

Saxtead Parish Council

Annual Parish meeting
Thursday 7th May 2026 7:00pm
Old Mill House Public House, Saxtead IP139QE

MINUTES

Annual Parish Meeting 2026

SAPM/2026/05/09: Chairperson's welcome and Introduction

SAPM/2026/05/10: Recording: *The Council, members of the public and the press may record/ film/ photograph or broadcast this meeting when the public and the press are not lawfully excluded. Any member of the public who attends a meeting and objects to being filmed should advise the Parish Clerk (in advance) who will instruct that they are not included in the filming.*

SAPM/2026/05/11: Attendance and apologies for absence: Cllr E Sullivan (Chair), Cllr J Sullivan, Cllr Barlow-Shepherd, Cllr Slater, Cllr Frith, Cllr Caulfield, Cllr M Baumbach

Clerk Peter Grogan, District Cllr Langdon Morris

Also attending 2 members of the public

Apologies: Cllr Slater had sent apologies as had the Suffolk Constabulary.

SAPM/2026/05/12: Minutes –

- a) The Minutes of the APM on 8th May 2025 were signed as a true record
- b) There were no matters arising

SAPM/2026/05/13: Chairs report – the Chair report welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the Cllrs and the Clerk for all their work over the past year which had been very successful.

The Chair asked for volunteers to help clear the Rapeseed plants from the Green to prevent further spread. She also reminded the meeting that the Mill would be open this coming weekend and on future bank holidays as agreed with English Heritage, these dates would be posted to the website.

SAPM/2026/05/14: Councillors' Reports

- a) Suffolk County Council – there was no report from Cllr Burroughes, but the Chair wished to note that the PC was very grateful to Cllr Burroughes for all his support in the past including the 40mph speed restriction project completed this year.
- b) East Suffolk District Council – Cllr Langdon-Morris was present to verbally introduce his report a full copy of which is available on the [ESC website](#).

He emphasised; that there would now be 3 Unitary Authorities in Suffolk and Saxtead would be in Central East Suffolk Unitary Council (CESSUC). That there would be further changes in May 2027 with the election and adoption of the new Shadow Authority and again in 2028 with the election of a new Mayor for Norfolk and Suffolk.

He also told the PC more about the 3 Rivers Project, Natural Flood Resilience programme, Green Energy Briefing and the new Planning Framework. He will remain the Cllr for Saxtead until May 2028 when the new Unitary takes over.

SAPM/2026/05/15: Reports from Village Organisations

- a) Townland Trust – A member of the public updated the meeting to say that the Townland Trust held funds which it distributed 1/3 to the Church and 2/3 to other beneficiaries such as books for students and Foxhall Nursing Home. Bids were welcome for projects in this Financial Year. Cllr Slater said she would contact the Trust to see what might be available for future projects.
- b) Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr J Sullivan presented his report. Cllr J Sullivan emphasised that crime in the area was low and the few reports were related to heating oil thefts. Vigilance was recommended for all those with oil tanks on their property. Cllr J Sullivan asked if another Cllr would like to take up the role of NW Co-ordinator and Cllr Caulfield volunteered. Cllr J Sullivan will arrange to hand over the role.
- c) Environmental Group – Cllr Caulfield updated the meeting on the Pond at Little Saxtead. He will seek to get a firm quotation for the work estimated at £800.

ACTION – Clerk to apply for funds from the District Council.

- d) Book Group – No report
- e) Walking Group – No report
- f) Ladies Group - Cllr Sullivan reminded the Parish Meeting that there was a thriving Ladies Group and asked if it might be a good idea to set up a men's group?
- g) Speed Restriction Group – Cllr Slater reported there was a small group of trained volunteers which monitored the 30mph speed restriction.
- h) Cllr Sullivan also mentioned the Litter Picking Group which is always looking for more volunteers.

SAPM/2026/05/16: Any Other Business – Cllr Barlow-Shepherd mentioned that there were uneven flagstones opposite the public house. It was determined these were the responsibility of Flagship Housing.

SAPM/2026/05/17: Date of next Annual Parish meeting

6th May 2027 7:00pm Old Mill Public House

Peter Grogan Clerk to Saxtead Parish Council - 14/05/2026