MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE OF MARTLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 14th of October 2026

Present: Cllr Simon Daws (Committee), Cllr Edward Thompson (Committee), Cllr Whitby (Committee) Cllr Lana Galbraith (Committee)
In attendance: Sara Townsend-Cartwright (Planning and Projects Officer)

1. To elect a chair for the meeting and to receive and approve apologies.
Cllr Chrissie Geeson (Chair) sent Apologies. Accepted
Cllr Paul Whitby was elected to Chair the meeting for its duration.

2. Any declarations of disclosable pecuniary or local non-pecuniary interests
Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI): None declared.
Local non-Pecuniary Interest (LNPI): None declared.

3. Actions from last meeting

The action log was reviewed.

Holly Weir (Suffolk County Council Transport Scheme Development Manager) had declined several invitations to meet with the Parish Council to discuss active transport issues in Martlesham.
Decision D2026/10a To make one final request for a meeting, with Josh White (Highways Liaison Officer) and County Councillor Patti Mulchay copied into the email. **Agreed.**

All other actions were ongoing or included on the agenda.

4. Public Forum To allow members of the public to address business on the agenda
Two members of the public were present. One resident asked how the Main Road highway improvements would affect bus services. Concerns were raised that the Suffolk County Council (SCC) had not communicated information about the roadworks effectively, resulting in public confusion and uncertainty. Cllr Daws confirmed that enquiries had been made regarding the impact of the works on bus services and that a response from SCC was awaited. The Parish Council would share the information through its usual communication channels upon receipt.
Decision D2026/10b To request that SCC Highways and Public Transport teams provide a clear account of the scheme's implications for bus services, active travel and general access arrangements. **Agreed.**

5. Transport
5.1 To note update on local transport matters, including bus routes and timetables, traffic, and road safety issues.

- Transport Update: Cllr Daws gave a verbal update.
- Candidate streets for introducing 20mph speed limits: these have been considered by the 20MPH working group. Martlesham Heath has been proposed as a potential pilot area. Further information regarding costs and requirements has been obtained SCC. A further meeting of the working group is required to review this information and make recommendations to Full Council on next steps.

- Community Speed Watch: Latest data from the community speed watch was **noted.** Cllr Daws outlined a proposal for the Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) locations to make best use of the SIDs during the period of road works on main road. It was agreed that the Mobile SID should remain in place at Fynn Bridge and the Fixed SID be used to cover the remaining locations on Martlesham Heath. He also highlighted the need to update the SIDs rota to remove volunteers who were no longer available. Edward Thompson would replace one of the previous volunteers on the SIDs rota, and the rota will be updated by office staff.
- Active Transport update: Cllr Daws gave a verbal update on the multi-agency meeting attended by Walk Wheel and Cycle Trust, East Suffolk Council, and Suffolk County Council. The County Council's stated position during the meeting was that there were no feasible traffic calming measures that could be implemented on the Felixstowe Road. A pedestrian crossing to allow the community to safely cross Felixstowe Road to the community hall was also discussed, the County Council position is that the Parish Council would have to fund this at an estimated cost of c£100,000. This would be prohibitively expensive for the Parish Council.
- The committee discussed the persistent difficulties in securing timely, proactive and collaborative engagement from SCC, particularly regarding consultation, public communication and responses to local concerns.
  Decision D2026/10c To seek advice from neighbouring Town and Parish Councils of Woodbridge, Kesgrave and Melton and from SALC and NALC to see if there is advice they can offer on how we can improve engagement and collaboration. **Agreed.**

5.2 To consider new transport consultations, works notices or public-sector updates.

- Forthcoming highway improvement scheme on Main Road, Martlesham is commencing on Monday 19th October for 20 weeks **noted.**

6. Planning

6.1 To consider current pending planning applications

SCC/0170/25SC at A12 between Junctions 58 (Seven Hills) and Woods Lane Roundabout, Woodbridge, Suffolk

The application will be considered by SCC Development and Regulation Committee.

Decision D2026/10d Cllr Edward Thompson will attend the public meeting and deliver a prepared statement on behalf of Martlesham Parish Council. **Agreed.**

DC/26/3584/TPO W1 of TPO No. 120 / 1998 Undertake tree works listed in PW-2026.TPS

This consultation is the Parish Council's own application for tree works at Portal Woodlands. It was agreed that East Suffolk Council (ESC) should be advised that the Parish Council is the applicant.

DC/26/3463/FUL Siting an In Post Parcel Locker

No objections were raised

6.2 To note the Combined Planning Report – Planning responses filed with ESC since the last meeting of the DETC Responses were **noted.**

6.3 To receive and note updates on local planning and development matters.

- Neighbourhood Plan Review: Sara Townsend-Cartwright provided a verbal update on the inception meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. The next steps would be for Bluestone Planning to undertake a health check of the current Neighbourhood Plan and assess its conformity with the Local Plan and national planning policy. Bluestone Planning recommended commencing public consultation to ensure that the emerging plan reflects the aspirations of the local community. Equity of access was discussed, and it was noted that consultation materials should be accessible to all who wished to participate. The potential establishment of a Community Engagement Working Group to support this and other community engagement and public awareness activity was also discussed.
  Recommendation D2026/10a. To recommend the establishment of the working group to Full Council. **Agreed.**
- East Suffolk Local Plan: It was **noted** that ESC have reopened their call for sites. An updated timetable has also been published.
- NSIPS: Paul Whitby Provided a verbal update.

7. Environment

7.1 To receive updates on local built environment matters, including public spaces, projects, and community facilities.

- Nissen Hut update: Pre-application advise has been received from ESC, confirming that planning permission is required. The proposal is considered acceptable in principle. The land is leased by Martlesham Heath Householders Ltd (MHHL) from Grainger PLC. MHHL have indicated that they would not be permitted to erect a structure on the site under the terms of its lease. Martlesham Heath Aviation Society have requested that the Parish Council seek to negotiate with Grainger directly.
  Decision D2026/10e To approach Grainger plc to explore whether consent could be granted for the proposed Nissen hut. **Agreed.**

7.2 Any new Environmental consultations, planning policy updates, or public sector initiatives relevant to the Parish. N/A

8. To consider social media and newsletter items

- Call for volunteers for Community Speed Watch.
- Main Road Closures. Put out a holding statement stating we are seeking clarification from SCC and share information once we receive it.

9. Items for consideration at the next DETC meeting

- Cllr Galbraith raised concerns regarding the ongoing footpath closure at Brightwell Lakes and the continued extension of the closure period by Taylor Wimpey. It was agreed that Cllr Galbraith would contact Taylor Wimpey to explore opportunities for reopening or rerouting the footpath at an earlier date. No further Council approval was considered necessary.

Date of next meeting: 9 December 2026.

There being no further business the Chair closed the meeting at 20:58.

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Chair, 9 December 2026.