BASTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Baston Parish Council held on Thursday 10 September 2026 in Baston Village Hall (The Barn).

Present:	Vice-Chair	Cllr J Groutage
		Cllr M Nicholson
		Cllr R Whitehead
		Cllr T Edwards – Co-opted during the session
	County Council	Cllr A Baxter – Apologies
	District Council	Cllr V Smith
Apologies:		Cllr K Brudenell-Maylin
		Cllr B Easy
		Cllr A Clarke
		Cllr L Eassom
		Cllr S Minn
		Cllr P Redmore
		Cllr G Vaughan
		E Clarke (Parish Clerk)

Members of public present: 3 attendees

Public Forum:

Eileen: Good to see the village sign back and Jim Kellys bench installed.

Is there the possibility of another additional two benches?

- Potentially one on Manor Drive
- Potentially one on Starsmore/Playing field – on the east side close to the allotments where there is some open space

Answer: Cllr Groutage – we can look into this; if this land is appropriate and available.

Action: Cllr Groutage to investigate and report back to the public forum

Other notes captured with the Village business section under the appropriate headings .

096/26 Vice-Chair's remarks:

Welcomed members of the public.

097/26 Apologies for absence received:

Cllr Brudenell-Maylin, Cllr Easy, Cllr Clarke, Cllr Eassom, Cllr Minn, Cllr Redmore, Cllr Vaughan and E Clarke (Parish Clerk)

098/26 Co-Opt New Councillor – Tim Edwards

Proposed by Cllr Goutage/seconded by Cllr Nicholson - All in agreement (Cllr Easy via a facetime call and Cllr Whitehead in person)

099/26 To receive any declarations of interest in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011 and to consider any requests for dispensations.

None raised

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100/26 Minutes of last meeting:

Changes required:

a) Appendix A should be updated to say JULY instead of JUNE

b) Playfield report should be Appendix B rather than Appendix A

Proposed approval by Cllr Whitehead seconded by Cllr Nicholson - All in agreement as a true record of meeting.

101/26 Matters arising from minutes

Only as above changes.

Discussion covered in Wates (Baston Green) section

102/27 Clerks report on matters outstanding:

Awaiting approval/signed document for the latest audit.

Letter provided saying it's approved but not got the signed certificate/document from the auditors – awaiting arrival.

Cllr Tim Edwards has been given the forms to complete – will sign and hand them back.

103/26 To receive reports from representations on outside bodies:

County Councillor A Baxter

Not Present during the meeting.

District Councillor V Smith

See Appendix A.

104/26 Financial matters:

(a) Financial Update (31/07/26)

Bank Reconciliation General Account		**Bank Reconciliation Savings Account**	
Opening balance	£38,830.59	Opening balance	£10,551.94
Less expenditure	-£2,501.12	Less expenditure	£0
Plus income	£35.00	Account matured – interest added (reinvested until July 2027)	£246.92
Statement 31 July 2026	**£36,364.47**	Balance 31 July 2026	**£10,798.86**

(b) Authorisation of payments made:

JULY

Date on Bank Statement	Payee	Gross	VAT	Net	Category / Description
02.07.26	D Knibbs	-£190.00	£0.00	-£190.00	Dog bins
02.07.26	Gary's Gardens	-£700.00	£0.00	-£700.00	Grass Cutting
02.07.26	Parish Clerk	-£432.00	£0.00	-£432.00	Salary (June 2026)
09.07.26	BPFMC	-£20.00	£0.00	-£20.00	Hall Hire (June)
10.07.26	Community Cleaner	-£305.04	£0.00	-£305.04	Salary
20.07.26	St John the Baptist Church	-£13.83	£0.00	-£13.83	Water Charges - Anglia Water
21.07.26	Lloyds Bank	-£4.25	£0.00	-£4.25	Service charges

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27.07.26	P Redmore	-£350.00	£0.00	-£350.00	Commemorative bench
28.07.26	Community Heartbeat	-£486.00	-£81.00	-£401.00	Defib annual maintenance
28.07.26	J Redmore	£35.00	£0.00	£35.00	Refund (bench discount)

(c) **Reconciled accounts for July 2026**
Accounts agreed – proposed by Cllr M Nicholson seconded by Cllr R Whitehead (all approved)
Signed by Cllr Groutage and counter-signed by Cllr Nicholson.

