BURNHAM THORPE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Burnham Thorpe Parish Council Meeting held on 26 October 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 Colin Hitchcock and Sarah Greenall Clerk: Sarah Raven
Member of the Public: 4

1. **Apologies for Absence:**
None

2. **Minutes of 14 September 2026:**
The minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2026 had been circulated prior to the meeting. It was **PROPOSED**, **SECONDED** and **AGREED** that they be accepted as a true record of the meeting. The minutes were signed by the Chair.

3. **Declarations of Interest from Councillors:**
None

4. **Public Participation:**
   - **Old Railway Line** – Up to date position of where this was. Clerk explained this was still with legal Services at Norfolk County Council.
   - **Glebe Cottage** – An objection to the planning application was raised. The property owner was able to answer any queries. Cllr W James explained that the Parish Council was only a consultee. Responses to the Parish Council's queries needed to be completed through the planning portal.
   - **Hedges** – The Clerk reported that a parishioner had contacted Highways directly regarding various hedges in the village: Parsonage Corner, the allotment hedge on Creake Road, Lowes Lane near the Hall, and Mill Road near Leith House. Highways would deal with these in due course and decide whether any action was needed, and would write to the landowners. Lowes Lane had already had a tree inspection and remedial works completed one side. Clerk to see if a site meeting can be arranged with Norfolk County Council.

     Pightle hedges also needed to be cut back. There was discussion regarding trees on Lowes Lane being cut back. This would be an agenda item for the next Parish Council meeting.
   - **Pavilion** – It was reported that the back of the pavilion was being used as a toilet.

5. **Clerks Reports:**
Old Railway Line – Still ongoing.
Dog bin opposite dog area : waiting response.

6. **Reports:**
   a) Borough Councillor: None
   b) County Councillor: The report for September had been attached with other information sent through.

7. Finances:

a) The bank reconciliation had been completed and circulated. The budget comparison was discussed. This was approved. A CIL payment of **£1,645.60** had been received in respect of land at Garners Row.

b) **Payments**:

The following payments were agreed and approved:

- S Raven – Wages: **£453.70**
- HMRC – Tax: **£5.50**
- ICO – Subscription: **£47.00**
- Npower: **£7.73**
- Heronwood – Grass cutting: **£320.00**

c) Draft Budget – This was discussed and amended.
d) Roger Gillett Internal Auditor – It was APPROVED to appoint Roger Gillett to complete the audit for 2026/2027.

8. Planning

None.

9. Village Map

It was agreed that Cllr Yardley would order a high-resolution map to be printed showing rights of way. The map was progressing.

10. Lord Nelson Pub closing and Community Asset relisted:

The pub had now been taken over and would open on **1 November**. The Community Assets form had been drafted but needed councillors' input. The Clerk would recirculate it.

11. Parish Partnership Scheme:

This was discussed and no further highways infrastructure was needed..

12. Bridge on Playing Field to be repaired:

The Clerk had not been able to secure any quotes for repairs to the bridge. Cllr Garland explained that a parishioner was sending a quote for consideration.

13. Consultation on Game Birds:

This was discussed regarding the Parish Council placing comments about the reduction in permission and informal access to land because of game birds. It was noted that access at Holkham had reduced by intensification of shooting for sport. It was proposed that comments on the impact of access to the countryside be submitted. It was agreed that Cllrs Yardley and Garland would draft comments and circulate them to councillors for approval. The deadline for the consultation was **1 November**.

14. Correspondence:

a) Glebe Cottage planning – discussed above.
b) Survey for Healthwatch Norfolk – Consultation regarding the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and closing of Wards
c) Reflectors on Bollards on Lowes Lane – Highways to deal with.
d) Local Government Review – Update that it was on pause.
e) CIL Grant applications – Opened for applications between £10,000 and £100,000 opens 1st December.

15. Items for next Agenda

- Hedges
- Quote for repairs to bridge
- Dates for next meetings

16. Public Participation:

- **Consultation on Game Birds** – There was discussion regarding the call for evidence for this consultation. There would be a further consultation on this. This related to the environment and not social impact. There was discussion regarding access for the public to fields, as fields are in Higher Level Stewardship Schemes and the public are not permitted to walk on them. Permissive paths were not allowed under this scheme. There was also discussion regarding closure of Tonnant Wood by Holkham to the public because of shooting.
- **Nelson Pub** – Support was needed for the pub to remain open. Parishioners needed to support this through any events that would be held in future.

Meeting Closed: 7.30 pm

Dates and times of meetings 2026:
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