

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held at Lingwood Village Hall, Station Road,
Lingwood on Tuesday 1st April 2025 at 7pm.

Welcome: Chairman of the Parish Council David Robinson welcomed 8 members of the Council, 7 parishioners, District Councillor Jess Royal, 3 Police Officers, Rob Norman from Galliford Try, Tony McKie from BADCOG, Village Hall Chair Phil Henry, Colin Goff and Mrs Howes from Lingwood & Strumpshaw Air Scout Group, a representative from Buckenham Ancient Woodland Trust and Clerk Sonya Dickinson.

Apologies were received from Councillor Brenda Jones.

Minutes of the last APM 9th April 2024: Were circulated prior to the meeting and signed as a true record.

Matters arising: None.

Report by the Chairman:

Chair David Robinson read his report.
(Please see full report attached).

Adoption of Chairman's report: Unanimously approved.

Reports from County and District Councillors, Local Clubs & Organisations:

Norfolk County Councillor Lana Hemsall sent a report, which was circulated and will be put onto the website. (Please see full report attached).

District Councillor Jess Royal – Thank you to the Parish Council for their continued support.
(Please see full report attached).

Police -

Lingwood report: There have been a couple of thefts, 2 shoplifting cases, and 1 burglary. We have had 5 antisocial behaviour calls.

Our next Priority Setting Meeting (PSM) is 11th June 2025 for the whole of Broadland.

BADCOG - Tony McKie

Report Summary: We manage 14 sites, among them, Lingwood Churchyard, Lingwood Pond, part of Buckenham Woods, the largest schemes are Howes Meadow and Jary's Meadow. We hold work parties throughout the year and although volunteer numbers are good at the moment we would always welcome more.
(Please see full report attached).

Buckenham Ancient Woodland Trust (BAWT) – We have purchased the centre section of Buckenham Woods. The Trust was founded 21/6/2023 to purchase and manage the woodland for the conservation and quiet enjoyment for the local community. We purchased the woods in October 2024 and we have a 10 year management plan and long term strategy. Broadland District Council has awarded a Section 106 grant for infrastructure such as access, pathways and raising canopies. We have 1 year to use the grant on these projects. We have woodland wardens and have had working parties. We had a working party and help from the Scouts clearing the waste from the site.

There is a great website. If anyone visits the site, take photographs for a photograph competition we are currently holding.

Scouts – Scout Leader Colin Goff.

Report Summary:

1st Lingwood & Strumpshaw Air Scout Group was established in 1963. The group has 24 Beavers, 21 Cubs, 15 Scouts. We have 2 new leaders with a total of 11 volunteers. Explorers come to train as young leaders. We are a fully inclusive group.

There are many activities and the Scouts have attended and helped at several District and Community events.

We have been given notice to move from our current H.Q. by 2034 as our current lease has been

sold. We would like @ 1 acre to build on. We are actively trying to fundraise.
I would like to thank the Parish Clerk Sonya for help in contacting MP Jerome Mayhew and informing him of our predicament.
(Please see full report attached).

Park Run – Director Phil Henry

This is the 7th year of Lingwood parkrun, and we had our 245th event on Saturday 30th March 2025. Parkrun takes place every Saturday morning at 9am on the fields behind Lingwood Village Hall. It is a 5k / 3.1 mile run or walk, not a race, and is free for all participants. You can register online, get a barcode and join any parkrun. There are 80 to 100 participants per week with 12 to 15 volunteers. We welcome runners and walkers of all abilities. On 4th May 2025, we will be launching a Junior Parkrun for 4 to 14 years on Sundays at 9am. Thank you to District Councillor Jess Royal for helping secure some funding.

Village Hall – Chair Phil Henry

Unfortunately, we have had to put the prices up this year, due to having less volunteers, increased working wage and National Insurance.

The Hall is the centre of the community. The fireworks event was well attended.

The Village Hall fete is on the 29th June 2025, is organized by volunteers. If anyone wants to volunteer, let me know.

