HINDERCLAY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
THE VILLAGE HALL, HINDERCLAY
THURSDAY 8th JANUARY 2026 AT 7.30 PM
(Draft until approved and signed)

PRESENT:
Councillor Paul Rose (Chair) (PR)
Councillor Rob McGuire (Vice Chair) (RM)
Councillor Lindsey Aves (LA)
Councillor Michael Bishop (MB)
John Davie-Thornhill (JDT)
Christopher Ward (CW)

ABSENT
Councillor Jessica Holligan-Hollingsworth (JH)

IN ATTENDANCE:
Nicholas Spring (Parish Clerk) (NS)
County Councillor Jessica Fleming (JF)

Three members of the public were present.

1. Apologies for absence - JH

2. Members' declarations of interests & requests for dispensations, if any - none

3. Reports from the County and/or District Councillor

   JF reported that the question of postponing County Council elections was to be considered at a full meeting of the CC the following week. Parish Councillors who spoke felt that they should go ahead.

4. Council to consider any matters relating to highways, pavements, footpaths and trees not already considered, including village signs and vehicle activated speed signs

   The Council considered the list of highways issues in the parish which had been drawn up by LA for the recent visit of the Highways Engineer. Among matters mentioned were grip clearing and passing places. Type 1 hardcore would be needed for strengthening the passing places with a 20-ton load costing approx. £700.

5. Public participation session
The reasoning behind the potential purchase of a flagpole was raised. As this was not on the agenda, it was felt that any further discussion should await an agenda item.

6. Council approved as accurate the minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2025 with one correction (JDT not JTD)

7. Village upkeep including:
   i) the Community Caretaker Scheme (Mid Suffolk DC) – the Clerk reported on a recent communication from the District Council
   ii) Bin emptying – the bin by the bus shelter needed to be added back on to the schedule
   iii) Telephone kiosk – the feasibility of moving it needed to be investigated before any decision

8. Planning

   Council to consider the Parish Council's responses to any planning application consultations notified by the District Council (including **DC/25/04824**|Full Planning Application - Erection of 1no. dwelling with garage| Site Adjacent Redvers Rickinghall Road Hinderclay Diss Suffolk IP22 1HN) – no objection

9. Finances

   a. Council received the latest Budget Report
   b. Council approved the Payments Schedule
   c. Council considered an application from the Village Hall for a grant for the upkeep of the recreation ground and agreed to a grant of £600
   d. Council agreed the budget, including staff costs, and precept for 2026/2027 The Precept would be unchanged at £6500 but due to a slight change in the tax base this would mean an increase of £1.33 for the year i.e. 2.83% to Council Tax Band D
   e. The Chair and Clerk signed the precept application

10. Information updates from Councillors and the Clerk

    - CW reported that the fire hydrants were operational
    - The new village signposts were in place. There was some discussion regarding replacing the signpost at the three-corner field, Wattisfield Road.
    - The VH grit bin needed replenishing

11. Council to review any action points raised at previous meetings and not already considered - none

12. Council approved the date of the next meeting: Thursday 12th March 2026