

Shottisham Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 14th July 2026

Present: Chair N Brett (NB), Cll C Darby (DB), Cll P Bouscarle (PB) and Cll K Wilson (KW).

Attendees: (SCC) J Ramsay (JR), Clerk L Roberts (LR) and 2 parishioners.

1-14/07/26 Chair's Welcome and Apologies for Absence:

Apologies received from (ESC) Cll J Mallinder (JM). Councillors introduced themselves to the new Suffolk County Councillor Jonathan Ramsay (JR) who was attending for the first time, and welcomed him to the meeting.

2-14/07/26 Open Forum:

- The hedgehog house at Tower Cottage (supplied by the parish council) has had some new occupants move in and hoglets have been spotted out and about. Dog owners are asked to be careful not to disturb the family when walking their dogs nearby please.
- The bridleway between the allotments and the back of the White House has been reported as overgrown and almost impassable by a resident. However, it appears that this footpath was recently cut back by SCC, who cut it twice a year at the end of May and August.
- Complaints about the mobile phone signal, unpredictable food waste collection and the state of the playground to be discussed later on in the meeting.

3-14/07/26 Receive any Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

4-14/07/26 Signing of AGM Minutes:

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 12th May 2026 were duly signed off by Chair NB as an accurate record.

5-14/07/26 SCC and ESC Reports:

a) SCC Report

The main headlines of the topics covered in Cll JR's (SCC) report include:

In your Parish

- Inspected and reported highways conditions across parish.
- Redirected residents concerned about bin collection to East Suffolk Council.

Across Wilford

- Liaised with developments which may impact residents.
- Wilford wide highways inspection completed.
- New highways works and safe crossing reviewed and supported.
- Parish Council attendance.

Across Suffolk

- Attended Development and Regulation Committees.
- Provided Cabinet members assistance on environmental issues.
- Attended SCC meetings and mandatory training.

Cll JR commented on some of the main points from his report including:

- Checking on current highways issues by cycling the local road networks and seeing the issues for himself, including numerous potholes, large farm machinery and lack of pavements.
- Providing notices to be displayed on the notice board highlighting how to report highways issues as well as being at the end of the phone every Friday to provide advice, if required.
- Cll JR was asked by SPC if he would be prepared to lend his support to a 20-mph speed limit in Shottisham. He expressed his understanding of the reasons behind SPC's campaign for a 20-

mph speed limit in the village but would like to find out where in the process we are before making a commitment. His next step will be to liaise with the Community Liaison Engineer, Charles Harrison and report back.

b) ESC Report

- Opposition against SCC using tax payers' money on challenging agreed Unitary Council.
- Bawdsey Quay vandalism.
- Abandoned car removed at Sutton Hoo/Melton Road.
- Big thank you to Judi Hallett and family for performing SCC responsibility of keeping our road visibility clear.
- Supported and attended the Meet-up Monday Lunch.
- East Suffolk failure to implement new waste collections – a total bin-tastrophe
- Summer surgery announced.
- Bromeswell open gardens.
- Coronation Avenue Hollesley.
- Bawdsey bins.
- Attended fetes on the peninsula.

A copy of both reports can be seen at <https://shottisham-pc.gov.uk>

6-14/07/26 Update on Highways Issues:

- **Highways Map**
Clls NB and CD have been working on producing a map of the village highlighting all the road signs and white lines that need repainting. Once it has been finalised it will be sent off to Charles Harrison for costing.
- **Water Leak**
It has been noted that there is another water leak in The Street just before the New Houses. It has been reported several times to Anglian Water but they are still struggling to find out where it is coming from before fixing.

7-14/07/26 Update on Playground Issues:

- **Grass cutting**
After receiving complaints about the state of the grass in the playground it has been agreed that a new contractor needs to be found as a matter of some urgency. Rob Thurkettle is unable to provide the level of service we require it appears, with his mower being out of action at present. The clerk will look into finding another provider as soon as possible.
- **Maintenance issues**
There are still several maintenance issues outstanding that need to be completed before the RoSPA report in September. The most urgent of these is the wooden steps going up to the slide, which are rotting away. The council have decided that these need to be pulled up rather than replacing. Cll NB has agreed to find someone to take on this job shortly. Cll PB has put himself forward to help with this work. The swing fittings have been tightened up as much as possible already and the swing that was reported as broken has been checked over for vandalism. The chain was cut through deliberately by the looks of it and has now been shortened and refitted so the swing is back in use.