(d) **Financial Update (30/08/26)**

Bank Reconciliation General Account

Opening balance	£36,364.47
Less expenditure	-£8,042.23
Plus income	£838.42
Statement 31 August 2026	**£29,160.66**

Bank Reconciliation Savings Account

Opening balance	£10,798.86
Less expenditure	£0
Balance 31 August 2026	**£10,798.86**

(e) **Authorisation of payments made:**

AUGUST

Date on Bank Statement	Payee	Gross	VAT	Net	Category / Description
04.08.26	Parish Clerk	-£540.00	£0.00	-£540.00	Salary (July 2026)
04.08.26	D K Knibbs	-£170.00	£0.00	-£170.00	Dog Bins
04.08.26	BPFMC	-£20.00	£0.00	-£20.00	Hall Hire (July)
11.08.26	S Shaw Landscapes	-£1,825.00	£0.00	-£1,825.00	Landscaping (paving/village sign)
11.08.26	P Redmore	-£24.00	-£4.00	-£24.00	Drill bits (bench installation)
13.08.26	HMRC	£838.42	£0.00	£838.42	VAT Refund (2025/26)
18.08.26	Lloyds Bank	-£4.25	£0.00	-£4.25	Monthly service charge
27.08.26	P Redmore	-£15.99	£0.00	-£15.99	Engraved brass plaque (bench)
27.08.26	P Redmore	-£15.99	£0.00	-£15.99	Engraved brass plaque (village sign)
28.08.26	Concept 2 Design	-£786.00	-£131.00	-£655.00	Annual website hosting/monthly maintenance
28.08.26	G Mould	-£4,545.00	£0.00	-£4,545.00	Village sign
28.08.26	DHF Products	-£96.00	£0.00	-£96.00	The Jitty' village sign

(f) **Reconciled accounts for August 2026**
Accounts agreed – proposed by Cllr M Nicholson seconded by Cllr R Whitehead (all approved)
Signed by Cllr Groutage and counter-signed by Cllr Nicholson.

(g) **Authorisation of upcoming payments:**

None

105/26 **Operational matters:**

(a) Annual defib maintenance was paid in July 2026 for the 3 defibs located in the village. Cllr Redmore completes monthly checks.

Nothing raised from defibs – all seem to be working and no issues raised to date.

(b) Social media post for community speed watch: 9 people interested. 7 volunteers are going to attend the training. Potentially have a total of 13 volunteers to be able to support the speed watch.

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Elaine will be making an order for PPE for the speed watch team and will contact the volunteers to organise suitable days and times for the speed watch to commence.

(c) Policies:

- **IT Policy**
  Recommended by auditors – reviewed at meeting.
  Proposed: Cllr Edwards / Seconded: Cllr Whitehead – All in agreement

- **Social Media Policy**
  Reviewed at meeting.
  Proposed: Cllr Edwards / Seconded: Cllr Whitehead – All in agreement

