

Bardwell Parish Council

Chair: Cllr David Ruffles. Vice Chair: Cllr Karen Witton

Councillors are summoned to attend a meeting of Bardwell Parish Council
to be held on Tuesday 2nd June 2026 Time: 7.00pm – 9.00pm
Venue: The Tithe Barn, Bardwell Village Hall, Up Street, Bardwell IP31 1AA

Members of the public and press are welcome to attend

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence

- 1.1 To receive apologies for absence
- 1.2 To consider approval of apologies for absence

2. Declarations of Interest

- 2.1 To receive declarations of interests relating to any items on this agenda
- 2.2 To consider requests for dispensations in relation to declarations of interests received.

3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 5th May 2026

4. Public Participation

Members of the public may ask questions or make comments relating to items on this agenda. Other matters may be raised at the discretion of the Chair but may not necessarily be responded to during the meeting. If considered appropriate, a response may be provided outside of the meeting or the matter considered for inclusion on a future agenda.

5. To Receive Reports *from*

- 5.1 **Suffolk County Councillor Harry Richardson** HR
- 5.2 **West Suffolk District Councillor Andrew Smith** AS

6. Planning Matters

The Parish Council has received re-consultation documents on the following planning applications by West Suffolk Council, the Planning Authority: To consider responses.
Five Properties in Low Street, IP31 1AS destroyed by fire: (Details previously circulated)

- 6.1 DC/26/0306/FUL - Planning application - Timberscombe
- 6.2 DC/26/0307/LB - Application for listed building consent - Timberscombe
- 6.3 DC/26/0308/FUL - Planning application - Merrow Cottage
- 6.4 DC/26/0309/LB - Application for Listed building consent- Merrow Cottage
- 6.5 DC/26/0310/FUL - Planning application - Ghent Cottage
- 6.6 DC/26/0311/LB - Application for listed building consent - Ghent Cottage
- 6.7 DC/26/0312/FUL - Planning application - Old Twizzlers
- 6.8 DC/26/0313/LB – Application for listed building consent - Old Twizzlers
- 6.9 DC/26/0314/FUL – Planning application - Harebell Cottage
- 6.10 DC/26/0315/LB – Application for Listed building consent – Harebell Cottage

Other planning applications requiring consideration/response

- 6.11 **DC/26/0697/TCA**|Trees in a conservation area notification - one Conifer (on plan) remove one branch on North elevation|Post Office Bungalow Up Street Bardwell Suffolk IP31 1AA
- 6.12 **DC/26/0673/HH**| Householder planning application - replace eight existing timber casement windows with timber-style casement windows on front, side and rear elevations
Lullingstone Cottage Spring Road Bardwell Suffolk IP31 1AB

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- 6.13 **DC/26/0661/HH.** Householder planning application - two storey side extension 2 The Croft Bardwell Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 1AN
7. 7.1 **Details of any planning decisions by West Suffolk Council since March Meeting**
7.2 **Any other planning matters requiring consideration**
8. **School Lane: West Suffolk Council/Barley Homes Development**
Any matters for consideration following site visit
9. **Highways Matters**
- 9.1 **A143 Emergency Closure** and Impact upon Village on 27 May 2026 – Matters for consideration and actions required.
- 9.2 **Knox Lane:** Following meeting 5th May to consider scope of request to County Councillor re traffic calming measures for Knox Lane.
10. **Chair's Report**
11. **Community Field**
11.1 **Grass Cutting contract:** Progress to date DR
11.2 **Commemorative Planter:** To note that this has been planted up with Summer bedding plants.
11.3 **Any other matters** requiring consideration/decision
12. **Councillor Reports:** *All reports to be circulated in advance of meeting*
12.1 Footpaths Working Group KW
12.2 Support Our Buses Task Force KW
12.3 Village Volunteers KW
12.4 Peace Arch: Progress report KW
12.5 Bardwell Village News (circulated) – The June issue will be the second issue printed by Tradeprint. Review of arrangements as previously agreed. JG
14. **Clerk's Report** Clerk
15. **Finance** RFO
15.1 Invoices for payment
15.2 Financial report
15.3 S137 Funding – for consideration
15.4 Tithe Barn Funds: Earmarked account – To note request for the parish council to pay invoices from this account re the Tithe Barn refurbishment Project. Details to be confirmed. AS
16. **Reports from other organisations**
16.1 Bardwell Community Speedwatch AC
16.2 Bardwell Playing Fields Association MA
16.3 Bardwell Village Hall – Tithe Barn AS
16.4 Cars on The Green DR
17. **Correspondence requiring consideration by councillors** Clerk
18. **To note meetings/training attended by Councillors**
20th May: WSC Planning Training attended by Clerk and Cllr Smith
Slides have been circulated
- 19 **Diary Dates: SALC AGM** – 9th July 2026. 7pm – On-line
20. **Questions to the Chair and items for consideration for next agenda**
21. **Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 7th July 2026

