

BOLNHURST & KEYSOE

PARISH COUNCIL

THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT
KEYSOE VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 9TH June 2025

PRESENT	Chairman M. Gossage (MG); Vice Chairman M. Perry (MP); Cllr Laura Barry (LB); Cllr Sarah Brooks (SB); Cllr Christopher Faulkner (CF); Cllr Stephen Selley (SSe) Borough Cllr Sharan Sira
IN ATTENDANCE	The meeting was attended by several parishioners
Welcome	The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting
Clerk	SB was formally nominated as minute taker, in the absence of a Clerk
Additional Item	There was an error at the last AGM, where the formal process of electing the Chair and Vice-Chair was overlooked. MG was nominated as Chair, supported by all of the Council MP was nominated as Vice Chair, supported by all of the council MG and MP are duly elected as Chair and Vice Chair respectively The Parish Council extended their thanks to the resident who brought the oversight to the attention of the council.

OPEN FORUM	A member of the parish extended formal thanks on behalf of the WI to members of the PC who attended events on Sunday 8th June A resident requested the sharing of the latest RoSPA report, which has resulted in the closure of the village playground. This was discussed later in the meeting. Items of council property, specifically a microphone, tablet and two bank statements, were returned on behalf of a previous Clerk. A resident asked if there was a definitive list of the 15 Parish footpaths maintained by BBC. SB took an action to obtain said list. A resident queried the extent of potential road closures by Anglian Water over the summer period. Cllr Sira stated that
--------------------------	--

	she would make enquiries to Anglian Water to establish the facts. Cllr Gossage has a scheduled meeting with a customer experience manager of Anglian Water on the 16 th July 2025.	
2506.01	TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES	ACTION
	No apologies received	
2506.02	TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
	Cllr Faulkner registered an interest in item 2506.06a(1) 25/00820/FUL	
2506.03	TO APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING ON 12TH May 2025	
	An amendment to item 2504.07 Paragraph 4 was agreed. This related to blanket approval of certain payments made during 2024/25 identified by Cllr Selley where there was no clear evidence that PC approval had previously been sought or given. Subject to this change being made it was proposed and AGREED that the minutes of the 12th May 2025 meeting were a true and accurate record.	
2506.04	LATE CORRESPONDENCE	
	Cllr Selley communicated that the accounts (currently with the auditor) need to be signed off prior to the end of June 2025. To facilitate this, an EGM is called for Monday 23 rd June 2025, 7.30pm, at Bolnhurst Old School	
2506.05	Borough Councillor Report: The Borough Councillor reported on: - Part of the old Debenhams site now operational as a council hub - No formal update on East-West rail. Meetings are being arranged to discuss specific parts of the development limited to those residents directly impacted. - The walk around the proposed East Park Energy development was very well attended (an estimated 200-300 people)	

	• Community safety was addressed in a meeting with the Chief Constable. Increased officers and officer presence, new vehicles and speed vehicles have been agreed. The police have requested that ALL incidents should be formally reported online	
--	---	--

	• Forum meeting with key council representatives will be held at the Baptist Church School Rooms in Little Staughton on July 2nd 2025. • Old School Playing Field discussions are ongoing.	
2506.06	Planning: a. New planning applications 1. 25/00820/FUL Cllr Faulkner left the room during discussions. The application was discussed at length and the PC voted to object. 2. 25/00521/FUL/COU The application was discussed at length and the PC voted to object. b. There were no decisions on planning c. There were no appeals to consider	
2506.07	Administration & Finance	
	a. Invoices • A payment of £105.60 was agreed for the RoSPA report • A payment of £1077.60 was agreed for John Madison (maintenance work) b. Website • Thanks were extended to David Brearly, a resident who has been hugely helpful in sorting out the broken website c. Outstanding property to be returned by previous clerk • Items were returned d. Payments to HMRC via PAYE • There has been a demand from HMRC for outstanding amounts (two apparent underpayments) • This will be investigated further by the council.	

		SS
		SSe

		SSe
2506.08	Bolnhurst & Keysoe Village	
(a) Brockwell & East Park Energy	The proposal is likely to be resubmitted on 22 nd September 2025	
(b) East-West Rail	Cllr Faulkner has a scheduled call with the Clapham Group The Bedford Transport Forum is to be held on 11th June 2025 Meeting with Roxton residents is scheduled for 12th June 2025	
(c) White Gates	Cllr Faulkner advised that he has sources replacement plastic white gates for £150, no installation Discussions were held about the preferred location of white gates at change of speed limit to 30mph areas of the village The village handyman expressed a willingness to help with installation, with assistance. Further quotes will be obtained	
(d) Highways and footways	Note this was recorded as item 2506.08e on the agenda The pothole squad have been in action Cllr Selley requested that the PC approach Highways urging a more pragmatic approach regarding installation of a kerb in Bolnhurst. Cllr Sira will take forward.	CF
(e) Village	Note this was recorded as item 2506.08f on the agenda The PC stated that there was no option but to close the playground in light of the RoSPA report. This was due to the concerns over the validity of the insurance cover, as discussed with the insurance company	

Playground	Cllr Faulkner has been exploring some options with respect to repair and/or replace specific items Funding options will be explored by the PC A resident suggested that if the parish had a neighbourhood plan, funding could be easier to source. Cllr Sira drew council's attention to the	
--------------------------	---	--

	protracted nature of neighbourhood plan discussions and ratification	
	The item of the playground will be placed on the agenda for the July meeting	
	The item of the neighbourhood plan will be placed on the agenda for the July meeting	
	The PC agreed that the RoSPA report will be published on the website	
(f) Community Safety	Note this was recorded as item 2506.08g on the agenda No crimes were reported within the parish this month Note this was recorded as item 2506.08h on the agenda The newly appointed Clerk was introduced.	
(g) Outstanding items		
	CLOSING OPEN FORUM	
	No comments made	
2506.09	DATE of NEXT MEETING	
	Monday 14 th July at the Bolnhurst Old School The Chairman brought the meeting to a close at 21:00	