

# Mulbarton Parish Council

## Clerk's Report

### June/July 2025



#### Items not on the agenda

The council has purchased an additional SAM2 sign and this is now operational.

We have received advice on the maintenance required to the baby swing on the Common. This has been carried out and checks will continue on a weekly basis.

Mulbarton Wanderers CIC have not yet replaced the container on Orchard Park.

The vegetation growing over the bus shelter opposite the Co-Op has been removed and we are seeking quotes for the necessary repairs. If this is something you can help with, please contact the clerk. It may be possible to receive a grant towards the cost from Norfolk County Council's Bus Service Improvement Plan.

We are awaiting Smiths of Derby to provide date(s) to maintain the church clock.

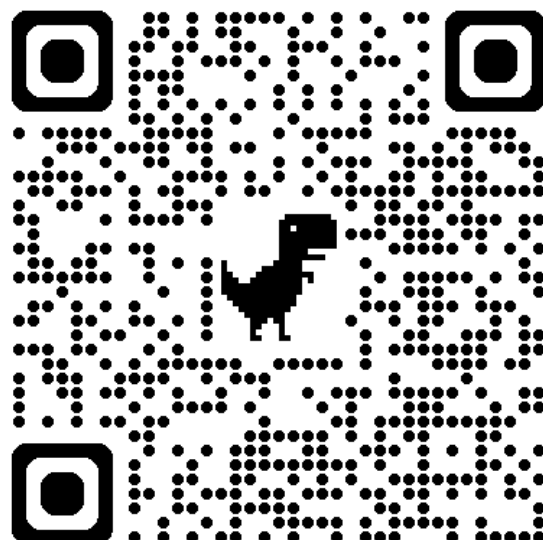
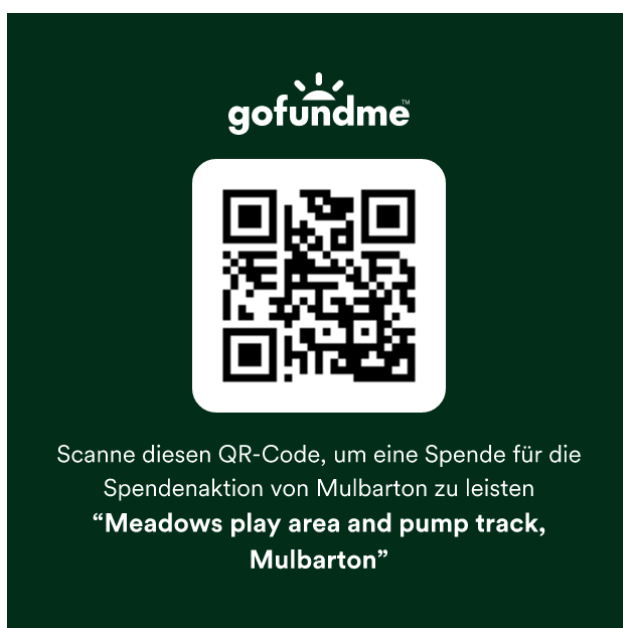
#### Items on the agenda

##### Item 6: Meadows play area

We continue to work on the funding for the new play equipment and pump track. Applications have been submitted to Orsted and the Community Action Fund Grant. We greatly appreciate the support from residents and District Councillors.

Lanpro and Four One Four are working with us so that we can gain the relevant planning permission from South Norfolk Council.

Many thanks to everyone who has donated, shared, posted, and talked about our cause. Please continue to spread the word. We really do need your help!



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#### Item 8: The Common

Tree works were carried out on the Common in early July with more work planned for late July. It is hoped that the redundant bus shelter will be removed at the same time.

Contractors have been appointed to work on Forge Orchard Pond with a date to be agreed. South Norfolk Council are also talking to contractors about work on Todd's Pond.

Following concerns raised by residents, the parish and district council have met on site to discuss the common car park by the school/doctors.

More play bark has been added around the play equipment and Mulbarton Wanderers CIC have repaired the goal posts that had previously been reported as being loose.

The hay cutting contractor is unable to proceed with the contract due to unforeseen circumstances, the councillors will consider appointing an alternative.

#### Item 11: Annual rent for allotments

At the last meeting, the council asked when the allotment rent was last increased. The records show that the allotment rent was last increased in 2015/16, in agreement with MALGA

The allotment policy states "Rents are reviewed from time to time by the Council. Any decision to increase the rents will comply with the requirements of the Allotments Act 1950 and will be notified to tenants 12 months before the increase will be implemented." "The income derived from allotment rents goes to Mulbarton Parish Council and is to be set against the costs of running the site."

A Long Lane allotment tenant has requested that the plot be used as a wildlife habitat rather than a cultivated allotment.

#### Item 13: Mulberry Park

The council's solicitor requested planning and environmental consent details, as well as detailed plans. This has been forwarded to Mulbarton Wanderers CIC and their response is expected shortly.

#### Item 14: Grass verge cutting on Oakley Park

Hopkin Homes have transferred the verges over to Norfolk County Council, but NCC have not cut the verges on been in contact with the parish council to advise of the transfer. Some of the verges are cut by residents, other areas are not cut. The parish council will consider the cost of cutting the verges.

#### Item 17: Cutting of the path on western side of Meadows allotment

It is believed this path has previously been cut by a volunteer but at the time of the last meeting this had not been done. The current contractor has advised the cost to cut the path for the remainder of the season. Since the last meeting the path has been cut but it is not known by whom.

#### Item 18: Feasibility study around the Common

Ben Goldsborough MP has been helping to progress the feasibility study around the Common. There are some unanswered questions about the cost, the process, parish council involvement and grants available. These questions have been put to Norfolk County Council, and they were invited to attend the meeting but, at the time of writing, no response has been received

#### Item 19: Parish Partnership funding scheme

Each year local councils are invited to submit bids for highway improvement schemes. For 2025/26 the fund is £848,702 with Norfolk County Council funding 50% of the cost of successful bids. Town and parish councils contribute the balance. The deadline for submissions is 1 December 2025.

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#### Item 20: Armed Forces Covenant

The Armed Forces Covenant is a promise by the nation ensuring that those who serve or have served in the Armed Forces, and their families, are treated fairly. South Norfolk Council have already signed the covenant and the parish council will consider signing too.

#### Item 25: South Norfolk Landscape Susceptibility

South Norfolk Council are seeking views on their draft South Norfolk Landscape Susceptibility in relation to energy generation, storage and transmission Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The draft SPD provides guidance and information for people wanting to submit energy related planning applications, including detail regarding the interpretation and implementation of national policy and local policies in the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP, 2024) and the South Norfolk Development Management Policies Document. The consultation closes on 18 August

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