



# CLAYDON & WHITTON PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Paula Mays

Phone/Fax: 07887 459989

E-mail: [claydonandwhitton@gmail.com](mailto:claydonandwhitton@gmail.com)

Website: [www.claydonandbarham.onesuffolk.net](http://www.claydonandbarham.onesuffolk.net)

---

## CLAYDON AND WHITTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 8 December 2025, 7pm held at Claydon and Barham Village Hall, Norwich Road,  
Claydon, IP6 0DF

**PRESENT:** Cllrs: C Cutler, S Price, G Cornish, S Heald, P Avis, S Wells  
RFO: D Patel

**CHAIRPERSON:** Cllr C Studd

### 01 – Apologies for absences

None

### 02 – Declaration of interest and local non-pecuniary interests

No declaration of interest.

### 03 – Minutes

5 October 2025 Parish Council minutes – Accepted & approved – signed by Chairman

### 04 - Public Forum

- Two members of the public attended regarding traffic issues on Old Norwich Road. No traffic calming on the Ridley Orchard estate and no give way signage at the junction to the main road. The development has not yet been adopted by SCC Highways and is currently the responsibility of Bellway Homes. SCC Development Control & Highways will review and consider all aspects of the site prior to adoption, it is advised that residents put forward their concerns to the developers, copying in Cllr Chambers.
- Issue with bus gate raised as multiple users are using illegally. Cllr chambers confirmed that Ipswich Borough Council are taking over the enforcement process and will be erecting a camera on the existing post. This will be done as soon as possible and is being pursued by Cllr Chambers. It is hoped that once in place we will start to alleviate the issues and enforce restrictions.

### 05 – Reports

- SCC - <https://www.chrischambers.uk/helpcentre>
  - Cllr Chambers – in attendance
  - Mayoral devolution has been pushed back to 2028. This does not affect the LGR, the consultation closes 11 January 26.
- BMSDC
  - Cllr Penny explained Community Governance Review – this has been requested by parishes and will not be imposed on parishes
  - Allotment land is District Council land, discussion as to whether this land could be drained by MSDC. Cllr Penny would like to help with this, to be explored further at next meeting to

determine state of land and what would be required to make it suitable to continue as an allotment. Significant drainage works will be required.

- **Recreation ground** – see projects section 10
  - Grass maintenance has been improved, with three additional cuts for the play area added to the contract, ensuring monthly maintenance consistent with the main field. The football pitch requires more frequent cutting, and an additional £500 has been allocated by the Parish Council for this purpose.
  - Fencing has been replaced and vegetation being cleared back. Some trees have been removed.
  - Gate to be erected on rec ground at – quotes being sought. It will remain as part footway and part bridleway
  - Cycle track used regularly, could this now become a permanent track with a hardwearing surface. To be discussed further in Spring
  - Fun Day on Monday 5 May 2026 – some additional funding requested. To be discussed at next meeting
  
- **Community centre**
  - Match funding – Parish Council are in agreement to fund up to £50k to the Community Centre for roofing and interior works. Application to be made to SUEZ for the match funding. Agreed by PC – 1 abstained.
  - Quote requested for the removal of trees on the footway – confirmation is awaited from the school, as the Trust is considering major building works within the school. Once confirmed, the PC will continue discussions regarding parking arrangements.
  
- **Village hall**
  - Works have now been completed – curtains replaced and looking amazing, wall repairs & resin flooring. There is some damage to the flooring which the VH committee are reviewing as part of the maintenance programme.
  - Proposal to replace the plastic chairs - this is still being reviewed
  - Port One have put 6 solar panels on roof – request to MSDC to offer potential funding for the additional solar panels and battery storage. PC to discuss at next meeting to decide on next steps for solar panels.
  - PC to write to Port One regarding the lack of battery storage and only 6 panels. This is not offering the VH any facility or revenue and is not what had been expected from Port One.

