

**Minutes of the Beck Row, Holywell Row & Kenny Hill Annual Parish Meeting held on
Tuesday 12th May 2026 at 7.00pm**

Members of the Electorate

3 members of the electorate were present.

Parish Councillors – Gary Peachey, Sue French, James Bailey, Gary Harrison, Jamie Howard and Steve Murrow in attendance.

Representation from:

St John’s Church – Stay and Play and Holiday Club

St John’s Church with Kenny Hill Church

A reminder to everyone that the meeting was being recorded for accurate writing of the minutes.

| | | |
|------|---|--|
| 0023 | <p>Introduction and confirmation of the minutes of the 2025 Annual Parish Meeting</p> <p>The Chair welcomed those present. The minutes of the 2025 Annual Parish Meeting were confirmed as written.</p> | |
| 0024 | <p>Annual Report of the Parish Council by the Chair of the Parish Council</p> <p>As the current Chairman of Beck Row, Holywell Row and Kenny Hill Parish Council it is my privilege to Chair our Annual Parish Meeting.</p> <p>This meeting is an opportunity for any of our parishioners to come along and ask questions, and for our local clubs and organisations to give reports on the last 12 months.</p> <p>I will start by thanking Jane our Parish Clerk on her hard work and dedication over the last 12 months. Jane is a very valuable asset to our Council and she works tirelessly to keep the Council on track. I would also like to thank Angela McCarter who has worked very hard on a voluntary basis assisting Jane when needed.</p> <p>Stuart our Parish Keeper has settled well into his role and has now become a valuable member of the Council. His hard work has made a very positive impact on the villages and he is now a familiar face around the Parish.</p> <p>Our Love Your Village litter picks are now becoming very successful with many people getting involved from picking up litter, washing signs and cutting verges. I believe that this is a great way to bring back some pride in our community and our next one is planned for June. That said, there are many people who go around our villages collecting litter all year round and we thank them for giving up their time to do this.</p> <p>I would like to thank the editorial team Kay, Sue and Philip who produce the Parish magazine The Beacon. There is a lot of hard work that goes into producing The Beacon. I know they are always keen to</p> | |

collect content so anyone with an interesting story or some history from the Parish please contact the team.

The Parish Hub now has solar panels installed and this has dramatically lowered our running costs and reduced our carbon footprint. The Hub remains very busy with bookings most days.

We have just had our Easter Egg hunt and this really was a well-received and successful event with over 200 eggs given out to the youngsters of our community, A big thank you to all involved in putting together this great event.

Last November I attended the annual wreath laying at Kenny Hill, Beck Row War Memorial and the War Graves at St John's Church. As always, this was very well attended.

In December we provided Christmas trees around the Parish and these were lit at the beginning of the month. Later in that month Santa and his friends took their annual tour of the Parish, joined by a convoy of other vehicles to add to the attraction. A big thank you to all involved who give their time to put on this show for the community.

We now have 2 more additional solar enabled speed signs making a total of 6. Speeding remains a problem in our Parish as well as many others. We have tried many times to put a Community Speed Watch in place but unfortunately a lack of volunteers make this unachievable currently. However, we do now have monthly reports from each of the signs, so this helps us to highlight the problem areas.

The play park now has the new addition of the jungle climber. We hope this will be well received by our youngsters and is a welcome addition. We really do have a great play park with many great attractions. However, just lately, we have been subjected to some vandalism which is very disappointing and this behaviour does increase the financial pressure on the Council, but with the installation of cameras hopefully this will make it easier to identify the culprits.

The land at Holywell Row is now ready to be shaped into an area of tranquillity for all to use. Hopefully we will get some volunteers come forward to help with this great opportunity.

A couple of weeks ago I hosted a darts and chat evening at the Parish Hub and this was a great evening with over 20 people attending. We have a great opportunity to build on this and add other games but it will need more people to help run it. There is very clearly the need and want for this type of evening to get people out and socialising.