There was a Memorial event 2 weeks ago, we were lucky enough to be given an award for the best kept War Memorial.

Appeal: When Ben stepped down last year, 6-7 trustees also stepped down. The Hall manager left later in the year, taking on a new opportunity. We have 4 Trustees, there are usually 10.

There are vacancies for Trustees, not necessarily 'hands on' as there are staff running the Hall.
Chair David Robinson – Thank you.

Rob Norman from Galliford Try

The 40mph on the A47 is to allow the central reservation works. The central island will be taken out by the end of April. Drainage for the bridge will be going in.

Lorries from the Tuddenham site will be bringing in material from their site, to build up the slip roads to the bridge. Recovery vehicles will be there by the end of the month. There was a bus broken down, the bus company needs to be asked what they do to maintain them, it is not just down to the roadworks. If people stick to the 40mph speed limit, it shouldn't make the traffic too much worse than it was already.

We are in constant contact with British Sugar about the beet lorry diversions.

Google maps was incorrect at the start of the lane closure, it said closed instead of 1 lane each way, this has been rectified today.

The Social value fund has opened again today. The Parish Council can apply for the footway it wanted to link Lodge Road to Lingwood Lane. The Designated fund is still to be re-opened.

To invite contributions or Questions from the floor:

Colin Goff – The Chair's report didn't mention the application from the Scouts for consideration for some Reading Room funds for relocation.

Chair – I'm sorry, I was aware but forgot to mention it in my report.

Public – I am fed up with my door being banged/kicked in.

Police – We are aware of who they are and will keep monitoring the situation.

Public – If you get evidence you should send it to the Police instead of Facebook.

Police – If it is a video especially, you cannot put that on Facebook. We will do everything we can to sort it out.

Public – We know some of their names.

Police – We need to know how you know who did it, we can't work on hearsay.

Public – If parents are letting them out being feral, what are we as a village supposed to do?

Police – We can patrol in our marked vehicle at night. You can call 101 and report it and they will send someone out.

Public – Bringing the community together and be proactive rather than reactive, like a Neighbourhood Watch?

Public – They say there is nothing to do in the village.

Police – Acle has got a youth club, a place to meet and socialise. Young people will get to know the Police as we visit the youth clubs to give talks. We cover a large area.

Clerk to the Police – Do you think the young people who are getting in trouble would go to a youth club?

Public – It takes a village to raise a kid, get them involved in the village. We could throw a youth music night?

Public – The problem is getting volunteers.

Clerk - For a youth club you need trained people and volunteers.

Public – We could get concrete table tennis tables and chess board for the Millennium Green.

Clerk – There are table tennis tables at the Village Hall.

Chair – How long is the Village Hall empty? Can they use the hall and play table tennis tables?

VH Chair – The problem is you are asking busy people (volunteering) to do more as there are no other volunteers.

Cllr – You say there is nothing to do or a place to play sports, but we spent a fortune on the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) and park.

Public – They have a skate park in Acle.

Clerk – Acle is a lot bigger than Lingwood.

Public – Parents can take their children to Acle if they want to use a skate park. The costs of installation and insurance would be high and for just a few people to use.

Public – I thought more people would be here tonight.

Public - We need someone to make this happen.

Police – I will ask Acle Youth Club about paid help for a Youth Club.

Public – Of the youths you know of, do the parents get informed and involved?

Police – There are different escalation levels and Community resolutions and the parents are always contacted and involved.

Clerk – There seems to be a pattern where we have a bit of trouble for a year, a few years of none, then another wave of trouble. It was blamed on the fact there wasn't anything to do. We then got a park and youth shelter. Then there wasn't sports, that's why the MUGA was provided.

Volunteers opened a youth club but it closed down.

Cllr - It's like whack-a-mole.

Public – When people get together a lot of positive things can happen. There was a community summer school project local to me in London, it helped young people.

Closing Remarks: *Chair David Robinson – Thank you for finishing on a positive note, we will definitely look into everything. Thank you all for attending.*

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.