

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PEAKIRK PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 20th
APRIL 2026 IN THE VILLAGE HALL, STARTING AT 7.30PM

Present: Councillors Henry Clark (Chair), Emma Crowson, Kam Sisodia, Anne Tuley and Tony Weaver

156. Public question time – one member of the public was present, but no questions were raised by them.

157. Apologies were received from Angela Hankins (Clerk) and Cllr Sally Jackson.

158. There were no declarations of interest.

159. The minutes of the meeting of 16th March 2026 were approved and signed as a true record.

160. Correspondence:

160.1 The uncontested parish council elections were noted. Five councillors were elected – Henry Clark, Sally Jackson, Emma Crowson, Anne Tuley and Tony Weaver. Councillor Sisodia was present at the meeting but expressed that he has been finding it difficult to attend the council meetings due to family commitments and he has been deliberating for some time about continuing. He confirmed that as the council are quorate with five members, he will be stepping down as a councillor at present but hopes to return at some point in the future once family commitments have lessened.

160.2 The correspondence received regarding the Maxey Cut banks refurbishment and consultation event on 22 April was discussed but it was felt that this only affected a small part of Peakirk and there were no concerns about it.

160.3 There were no other items of correspondence.

161. Planning matters:

161.1 It was noted that planning permission has been granted under application 26/00114/LBC for the replacement windows and doors at Butterfly Barn, 8A St Pegas Road.

161.2 The planning enforcement under 26/00298/ENFSAT was noted in relation to the installation of a satellite dish on a property within the Conservation Area. PCC will investigate and will contact the owners.

161.3 Councillor Weaver reported on his continuing difficulties with the City Council Planning Portal. He said that he had sent a chase up email, but no update received but he has noticed that on the website, there is now a banner saying that there are issues with the site, and he has noticed that documents are missing etc. He will keep us informed about any updates.

162. Finance:

162.1. Approval given for salary and Home Working Allowed to the clerk for April 2026.

162.2 Payment of £36 for the renewal of annual membership of CPRE approved. Councillors felt it was worthwhile to renew membership in the current climate as they can offer advice on planning issues in particular.

162.3 Payment to PCVS of £36 for Salary Service (Jan-Mar) approved.

162.4 Payment of £18.81 to Mr D Hankins for Litter Pick refreshments approved.

162.5 Payment of £492.73 for insurance renewal with Zurich Municipal approved. It was felt that this quote was comparative to any others.

162.6 Year end accounts accepted and approved.

162.7 Payment of £550 to Mr R Harding for grass-cutting approved.

162.8 There were no other financial matters.

The agenda then went to item 168. There were no items 163 – 167.

168. National Emergency Briefing:

The YouTube briefing had been issued by the clerk to all councillors. Councillor Clark gave some background to this item and it was agreed that the clerk should contact neighbouring parish councils to ask if they wish to join in a combined event for the public with a view to reaching a wider audience as it was felt that if we were to host a showing for Peakirk only, only a small number may attend and the topic and briefing should reach as many people as possible to show the impact of the film. We can host the event, subject to confirming availability with the Village Hall committee.

Clerk to email neighbouring Parish Councils.

169. Maintenance:

169.1 Councillor Crowson reported on the Litter Pick held on 21 March 2026. Despite flyers being put through all doors in the village and 3 different Facebook posts, there was only a small number of attendees this year for the first time. However, about five bags of rubbish were still collected and those attending enjoyed refreshments in the Village Hall afterwards. The Council would like to express thanks to David Hankins for that.

169.2 Village Green maintenance items. Councillor Tuley's daughter saw someone inspecting the play equipment although it appeared to be a cursory inspection only.

169.3 Folly Bridge repainting. Peter Tebbs from PCC is arranging paint and brushes for the repainting so it was agreed that councillors could work on this together once received.

169.4 The quote of £150 from Peace Arboriculture for an interim visual inspection of the Horse Chestnut on the Village Green accepted and approved.

169.5 A report from Councillor Clark on the remedial works on the corner of St Pegas Road heading towards Deeping. Water had collected there again, as it previously had done, caused by tree and plant roots blocking the drain. Anglian Water had previously undertaken some works, but the work done this time by PCC seems to have finally resolved the issue and they have also said that they will inspect the drain on a yearly basis to prevent it from happening again.

169.6 Councillors Crowson, Tuley and Weaver acknowledge that they still have some maintenance work to do and now the weather is improved, they will do this as soon as possible. Councillors Crowson and Tuley to oil the benches next to the bus shelter and Councillor Weaver to repaint the base of the Best Kept Village sign.

Councillors Crowson, Tuley and Weaver to undertake maintenance items.

170. Digital and Compliance issues. Councillor Clark stated that our website is not accessible. He has looked at quotes to create and maintain such a site, but the cost was

high. He stated that we need a simple website with agendas and meeting minutes and will investigate creating a simple, accessible website.

HC to investigate creation of a simple, accessible website.

171. Allotment Report:

171.1 Councillor Clark has had the numbers made for the allotment plots and has attached one to a stake as planned. He is going to take it to the allotment and put it in place and let the allotment holders know for their views.

Councillor Clark to add number and stake to allotment plot.

171.2 Communication received from Mrs Acker who owns the allotment site. She said in her correspondence that she would like to help the village in some way so Councillor Clark is going to draft a letter to her with some ideas about how she may be able to do this, such as acquiring areas of land to create a nature reserve for example. She wants to retain the allotment site at present, but the lease will have to be renewed at some point – five years remain.

Councillor Clark to draft letter to Mrs Acker.

172. Speeding:

Councillor Crowson confirmed there is a Speedwatch session coming up shortly but did not disclose the day or position of the survey.

173. The Annual Meeting on 11 May was discussed. Councillor Crowson gave her apologies as she is on holiday that week. The agenda will include a talk by the Speedwatch co-ordinator, Julie Clark and the Road Safety Officer. Councillor Tuley can give a follow up to the Speedwatch session to be undertaken shortly. The usual stakeholders will give a report – the church, Village Hall committee. Ideas for any projects will be discussed, and Councillor Clark will give an update on the Gladman development. It was not clear whether Avril Lumley - Prior wants to give her usual presentation as there appeared to be contrary information given by her to different councillors.

174. There were no councillors' reports.

175. The date of the Annual Parish meeting was confirmed as 11 May 2026 and the Annual Parish Council meeting as 18 May 2026.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30pm.