We are about to host the first driver awareness session at the Parish Hub. This is in conjunction with Suffolk Fire Service and is aimed at USAF personnel and all of the community to give advice and raise awareness of the dangers of driving on our rural roads. It is hoped this will be held 3-4 times a year. I really do believe that as a Council it is so important that we lead in this type of initiative.

| | | |
|------|--|--|
| | <p>Lastly, I would like to thank my fellow Councillors for their hard work and dedication over the last 12 months. It has been a pleasure to be the Council Chairman and I look forward to the year ahead.</p> | |
| 0025 | <p>To note the annual accounts for 2025/26</p> <p>The unaudited accounts have been completed and the Parish Council end the 2025/26 financial year with £78,422 to carry forward for 2026/27.</p> | |
| 0026 | <p>Reports from grant recipients</p> <p>On behalf of the Holiday Activity Club which we started last Summer at St John's Church Hall, we would like to thank the Parish Council for their contribution towards running the programme. Since the initial initiative, we have run craft, activity and brunch sessions on Monday mornings during the school holidays ever since. We have had up to 60 parents and children attend, which demonstrates the need for such events in Beck Row.</p> <p>St John's Church provides the venue at no cost, and Angie Finn from Lightwave organises the activities. Having some funding for the food has been a great help and we sincerely hope that you will continue to support us in the future.</p> <p>Thank you. Jane Parry for St Johns Church</p> <p>Followed by a report on behalf of St John's Beck Row with Kenny Hill Church by Mr Brian Sulman.</p> <p>The Beck Row with Kenny Hill Parish Church thank you for the opportunity to give a report.</p> <p>Thanks to the Parish Council for its help and support during the past year including the opportunity to include details of our events in the Beacon. We are grateful for the Christmas Tree and thanks for your help in the arrangement to keep our churchyard grass cut.</p> <p>As a church we try to engage with the community in many ways with activities for different ages. The mums & tots group cater for those below school age. The older generation have the opportunity to join in with the monthly lunch, monthly coffee morning and during the winter months the warm room events. The monthly Saturday afternoon bingo sessions during the winter are also enjoyed. The church also provides two subsidised coach trips each year. The donations raised at these events help with the expenses of the church. Anyone can make a gift to the church online by the Parish Giving Scheme.</p> <p>Our church services take place every week at 9.30 am. On the first and third Sundays we hold Lightwave meetings which are informal meetings, the first Sunday is aimed at the young children and the third is all age breakfast church. More traditional church services are held on the second and fourth Sundays, the second being a service of the word and the fourth a communion service.</p> | |

| | | |
|------|--|--|
| | <p>The church is of course used for baptisms, marriages and also funerals and plays an important part for families on these occasions. Our congregation is mainly of the older population and we have a small Parochial Church Council to run the church.</p> <p>Last year I reported that the churchyard is getting full and I am pleased to report that the first exploratory meeting has taken place between the PCC, the Parish Council and the District Council and hope that progress will be made.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to give this report.</p> <p>Gary Peachey reported on behalf of Holywell Row Methodist Chapel to advise that services take place at 6.30pm every Sunday and all are welcome.</p> | |
| 0027 | <p>Reports from community groups</p> <p>Friends of Aspal Close has gained some momentum over the last year and now has regular minuted quarterly meetings. A new Facebook page has been created and work between West Suffolk Council and the FOAC is proactive. New members are welcome to join the FOAC and meetings are published on the Facebook page but are usually on a Tuesday evening around the beginning of the month.</p> | |
| 0028 | <p>To invite the public to raise any matters for discussion</p> <p>It was reported that disposable bbq's have been used on the play area/Toc-H land and concern was raised as to whether this is suitable on the land next to the Aspal Close.</p> | |
| 0029 | <p>Consideration and decisions on subjects so discussed</p> <p>The Parish Council will investigate the matter of fires/bbq's on the Toc-H land and consider putting up signage regarding no fires/bbq's permitted on the land.</p> | |
| 0030 | <p>Meeting closed 7.20pm</p> | |