Agenda issued 28th May 2026

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County Councillor Report – Harry Richardson

June 2026

New administration	The new Reform UK administration has been announced at the County Council. The new Cabinet members and their contact details are below: Cllr Michael Hadwen – Leader of the Council E: Michael.Hadwen@suffolk.gov.uk Cllr Philip Fairthcloth Mutton – Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Adult Care E: Philip.Faircloth-Mutton@suffolk.gov.uk T: 07494 758000 Cllr Vicky Armstrong – Cabinet Member for Finance, Economic Development and Efficiency E: Vicky.Armstrong@suffolk.gov.uk Cllr Simon Aalders – Cabinet Member for Children and Young People E: Simon.Aalders@suffolk.gov.uk Cllr Tony Gould – Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and SEND E: Tony.Gould@suffolk.gov.uk Cllr Christopher Hudson – Cabinet Member for Transport and Highways E: Christopher.Hudson@suffolk.gov.uk T: 07889 066211 Cllr Tristan Gale – Cabinet Member for Planning, Devolution and the Fire Service E: Tristan.Gale@suffolk.gov.uk Cllr June Mummery – Cabinet Member for Coastal Affairs, Communities and Public Health E: June.Mummery@suffolk.gov.uk T: 07889 066317
Local government reorganisation	The future of local government reorganisation in Suffolk is now uncertain given the new administration at the County Council have decided to launch a Judicial Review into the government's support for the three-unitary-authority model. The precise implications for now are unknown. In the meantime, a new website has been launched to outline what the new unitary authorities will look like, and this can be found here: Home - Future Suffolk
A143	The damage to the A143 during hot weather in the May half-term week has been repaired. This was due to the membrane, which sits underneath the road surface, melting due to high road temperatures; this itself occurred as the membrane was damaged during installation last year. A permanent repair to the membrane itself will take place over the summer. Both the permanent replacement and the temporary repairs will be paid for by Milestone, the contractor, rather than the County Council (and by extension the taxpayer).

	I intend to have further conversations with officers over the summer on longer-term more sustainable diversion routes in the event that either the A1088 or A143 are closed, given the intolerable impact this is having on some villages currently.
Locality spending	I have received numerous requests for funding from my locality funding, so if you are aware of any other projects that may wish to apply for support then please do let me know as soon as possible so I can factor these in as best I can. For example, I am pleased to have provided funding for 195 primary school children across the division to participate in mental wellbeing and internet safety awareness sessions.
Highways engineer	Over the summer I will be visiting various parts of the division with our allocated community liaison engineer to identify priorities for the coming months, including for the usage of my local highways budget. Examples of what this can support include road signs, traffic calming, and Traffic Regulation Orders. If there are particular areas that you feel ought to be focused on then please do let me know and I will ensure these are assessed.
Bus routes	I am in active conversations with the County Council passenger transport team regarding the 332 and 73 bus services. The CENEX report in the latter is in the process of being finalised and I shall share this once published. Whether there is sufficient funding for the 332 to be extended to Thetford will become clearer later in the year.

N.b. please note this is not an exhaustive list, and does not reflect meetings I have scheduled about specific issues but have not yet occurred (e.g. Knettishall footbridge; Ixworth Primary School).

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