

Minutes of the Rendham Parish Council Meeting Held in Rendham Village Hall Monday 9th March 2026 at 7.30pm

Present – Cllr. Willett (Chairman), Cllr. McFawn (Vice Chair), Cllr. Silvester, Cllr. Field, Cllr. Gleeson, Cllr. Stollery, Cllr. Dabrowski, Cllr. Morford.

Also, in attendance:

-SCC Cllr. Stephen Burroughes (in a virtual attendance via video call)

-Rendham Parish Council Clerk/RFO

A Public Forum – no one in attendance

- 1. Apologies for absence and approve reasons for absence:** none
- 2. Declarations of Interest/Register of Interests:** none
- 3. To approve/ sign Minutes of the Rendham PC meeting held on 12th January 2026**

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 12th January 2026 had been circulated to all councillors, and it was resolved that these minutes be agreed as a true and accurate record of the proceedings and be duly signed and dated by the Chairman. All agreed unanimously.

- 4. Correspondence for information** – circulated accordingly and noted.
- 5. District Cllr. and SCC Cllr. reports for information**

District Cllr. Vince Langdon-Morris not present, Framlingham Ward March Newsletter received for discussion. It is available on Rendham Village website rendham.onesuffolk.net

The main headings of the Newsletter are:

- East Suffolk District Council (ESC) 2026-27 Budget
- Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Suffolk
- The Deben Climate Centre (DCC) 4 Rivers Project on the Ore
- Framlingham Flood Resilience, Recovery Working Group
- Greener Fram action for a positive future
- Framlingham Neighbourhood Plan Review
- Framlingham – Housing
- Belway, Woodbridge Road, Framlingham DC/25/3412/FUL
- Legal Frameworks
- Developer & Authority Responsibilities
- Victoria Mill Road DC/25/4170/ARM
- East Suffolk Council Helpful Information – Support with budgeting, debt, bills
- February 2026 Parish Report - East Suffolk Council GLI Group: Councillor Update

County Cllr. Stephen Burroughes attended the meeting virtually via video call, and his report was circulated to Cllrs. His full report available on Rendham Village website rendham.onesuffolk.net. The main headings of his report are:

- Applications Open for New Suffolk Business Board Members

- Public's Chance to Try the ADAstra Trial Driverless Shuttle
- Suffolk County Council's Chief Executive to Step Down
- Norwich to Tilbury Pylon Scheme is 'Un- Coordinated Decimation of Our County'
- County Council Continues to Back Newmarket Sports Hub
- Council Budget Protects Frontline Services Amid Rising Costs and Demand
- New Suffolk Exhibition Shines a Light on Disability
- New SEND School and Centre of Excellence to Be Built in Bury St Edmunds
- Trial Scheme to Remove Vehicles Blocking Road Resurfacing Work to Begin
- Joint Chief Executives Recommended for Appointment
- Council Objects to LionLink Slamming Lack of Coordination and Fears for Communities

Also Stephen Burroughes shared updates from the 31 January 2026 discussions between Suffolk Highways, Sizewell C representatives and other parties regarding possible improvements to the Rendham/Saxmundham junction. Although no significant upgrade is planned at this stage, a future roundabout is being considered as part of the South Saxmundham Garden Neighbourhood development, which according to draft Saxmundham Neighbourhood Plan 2022-2036 is expected to include around 800 homes, a new primary school, employment space, a service station and a new access roundabout from the A12.

Parish Councillors reiterated their concerns to Cllr Burroughes, stressing the need for urgent action to address the dangers at the junction, particularly with increasing traffic and heavy vehicles linked to Sizewell C works. Cllr Burroughes advised that he will try to arrange for a speed and safety team to attend the next Parish Council meeting to discuss the outstanding safety issues, possibly on 11th May 2026.

6. To receive Reports/updates for information:

- a) VHMC – report received, and the Parish Council noted the Chairman's of Rendham VHMC report. No significant matters were reported. Subsidence readings have been completed, and the VHMC now awaits the recommendations for remedial action.
- b) Parochial Church Council – report was received and noted. The Rendham Parochial Church Council advised that the trees close to the church on both sides require attention due to the risk of dead branches falling. Work is expected to begin shortly to address this.
- c) Tree Warden (Cllr. Gleeson) – report was received and noted. The Tree Warden reported on several woodland management practices currently being used regionally, including "veteranisation" and the creation of "ghost trees" to simulate mature habitats and also it was advised that it is not recommend to practise veteranisation in Rendham, but replanting former conifer plantation areas with native broadleaf species is considered a more beneficial approach.
- d) ESPA – Cllr McFawn (03.02.2026 ESPA meeting) – it was noted that Cllr McFawn couldn't attend ESPA meeting but informed that he will join ESPA Annual conference on 18th April 2026.
- e) Community Partnership – Cllr Silvester (upcoming CP meeting 17.04.2026) – it was noted that the meeting was informative, although there was nothing specific to address in relation to Rendham Parish. Some aspects of local transport needs were discussed.
- f) PARK – no report was received. At the meeting, Cllr Field (Park Committee Chairman) reported that maintenance work on the playing field is planned for 28 March 2026. He also noted that several events are planned to take place on the playing field, including the opening of the boules court.
- g) Village Website – it was noted that the information on the village website is up to date and photos from various village events uploaded.

