Vice-Chair), Mima Garland, Ben Andrews
Clerk: Sarah Raven

Member of the Public: 7

1. Apologies for Absence:

Cllr C Hitchcock and Cllr S Greenall gave their apologies which were accepted.

2. Minutes of 27 July 2026:

The minutes of 27 July 2026 meeting had been circulated before the meeting. It was PROPOSED, SECONDED and AGREED to accept these as a true record of the meeting. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

3. Declarations of Interest from Councillors:

None

4. Public Participation:

- Game Bird Consultation: Public might be interested in giving their views on this consultation: <https://consultations.defra.gov.uk/call-for-evidence-on-gamebird-release-shooting-and-welfare-during-rearing-in-england>

5. Clerks Reports:

Old Railway Line – Still ongoing. Clerk to liaise with other parish councils to update.

Dog bin opposite dog area : waiting response.

6. Reports:

- a) Borough Councillor: Cllr S Sandell gave her apologies. Local Government Review was postponed.
- b) County Councillor: Report attached.

7. Finances:

a) Financial Statement for July and August 2026: Bank reconciliation had been completed and circulated. Budget Comparison discussed. Approved.

b) Payments: These payments were AGREED.

Payments Already Made:

S Raven – Wages August £439.40

HMRC – Tax £3.36

For Approval:

Npower July – Electricity £3.32

Heronwood Landscapes – Grass cutting £320.00

K & M Lighting Maintenance Contract £85.68

S Raven – Microsoft £84.99

These payments were APPROVED.

- c) Outstanding payment to Nurture Landscapes: Clerk reported that Nurture Landscapes will not address the outstanding payment to them for grass cutting over 2024 and 2025. Issues with over invoicing when not attending or attending when not contractor to do so. Various managers contacted but no response. Chairman would write to try and get this issue resolved.
- d) Increase in pay scale award by the National Joint Council backdated to 1 April 2026 SCP 20 from £16.90 to £17.45: This was noted and APPROVED.

8. Village Map

Cllrs M Garland and C Yardley were working on the village map. Still ongoing.

9. Lord Nelson Pub closing and Community Asset relisted:

Update from Holkham was read out “After the unexpected swift closure of the pub last month, Holkham’s property team have been in dialogue with Woodfordes to push for the appointment of a suitably strong operator to take over the pub. Nothing has been agreed yet, but we have grounds to be optimistic that one of the interested parties will be appointed in weeks ahead. Operating a rural village pub is far from straightforward, and the new operators will need the support of the property owner (which we will give them) and the support and enthusiasm of the village to run a sustainably successful business. Please consider how the council can play their part in helping this to happen in Burnham Thorpe.”

It was agreed that the Chair would draft an email to go to Holkham regarding various points

- Economics of the pub and staffing
- Accommodation – This was discussed at the outset regarding having accommodation but has not materialised.
- Staff Accommodation – Would be easier if some Holkham properties could be used for staff accommodation.
- Diversification – to use as a farm shop to sell produce or produce a bakery.

Community Asset – It was AGREED to ask the Borough Council to list this as a community asset again.

10. Parish Partnership Scheme:

Information from the Norfolk County Council Parish Partnership Scheme was circulated. Deadline was beginning of December. Nothing at present was needed.

11. Bridge on Playing Field to be repaired:

Rail was very wobbly and needed to be repaired or replaced. Quotes to be obtained.

12. Planning

- a) Objections being made to planning applications which were false addresses: It was discussed that addresses given for objections are not verified by the Borough Council at present. This happened in another parish council so just as information. Borough Council aware of the situation and any updates will be circulated.

13. Items for next Agenda

Lord Nelson Pub, Bridge, Map, Budget

14. Public Participation:

None

Meeting Closed: 7.10 pm

Dates and times of meetings 2026:

26 October and 7 December at 6.30 pm in the Nelson Memorial Hall, Burnham Thorpe

..... Chair Dated:

**THESE MINUTES ARE UNCONFIRMED UNTIL APPROVED BY FULL COUNCIL
AND SIGNED ABOVE BY CHAIR**