8-14/07/26 Update on Mobile Phone signal issues

- Cll NB confirmed with Sutton Parish Council that there are no plans for a phone mast in Sutton. The Vodafone mast at Sutton Heath is being extended to include a mast for the Three network but this will not improve the mobile signal in Shottisham, unfortunately.
- Serious concern was expressed to Cll JR as to how the village will manage once the analogue system is cut off shortly. There are concerns that the wi-fi calling system from some providers will not be strong enough to support the amount of use that will be required. Parishioners have been encouraged to order a power pack from BT to use in an emergency during a power cut. Cll NB will check to

see if the BT phone box will still be available for 999 calls once the signal is switched off. These issues have all been reported to our MP Jenny Riddell-Carpenter who has raised them in parliament. Cll JR has asked for the case number to be sent to him so that he can follow this up.

9-14/07/26 To discuss the failings of the new ESC bin collection scheme

Councillors agreed that the new ESC bin collection scheme has been an unmitigated disaster so far with the food waste collection scheme being the worst offender by far. Parishioners have frequently reported their concerns and frustration via ShottyApp and the ESC website, to little avail. The main complaint being that the grey bins were not emptied for a good 4 weeks, which led to an influx of flies and maggots. Although there has been some improvement in the main bin collections there still seems to be a problem with the food waste system which is still not being collected weekly as promised. Cll NB has been writing to everyone she can about it including Jenny Riddell-Carpenter and James Mallinder. She now has direct contact with the leader of ESC and reports problems to them immediately. It is hoped that these issues will be ironed out shortly and the system will become as effective as it is in other areas.

10-14/07/26 Clerk's report and Finance Update:

This and all other documentation relating to the Parish Council can be seen on the Shottisham Village website in accordance with Transparency Laws. (See <https://shottisham-pc.gov.uk>)

The clerk reported that next meeting due to take place on the 8th September will not be able to take place in the Trust Hall as it will not be available while the kitchen renovation is taking place. It was decided that the meeting date should not be changed but would be moved to a new venue. Cll KW proposed using St Margaret's Church as the new venue, which was agreed.

- a) At close of business on 30/06/2026 the current account stood at £557.20
- b) At close of business on 30/06/2026 the savings account stood at £13,784.01
- c) Payments requiring authorisation include
 - a. Clerk's wages £320.00
 - b. HMRC £80.00
 - c. Shottisham WI Trust Hall £40.00

11-14/07/26 Updates on actions from the AGM meeting in May

Minute Point	Action Required	Responsibility
3-12/05/26	• Contact the Chair of Sutton Parish Council to find out further information about the possibility of Three erecting a mobile phone mast in Sutton.	Completed
	• Find out if anyone is interested in becoming a First Responder for Shottisham.	Ongoing
10-12/05/26	Send a copy of the Exemption Certificate to PFK Littlejohn LLP by email and upload a copy to the website.	Completed
15-12/05/26	Produce a map of the village to identify all the road signs and white lines that need repainting and pass on to the Community Liaison Engineer, Charles Harrison for costing.	Ongoing

12-14/07/2026 Matters to be brought to the attention of the council:

No matters arising from the meeting.

13-14/07/2026 Action Points arising from the July meeting:

Minute Point	Action Required	Responsibility
7-14/07/26 Grass cutting	Find another provider to take over the grass cutting contract from Rob Thurkettle as soon as possible.	LR

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7-14/07/26 Maintenance	Arrange for someone to take up the rotten, wooden steps from the side of the fort.	NB/PB
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Date and Time of next meeting: 8th September 2026 at 7.00 pm in St Margaret's Church

Chair:

Date: 8th September 2026

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