7. Finance/Accounts

- a) Financial Report and Budget assessment on 01.03.2026 - bank's balances according to bank statements were reviewed and noted as expenses are in line with the Budget and therefore, it was agreed that the expenses were within acceptable parameters. Main transactions were explained and bank statements signed by the Chairman.
- b) Amenity Fund Financial report on 01.03.2026 was presented to councillors and main expenses noted and all agreed.
- c) To confirm online transactions (payments) made:

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- Payments to Clerk:

- £118.05 (Feb'26) – net salary £118.05

- £121.05 (Mar'26) – net salary £118.05, printing expenses (Jan-Feb) £3.00 (incl. VAT £0.50)

- PAYE (Feb'26) – £0.60

- PAYE (Mar'26) – £0.60

- Memorabilia for retiring Rendham Newsletter volunteer editor Helen Payne (payment made from BoS account will be reimbursed from the Amenity Fund at the end of the financial year) – £50.00

- The Street Furniture Installation Licence from East Suffolk Council Highways (dog waste bin) – £170.00

- Kindewood Services (wood services carried out on the playing field) – £132.00 (incl. VAT £22.00).

All payments were noted and all agreed unanimously.

d) To note income received (BoS) – cheque deposit of £110.00 from PARK for wood services from Kindewood (less VAT amount). Noted and all agreed unanimously.

e) Online transaction authorisation: Payment to Leiston Press £100.00 (Rendham Newsletter, The Street (Feb/Mar)) – (the payment will be made from the BoS account and reimbursed from the Amenity Fund at the end of the financial year). It was noted that the increased cost is due to the need to reprint the newsletter following an incorrect version being sent out. All agreed to process the payment.

f) To note – HSBC savings account interest rates reducing, action needed due to an inactive savings account. It was agreed to close the savings account and transfer funds to BoS current account. Clerk to proceed with account closure.

8. Planning Matters

Update:

Planning application Ref. No: DC/25/4467/FUL – 2 Bruisyard Road, Rendham, Saxmundham, Suffolk, IP17 2AG

- Side and rear extensions (removal of existing rear extension and single storey porch / wc). Status - PERMITTED

– PC no objections sent. Updated status of application was noted by Cllrs.

9. Update on new dog bin installation

It was noted that Suffolk Highways has approved the installation of a dog-waste bin on the verge of Sandy Lane, just before Rookery Farm Lane, and has issued a Licence to Place Street Furniture in the Highway. The licence cost of £170.00 has been paid from the Parish Council budget. No installation date has yet been provided.

10. To consider Grit Bin/s installation (costs, location, factors for consideration)

Councillors agreed that installing grit bins would be a valuable addition for winter safety, and that discussions will continue at the next meeting. Three potential locations were identified for the placement of grit bins. It was noted that, depending on overall costs, the Parish Council will consider how many of these locations can be taken forward. Further

planning is required to determine which types and sizes would be most appropriate for each location, with costs ranging from £150 to £450 depending on the type.

Proposed by Cllr McFawn, seconded by Cllr Dabrowski, all agreed.

11. To Note – Community Workshop for the 4 Rivers Recovery Project on 12th March 2026

It was noted that the workshop would be informative given past and potential flooding issues related to the River Alde and its impact on the village. It was agreed that Cllr Gleeson will represent Rendham Parish Council and attend the workshop.

12. To Note – updates on Rendham/Saxmundham junction, etc (SCC Cllr S.Burroughes) – this item was discussed after item 5 (see comments there)

13. Matters arising from the Parish Council meeting held on 12th January 2026 that are not listed above:

None

14. Any other business for discussion not listed above - items for the next PC meeting Agenda

- It was noted that residents have recently raised concerns about the condition and long-term maintenance of the River Alde. Councillors therefore agreed that the Parish Council would join the Four Rivers Recovery Project, enabling them to gain knowledge and explore the project’s proposed approaches to “restore degraded ecosystems, support nature recovery and test a range of different flood alleviation measures.” This involvement will help the Council understand emerging recommendations and raise residents’ concerns about the River Alde.

- It was noted that Cllr Morford attended the ESCEP Energy Projects meeting on Thursday 26 February 2026 and shared insight into current and proposed energy projects in East Suffolk.

- After Item 6(f) it was noted that during the village litter pick a significant number of black bags were collected. Also, it was noted that the amount of litter around the lay by on the B1119 was particularly high. As many cars regularly stop there, the Cllrs agreed to contact Suffolk Council waste management department and ask them to consider installing a waste bin at the lay by to help reduce future littering. Clerk to inquire regarding a waste bin at lay-by.

15. To note the dates of upcoming meetings.

The date 11.05.2026 of the Annual Parish meeting and Annual PC meeting was agreed. Dates for the further PC meetings will be listed and noted at the annual PC meeting.

Annual Parish Meeting	11 th May 2026	7.00pm
Annual Parish Council Meeting	11 th May 2026	7.30pm

The meeting closed at 20.58 hrs.