106/26 Planning Matters

a **Wates Development (Baston Green)**

a. Wates asked the school for any ideas for a S106 agreement
b. School putting together a list and waiting for costings for the items (example an outdoor all-weather shade
c. Comment by Peter (local resident) - Drainage expected to be a problem at the wates site, swales will be needed but added some comments that they don't work correctly in situ at Langtoft. A comment that swales could be dangerous to be within housing estates, especially with young children.
d. Cllr Clarke has been in contact with highways based on the development – but consultations have been added to the planning, actions don't need to be followed up from consultations or answer questions
e. Cllr Smith has called in the planning application to be consulted at SKDC council meeting – therefore will have 2 people be able to be talk to the planning application. Will have 3 minutes to speak but can answer questions afterwards outside of the 3 minutes.
f. Question on accident data: Cllr Smith stated it's hard to get hold of; the police hold records but only if called out and fill out the accident form. Otherwise, its insurance data, but again only if there was a need to give the data and insurance was used. Can use 'crash-map', but it's not accurate and doesn't contain all of the recent accidents.
g. 2 additional comments:
   - Review the Baston social-media page for accidents mentioned. Lots of accidents are referenced, including with emergency services present, do not seem to be on official data.
   - Contact local bus company, as they may have kept records of route impacts
h. Cllr Edwards commented that he had created a comprehensive report and asked quite a few questions:
   Example: no identification of the time, date and duration of the traffic survey.
   Example: that there was only 1 vehicle recorded as entering Greatford Road. This is unrealistic given speed indicator data shows 200+ vehicles per day.
   Questioning of the cumulative traffic impact, the additional houses plus the Thetford Quarry plus the doubling of the Thetford Quarry.
   Wates assume 2 cars per households, but the average for large houses in the area is greater than 2 due to rural location and poor transport links.
i. Peter (local resident) made a comment regarding reading the 108 page report. Original report for the traffic planning refuse truck unable to turn within the lane. Updated the plan to widen the road, but used 2006 mid-sized car sizes, not

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modern SUV etc – what are the SKDC guidance on road planning?
Cllr Smith stated that they use 'Manual of Street Planning' document. This can be found via the government website.
Action: Request action for Cllr Clarke to raise the planning of the highways to SKDC or County Cllr A Baxter plus raise the issue with local MP Alicia Kearnes. Width of the car is 1.5m but the typical SUV is 2.1m

107/26 Village business

a **CEMEX/Thetford Farm application**
No new information. Cllr Clarke had submitted objection to the doubling of the site on behalf Baston PC.

b **BPFMC**
Amanda Sanserson sends apologies unable to attend.
Re Christmas tree - email states agreement in principle of the tree but would like to meet again to see the location, see the photo or plans of the installation, locking mechanism (so not trip hazard and can cut the grass). Would also like to be present at the installation.

£1,798.12 raised from the Party in the Park.
Thank-you to Baston Parish Council, Onion and Baston Events for their contributions towards the running of the event

c **Christmas Tree**
Discussed during closed session.

d 7.5 Ton Weight limit

Lots of excuses comments and conflicting information with limited information from Cllr Clarke who has now escalated to County Councillor.

Cllr Edwards raised a formal complaint to the SKDC – received a response, a formal investigation launched, an engineer left and backfill didn't happen straight away, creating a hold in the work. Someone now has taken over the meeting and therefore works will commence as follows:

- 3 months work lighting – 28 August
- 3 months work for sign works - 8 September
- Works required would be the completed by early December 2026

The person Cllr Smith corresponding with during August (Brain Gould), may have left the business.

e 'The Jitty' sign

Agreed to position a new sign at the A15 end of the wall and Cllr Clarke liaised with Mr Wyman to agree positioning and mounting.
The sign has now been ordered

f Villages – Langtoft/Baston

All have the same issues of vehicle speeding. Data provided from speed indicators.

MP to raise this to the government

Discussions raised on mineral extraction and any potential impact on health and safety, in which the MP said she would raise now in the committee

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A comment that Cllr Clarke has already raised an objection on behalf of the Baston Parish council to the extension of the quarry that is in place.

g Fix my street actions (JG) – Maltby Road issue with curb higher than the pavement. Did a temporary fix with concrete, which has now eroded away.
Footpath on Deeping Road which has now had some repairs – but this does not align with the repair plans that were previously stated from a fix my street request.

h Issue raised with tennis court with the number of pebbles. Raised with BPFMC to have a broom to sweep the gravel away. Also, a request to clear away thistles and a note to use the bins for rubbish, potential also to not use the tennis courts for football.

