Mulbarton Parish Council
Clerk's Report
August/September/October 2026

Items not on the agenda

The village sign on the Common has been straightened but the wooden top needs some refurbishment. If this is something you can help with, please let us know.



Refurbishment work on Charlie's phone box, near The World's End, has been completed and it is back in use. Many thanks for all the books donated.

Many thanks to Cllr Nikki Belcher-Brown and husband Martin.



A member of the public raised the grass cutting on parcels of land near Gowing Road, the below pictures were taken in August.



Over the coming weeks, the water at all allotment sites will be switched off for the winter. This is to reduce the damage to the pipes over the winter, and we ask that these are not switched on again until next spring.

There have been some plot agreements terminated at Oakley Park South and The Swamp. Those on the waiting list are being contacted but it is possible that there will still be some plots that have not been leased. If you are interested in taking on an allotment plot or finding out more, please contact the clerk.

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Items on the agenda

Item 6: Meadows play area project

The new swing set and seesaw was installed in September.

We are pleased that so many residents, of all ages and abilities, have been enjoying the pump track. The council has received many positive comments about the new facility; however, we are also aware that some local parking has caused concern and distress.

The council has also been made aware that the number of bikes, dogs and pedestrians using the pedestrian gate at the main Meadows entrance is also causing some frustration.

Grass seeding and/or turfing around the pump track has been delayed due to the hosepipe ban. The council wish to consider switching from the current agreement of a mixture of seed and turf to a fully turfed option. This option will incur some additional cost.

The position of the track means the grounds maintenance contractor will need to cut the hedge manually, which will incur additional costs. These costs could be reduced in future by installing an additional access gate.

A play area user has asked the council to consider installing an additional bin near the track to help reduce litter. The council will need to consider the best location, taking into account access around the track for visitors and contractors.

A further request was for the council to install a bike repair station. The council will discuss weather to proceed with a bike station, accept the funding and any terms, along with the bike station model, location and ongoing maintenance.

The opening ceremony scheduled for 17 October was cancelled due to a lack of councillor availability. The council will consider if this should still go ahead.

Item 10: Youth provision

A survey, aimed at the youth, has been running over the past few weeks. The results have been summarised and shared ahead of the meeting. If you're aged between 12-18 and you still haven't had your say, use the QR code.

Following on from the news that we have been awarded £20,000 from South Norfolk Council for youth provision, Cllr Nikki Belcher-Brown and the clerk visited another youth club, run by the YMCA, for ages 12-16 to gain an understanding of their offering.

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Item 13: Parking at the village hall complex

Parking can be difficult when several activities take place at the village hall, football ground, Scouts HQ and nearby facilities at the same time. The parish council owns the car park serving the village hall, football ground, Scouts HQ and Blakey's Bus, and all groups may use it. Councillors are asked to consider how improvements could be made. If you have any ideas, please come along to our meeting and raise this directly with the councillors.

Item 14: Office refurbishment

Water has now been installed in the office, together with a sink and water metre. Electrical works have also been completed, including the installation of additional sockets and metre.
The council will agree the next steps, including which items should be disposed of, and will set a budget for the remaining refurbishment work.

Item 16: Common feasibility study

Last year, the council were awarded a grant towards carrying out a feasibility study of traffic around the Common. The council have now received the draft report which includes 8 options. These options will be considered by the parish council, Norfolk County Council and other stakeholders before setting out the final recommendations.

Item 21: 2027/28 budget requirements

The council held their first budget discussion at the August meeting. They discussed budgeting for the youth provision, CCTV, office IT, MUGA/skatepark improvements, village hall committee budget, update/review of neighbourhood plan, changes/improvements to play areas, additional dog bins, additional allotment spend and development of village hall site.

Want to be move involved?



If any of the projects above caught your eye — or if you have a bright idea the parish council should explore — we would be delighted to hear from you and invite you to consider joining us.

Parish Councillors play an important role in shaping local decisions, supporting community priorities and helping to improve life in Mulbarton. If you are able to commit a few hours per month and have a strong interest in the future of the village, please contact us for further information.