Bradfield St George PC - Clerk report

November 2026

Item 7.1 Quote from Lyward Colley for table for village green?

Item 7.2 Allotments

The Clerk has sent out the allotment renewal for 2027; four tenants have paid – clerk will chase the outstanding tenants shortly.

Planned allotment rent for 2027 is £90.

The clerk has written again to the family of the deceased plot holder to confirm that the area will be cleared; no response received.

Lyward Colley has expressed an interest in taking further land which would improve income and support clearance of the abandoned 5 plots. The statutory purpose of allotments is to allow parish residents to grow their own produce regardless of whether they have access to a private garden or not; no persons are on the waiting list for allotments. The Council needs to decide whether to rent further land to Lyward Colley. If the Council is minded to rent out further land in this way the clerk recommends that it will need to keep the amount of plots rented out to any one individual /organisation under review annually in the event that there are expressions of interest are forthcoming from other residents.

Item 7.4 Hollybush Corner Parking

Havebury will agree to meet on site to review with representatives from the Council. P Council need to suggest some potential meeting dates.

Item 8.4-8.6 Budget and precept request for 2027-2028

The clerk has drafted a budget for 2027/28. An allowance for a grant of up to £400 for grass cutting at the church has been made, which takes the planned expenditure up a bit, coupled with the usual annual increases in clerk's pay, BT subscription and (probably) grass cutting. The Clerk has therefore proposed an increase in the precept to £5666. If some additional allotment rent is secured, then the precept request could be adjusted down accordingly. The way the precept is calculated is set out in the explanatory note attached and the likely impact of the proposed change on Band D property is set out on the draft request form. The reserves policy will need adjustment to reflect whatever precept request is agreed.

Item 9.2 SCC feedback on footpath

Thank you for contacting us regarding Bradfield St George Footpath 015 reported under reference number **80622**. Please quote this reference number in any future correspondence that relates to this issue.

We can now provide you with the following update from rights of way:

Thank you for your report. The county council prioritises resources to make best use of

limited funding. Priorities for cutting include routes to shops, schools, services and promoted routes. This route is not on the cutting schedule and unfortunately won't receive a cut.

Information about how Suffolk's highways are managed can be found on our website here: www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/.
If you wish to track progress of your report, please use the following link: Suffolk County Council - ReportIT

If you did not report this problem online, please be aware that you can make payments, report problems and find information about Council services by visiting our website www.suffolk.gov.uk

We'd love to hear about your experience contacting us, let us know how we did by completing our survey

Please do not use the reply function of this message. This mailbox is not monitored and therefore your email will not be seen.

Kind regards,

Lauren
Customer Service
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Item 9.3 Election charges 2027

Elections are due to be held for Parish Councils in 2027.

WSC has notified the associated election expenses for 2027 as follows. There is potentially a significant cost for the Council in any contested election.

Estimated costs for a contested election:
The following table provides the estimated cost that will be recharged to a Parish or Town Council for administering a contested election i.e. a full election process where there are more validly nominated candidates than there are vacant seats.

No. of electors in parish	100% estimated cost of contested election (assuming district is not contested)	50% of estimated cost of contested election (assuming district is contested)
0-750	£2500 - £3500	£1500 - £2500
750 - 1500	£3000 - £4000	£2000 - £3000
1500 - 3000	£3500 - £5500	£2500 - £4500
More than 3000	£5000 - £7000	£4000 - £6000

Estimated costs for an uncontested election:
If the parish or town council election is uncontested (same or less candidates validly nominated than vacant seats) then we will invoice for the administration costs incurred by West Suffolk Council. The cost will be approximately £100 and will be based on the following costs:

- Producing and publishing the statutory notices
- Checking and formally receiving nomination papers