## **06 – Claydon pre-school**

- No further update – still awaiting a copy of the draft agreement from the Pre School. Cllr Chambers to pursue

## **07 – Planning matters**

- DC/25/04357 – Groveberry Lea – query if septic tank is to be installed and if the Environment Agency has been consulted as this is not indicated in the application
- DC/25/04767 - Unit 14 Hill View Business Park Old Ipswich – no objections to be recorded
- DC/25/05138 - Application for Listed Building – no objections
- Port One – concerns were expressed regarding the scale of the project and insufficient road infrastructure. Buildings are already under construction. There has been no consultation with SCC to date. Cllr Chambers addressing the issue, especially in relation to Port One not meeting their Section 106 requirements. The consultation period has been extended to 23 February 2026. Cllr Chambers will also enquire whether this could be considered a National Strategic Infrastructure Project (NSIP), although it may not meet the necessary criteria, and will update the Council accordingly.

## **08 – Correspondence**

- Land behind Community centre – to be discussed at next meeting
- Unitary Council – email update from BMSDC, Suffolk's five district and borough councils have submitted a business case for the creation of **three unitary councils** to the government. This was endorsed in council meetings across the county.
- A14 National Highways – Communication or consultation of works on the A14 between local PC's, SCC and National Highways is poor and lack of notification is causing issues with diversion routes and timings or works. Cllr Chambers has put forward an offer of cooperation on the to National Highways. This would mean a person could be appointed to link between National Highways and SCC. This is now in discussion between SCC and National Highways, Cllr Chambers will pursue and provide an update in the next 2 months.
- Old Bury Road – member of public email received 20/11/25 regarding the volume of traffic and impact of the bus lane which does not seem to be required. Cllr Chambers reported that he has asked SCC Transport to look at re-routing the bus on this road with a view to removing the bus lane. This will allow a better flow of traffic, alleviating traffic congestion in the area. Junction at BMW garage to be reviewed as part of traffic management as there is serious congestion. Cllr Chambers to respond to member of public's email.
- Back Lane – vegetation to be cleared by NSK
- Hedges require cutting back – quote being sought from NSK
- Donation of £250 to Gipping Trust agreed by PC.
- Christmas Tree Recycling – 8/1/26 – collection point will be Recreation Ground car park.
- Utility overnight working – water company doing works overnight but not agreed by Network Assurance. Discussion regarding works in the highway and timings. District council had not agreed to this work being done overnight. Cllr Penny to find out if this constituted a breach of the notice and what penalties (if any) would be placed on the utility company.

## **09 – Lorry and speed management**

Concerns regarding lorries passing through the village were discussed. A site visit is planned for Councillors to meet with Bretts to address these issues.

## **10 – Recreation ground projects – see section 5**

## **11 – Projects**

- Update of allotment land – see section 5
- SID's – Highways reviewing, Cllr Chambers is working to get the device installed on the PC behalf
- Joint Neighbourhood Plan – PC agreed to continue with this

## **12 – Street cleaning review**

- Rubbish Collections –

## **13 – Finance**

- Accounts – Report provided showed that the PC has £384k in funds of which £89k is CIL. This will be reviewed in the next quarter as a proportion will be allocated for spend in the next financial year.
- Draft budget has been reviewed by PC and final budgetary sign-off will be in the January 26 meeting. It has been agreed there will be no increase in the Precept % to each household.

Meeting suspended – 3x to extend meeting by further 30 minutes – agreed by PC

- External Auditor – minutes reference not recorded correctly, no other issues. Well done to RFO. External Audit signed off.
- CIL update – to be reviewed in January 26.
- RFO role to be taken on by Clerk with effect of 1 January 2026 – agreed by PC
- Clerk to have 16hpw – agreed by PC
- Additional hours for Clerk agreed by PC
- Change of Bank – will be reviewed in next few months.

#### **14 – Items for next meeting**

- Legal paperwork for community centre.
- Medical update from Cllr Chambers re Doctors surgery.
- Church donation
- Barham PC
- Akenham Parish

Meeting closed at 21:20

Next meeting: Tuesday 13 January 2026 at 7.30pm Claydon & Barham Village Hall