

Mulbarton Parish Council

Clerk's Report

July/August 2026



Items not on the agenda

South Norfolk Council has awarded us £20,000 towards youth provision. We would not have won this without your input, so thank you to all those who have been in touch and to those who took part in the debate at our June meeting. We will be continuing to engage with the local community to understand the needs of the youth to ensure the provision meets their needs. If this is something you would like to be involved with, please get in touch.



We have been successful in winning the grant of £900 towards the refurbishment of the bus shelter opposite the Co-op. It is estimated that work will begin on this late September/early October.

Refurbishment work is progressing on Charlie's phone box, near The World's End. The inside has been prepared, and the ceiling has been painted. New bookcases are ready to go in as soon as the inside is ready.

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.

The memorial bench for the Common has been ordered and will be installed near the village sign in September.

Thank you to all those who joined us for our litter pick earlier in the year. As a result of this we have been given £50 from South Norfolk Council.



The allotment sites that were issued cultivation notices are being monitored. Failure to cultivate a plot may result in termination of the agreement.

Plots are available at The Swamp allotments, if you are interested in taking one of these on, please contact the clerk.

At the last meeting, a member of the public raised concerns about the Swamp allotment, the council are waiting for a paper from the member of the public to outline the proposals, aims and resources before considering further.

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A replacement dog bin for the junction of Birchfield Lane and Birchfield Garden is due to be in place in August with the base already installed.



Thank you to the football club for removing the old signage from the village hall entrance and replacing it with a new sign.

The plumber has been asked to proceed with the work at the office as agreed in the July meeting but has not yet given. The electrician will begin work once the plumber has finished.

We are collecting all the necessary documentation to allow us to proceed with the opening of the new bank account with Skipton Building Society.

At the July meeting, the church was asked to provide additional documentation. At the time of writing, no further documentation had been received.

The two ropes on the Common play area have been replaced and the climbing frame at the village hall is being repaired.



No response from the external auditor has been received regarding the objection raised.

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Items on the agenda

Item 6.1: Meadows play area project



The pump track is scheduled to be available for use from Friday 14 August, this will depend on the track being signed off by an independent RoPSA inspector. We hope that the facility is enjoyed by many and ask that you respect each other and nearby residents.

Once the hosepipe ban has been lifted, we will grass the area around the track.

At the last meeting the council agreed to install metal framed swing set and seesaw, instead of wooden frames, which will reduce the lead time of the equipment. Once this is ready, a contractor will install the equipment.

A new pedestrian/bike access point will be available at the end of August, when the wooden vehicular gate is replaced by a split metal gate. This will reduce the footfall through Jubilee Gardens.

While the contractors have been on site, they have added some hardcore to The Meadows entrance. It is hoped this will ease the pressure on the ground during the wetter months when vehicles are on site servicing the allotments and carrying out grounds' maintenance.



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Item 6.2: MUGA (Multi-Use Games Area)



At the last meeting, the council considered quotes to install goals and basketball hoops to the MUGA but did not reach a decision. This month the council will consider who the target users are and how the facility can be improved.

In February, Newham began consulting with the public about MUGA improvements and their progress has been shared on [their website](#).

If you have any views on this, please come along to our meeting and have your say during the public session.

Item 6.3: Replacement bench for village hall play area

One of the benches in the village hall play area has a broken slat. There are numerous companies that could provide a replacement bench, including [NBB Recycled Furniture](#)

Item 9: CCTV

Over recent months, the council has seen damage to their property, particularly in play areas. At the last meeting, the council asked to discuss the possibility of installing CCTV cameras. The installation of any CCTV cameras will require the council to abide by current legislation and consider recommended best practices. Information and guidance are available on the [ICO \(Information Commissioner's Office\) website](#).

Item 10: Bins

The parish council is responsible for the litter and dog bins in the parish. We purchase them, arrange to have them installed and pay South Norfolk Council to empty them. The exception are the bins on The Common, although we purchase and install them, South Norfolk Council picks up the bill for emptying them.

Councillors will be reviewing the current bins, noting any that may need replacing soon and considering any new locations. If you have a view on this, come along to our meeting and have your say during the public session.



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Item 11: Grounds Maintenance

This year, the grounds maintenance requirements have been added to Parish Online so they can be viewed on a map, rather than only in a spreadsheet. The data can still be downloaded as a table, but it should be checked alongside the map.

Contractors who wish to quote may be given access to the software and invited to attend site meetings. Regular grounds maintenance currently costs around £20,000 per year.

The council will also need to decide how many years contractors should quote for. To comply with Financial Regulations, the council must set a closing date for quotes. All quotes received before that date will remain sealed or confidential until the closing date.

Item 13: 2027/28 Budget

This month the council will begin its budget process, which forms the basis on the precept and the amount each household is charged in their council tax.

Councillors will be discussing plans for 2027/28 and beyond. We welcome your views on this hot topic and invite all residents to attend our meetings to have their say, to listen to the councillors and to gain some understanding into the choices they face.



Want to be more 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.

