



Saxlingham Nethergate Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Monday 24 November 2025, Saxlingham Nethergate Village Hall, 7.30pm

Present: Elsje Stocker (Chair) Julie King (Clerk)
Chris Clements
Mark Fisher MVO
Mike Haslam
Jackie Lee-Smith
Harry Leeder (from item 5)
Liz Utting

Members of the public: four

These minutes are draft until approved at the next meeting.

- 1 Apologies
Apologies from Zoe Yarham and Paul Bowen were noted.
- 2 Declaration of Interest for Items on the Agenda and Dispensations for Councillors with a Pecuniary Interest
None.

- 3 Minutes of the Meeting Held on 10 November 2025
These were agreed as a true record of proceedings.

- 4 Public Open Forum

Members of the public raised the following:

- Whether there should be financial compensation for the loss of tranquil environment should the East Pye Solar development go ahead – it was noted that the only way currently known, was to register as a category 3 person.
- Concerns had been raised over the weekend regarding flooding around the War Memorial, whilst there had been some during the night, the area had been regularly checked during the day and there largely hadn't been a problem. It was wondered if there was a need to communicate with the village the steps that the Parish Council could take regarding the clearing of the ditches.
- Whether there should be concern about the potential problem of emergency vehicles getting through whilst the Abnormal Indivisible Loads (AIL) for East Pye solar were being transported.

- Concern that if the road had to be widened for the ALLs, resulting in the filling in of the ditches, that this could lead to increased flooding – it was thought that ditches wouldn't be filled in.
- Whether the work being done by Saxlingham Nethergate Parish Council was being mirrored by other parishes – it was generally thought that it was with a couple of exceptions.
- Why East Pye Solar weren't considering 'haul' roads across open farmland – it was noted that it was the County Council's position that all access should be off 'B' roads.
- The bollards at the War Memorial were very much needed.

5 East Pye Solar

Harry Leeder joined the meeting

Following the public meeting held the previous Friday and work undertaken by the working group, a suggested response to the Targeted Consultation had been circulated. **This was reviewed and it was agreed to submit copying in the Planning Inspectorate, South Norfolk Planning, Norfolk County Council NSIP Officer, the County Councillor, the District Councillor and the local MP.**

A discussion took place regarding the next steps and the following were agreed:

- **To look into how the Parish Council could engage with the Press – Elsje Stocker to investigate**
- **Ask BEPS (Block East Pye Solar) about the fundraising they are doing, the governance they've got in place to protect the money raised and the intended use of the money**
- **Ask BEPS about the legal advice they have available to them**
- **Look at how the Parish Council could harness the skills and resources available within the community and how any assistance offered could be co-ordinated**

Dalcour Maclaren, working on behalf of East Pye Solar, had written to the Parish Council regarding land ownership. **It was agreed to respond stating it was not possible to complete the questionnaire because it was not clear, from the map provided, which parcel/s of land were being referred to.**

6 South Norfolk Council's Shape the future: Design Code consultation

This was noted.

7 Parish Partnership Application

It was agreed to apply to the Parish Partnership scheme for a wig-wag sign to be positioned on Church Hill for traffic travelling south past the school and the erection of two bollards at the War Memorial to protect the verges. If successful this would provide 50% funding, the remaining 50% would be considered further when the budget was agreed in December or January.

8 Items for Next Month's Agenda
Updating the Community Emergency Plan.

9 Date of Next Meeting
Monday 8 December 2025.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm

Chair's Signature.....

Date.....

DRAFT