108/26 Correspondence

None received.

109/26 Agenda items for next meeting:

Councillors to send any items by 25 September – next meeting to be held on 8 October.

Question: Do we want to put something in to review the S106 before the October meeting – somewhere around the 25 September?

Public questions:
Eileen asked a question: *"Did the Baston Parish Council drafted an article for the Baston Voice before Friday?"*
Cllr Clarke not present to answer.

A request for speed camera data to be added:

- Busiest time of the day and volume – workday and weekend
- Quietest time of the day and volume – workday and weekend
  Action: M Nicholson to complete the above

Closed session:
Cllr's discussed the Christmas Tree and agreement reached.

The meeting was closed at 21:05 / Signed: Cllr Groutage (Vice-Chair)

Date: 10/09/2026

Future meeting dates for Baston Parish Council:
Thursday 8 October 2026
Thursday 12 November 2026
Thursday 10 December 2026

APPENDIX A

Cllr Smith, District Councillor Report – September 2026

DISTRICT ISSUES:

- **Bin collections**
  Lots of pressure on waste collection resulting in number of bins not collected. This is due to an increase in bin collection and issue recruiting HGV drivers. Not many concerns raised locally (Baston Village) with the bins (however lots from the Tallington area).

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- **Local Government Reorganisation**
  Local Government organisation update: The local plan to reorganise has been put on hold

  Next local SKDC elections for this area would be May 2027. Current Councillors are Venessa Smith and Rosmery Trollope-Bellew.

- **A new banking hub is to open in Stamford, Lincolnshire**
  The hub will be based at Stamford Arts Centre, on St Mary's Street, for one year until a permanent home is found for the service. The facility, set up by Cash Access UK and run by the Post Office, will open in early September on weekdays from 09:00 to 17:00 BST. The hub will provide access to cash and face-to-face banking services.

  Planning: SKDC Local Plan
  Changes to the national planning policy framework: Historically a Councillor has had the ability to call in planning into council committee. Moving forwards a Councillor will not be able to call in to committee but large developments such as Baston Green may still go to committee if they meet certain criteria.

- **Mallard Pass**
  Recent submission of applications for the discharge of conditions to SKDC. I have continued to voice my concerns about the possibility that this project will increase the risk of flooding for those downstream due to increased speed of run off. I am particularly concerned for the residents of Greatford.

COUNTY ISSUES:

- **Public consultation on Lincolnshire County Council Local Plan for Mineral and Waste**
  This closed at the end of July. I did what I could to raise awareness of this locally as I believe that the current plans will have a significant negative impact on are area and are disproportionate.

BASTON ISSUES:

- **Baston Green**
  October/November SKDC Planning committee (expected to have the Wates planning application). Two people can talk, plus Cllr Smith (District Councillor). The public can see who sits on the committee on SKDC Website (understanding local democracy → planning meetings → committee members) and send an appropriate email to object to the planning applications to the councillors who would be there.
- **Development at Northorpe/Thurlby**
  Land First have run a public consultation on an outline plan for 90 houses. This is ahead of an application to SKDC. This will obviously put further pressure on our already struggling A15. I would encourage Baston residents to comment when this comes forward.
- **Campaign to reduce A15 through Baston and Langtoft to 30mph**
  This has been launched by our local MP and was unable to attend the meeting with her. Personally, I am not sure that it is the speed of the traffic that is the problem. I tend to think that problems have more to do with the volume of traffic using the A15 which make it harder for traffic to pull out onto the A15 from the Baston and Langtoft crossroads.

End
Cllr Vanessa Smith
Casewick Ward - South Kesteven District Council

APPENDIX C

BPFMC Report – July/August 2026

September meeting postponed until 24 September.

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