

Minutes of a Meeting of FULBOURN PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday, 10th December 2025 in The Swifts, Haggis Gap, Fulbourn.

Present: Councillor Smith (Chair), and Councillors Andrews, Bramwell, Brown, Drage, Gaskell, Howell, Johnson, Lockwood, Saunders, and Ward; County Councillor Morgan, District Councillor Cone, the Administrator Alison Mclellan and the Clerk and 1 parishioner.

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| <p>69 To accept apologies for absence. Councillor Lacey and District Councillor Williams</p> <p>70 To notify the clerk of any declarations of interest that will be declared by members for any item to be discussed.</p> <p><u>Public & Press</u> - You are invited to attend the whole meeting and are welcome to speak at our Open Forum at the beginning of the meeting.</p> <p>71 To receive reports from County and District Councillors. 71.1 County Councillor Matthew Morgan Report attached at end of document. Cllr Morgan highlighted: Cadent gas works will start again on Cambridge Road, but due to the state of the pipes, it is a more indepth process. Works will take place from 5th Jan to middle of March. Tree way traffic control. Cadent are holding a Gazebo event for information on 16th December. GCP will be looking at Apthorpe Street in the new year. Cllr Gaskell reported a road collision on Shelford Road. ‘Slow’ signs need to be repainted. Cllr Morgan will be adding this stretch of road to Capitol Maintenance planning. Cllr Drage asked about Station Road, Cllr Morgan will be asking for the full road to be done.</p> <p>Cllr Morgan reported for information that the Hydro Pool at the Ida Darwin site has had issues with Morris Homes, power outages and damage caused.</p> <p>71.2 District Councillor Williams Report attached at end of document.</p> <p>71.3 District Councillor Cone Report attached at end of document. Cllr Cone highlighted: As written. As the water treatment plant is not being moved, the new houses that were going to be built have been distributed elsewhere, including around 6000 looking to be relocated to Abbington. Cllr Morgan attended the briefing and confirmed the potential Grange Farm will have a link to the guided busway.</p> <p>72 To approve the minutes of the November 2025 meeting.</p> <p>73 Matters arising from the last meeting. Farehurst Park and The Orchards Meeting took place on 9th December, Cllr Smith had mentioned the lights not coming on, and Hills said the lights were probably set to the wrong time. To be looked into. Debate over whether the dangerous tree is on Hills land or on the neighbours. Mobile Speed Indicator Device (SID) Cllr Cone reported an issue with the device, which is hopefully being sorted. The device isn’t streaming to the laptop but Cllr Cone is seeking help from the manufacturer. Swifts Play Area Cllr Bramwell updated that the library session wasn’t very well attended, but a few parishioners that did attend were very enthusiastic and requested more swings. Swifts 106</p> | <p>MM</p> <p>GC</p> |
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| <p>Email from accent saying if council agree to take on the playpark, Accent will pay the £5000. Meeting request sent for Friday but council will not attend as have said everything needs to go through the solicitors. Cllr Drage recommended we send correspondence to James Fisher to ask for advice. Clerk to send email from Azar to council.</p> | <p>1563</p> |
| <p>Swifts Car Park Fence is up, but Cllr Smith has confirmed it is not very good. Administrator reported the other fence too.</p> | |
| <p>Local Highways Initiative (LHI) The Clerk is currently writing the LHI bid for Manor Walk and encouraged anyone to send images or videos from along the road, as well as any written statements.</p> | <p>All, Clerk</p> |
| <p>Driveway 2 costings from architect. Cllr Smith will send to Clerk to send round. To be voted on in January. An initial cost of £850 followed by £1000. Cllr Ward proposed, Cllr Johnson second. Council voted which passed.</p> | <p>DS, Clerk</p> |
| <p>Skate Park Existing base is useless. Clerk to collect quotes.</p> | <p>Clerk</p> |
| <p>74 Tree works: Michael Downs quoted £650 for surveys on Poor Well Poplar trees. Ward proposed, Gaskell seconded. Council agreed. Clerk to ask Michael Downs to check on the ash and maple at the recreation ground.</p> | <p>Clerk</p> |
| <p>Proposal: Pine - fell Field Maple reduce height by 4-5m, reduce spread on all sides by 3m to shape round . Site address: 11 The Haven Fulbourn Cambridgeshire Reference: 25/1257/TTPO</p> | |
| <p>Proposal: 2: English Oak - Fell/Remove 3: Ash - Fell/Remove 4: Hazel - Fell/Remove 5 and 7: x2 Ash - Fell/Remove 8: Hazel - Fell/Remove 9: Beech - Fell/Remove 10: Ash - Fell/Remove 11, 12 and 13: x3 Beech - Fell/Remove 14 and 16: x2 English Oak - Fell/Remove 19, 20 and 23: x3 Beech - Fell/Remove 27 and 29: x2 Ash - Fell/Remove 30, 32, 33 and 35: x4 Sycamore - Fell/Remove 37: Ash - Fell/Remove 38 and 39: x2 English Oak - Fell/Remove 52: Larch - Fell/Remove 53: Hazel - Fell/Remove 55: Ash - Fell/Remove 65: Beech - Fell/Remove Site address: Land Adjacent Flack Field Stonebridge Lane Fulbourn Reference: 25/1321/TTPO</p> | |
| <p>Proposal: T1: Ivy-covered Leylandii - Fell leaving a trunk at 10ft tall T2: Ash - Fell leaving a trunk at 10ft tall T3: Leylandii - Fell leaving a trunk at 10ft tall Site address: 39 Pierce Lane Fulbourn Cambridgeshire Reference: 25/1323/TTCA</p> | |

Proposal: Two mature Sycamore - Reduce the current growth back to the existing pollarding (back to the trunk), by approximately 6 metres
 Site address: Land Rear Of 40A Pierce Lane Fulbourn
 Reference: 25/1351/TTCA

1564

Disclaimer: Fulbourn Parish Council Tree Officer and the Parish Council accept no liability for the advice given above.

75 Correspondence

CCC – Webinar - Cambridgeshire County Council Budget Briefing with Town and Parish Councils. Thursday 11th Dec 6:30-7:30pm.

SCDC – Free commemorative tree and plaque as part of COVID-19 Day of Reflection - please complete form by 31 January 2026. *Clerk to apply for tree*

Clerk

Parishioner, email - Complaint about Voi e-scooter stop outside parishioners house on Cambridge road. *Cllr Morgan to get in touch with parishioners. Clerk to send details.*

MM,
Clerk

Highways - Reminder for deadline of 11th December for any Capital Maintenance programme projects in Fulbourn

CAPALC, email – Assertion 10 slides and recording

Parishioner, in person – asking about putting a book borrowing library around the village. *Council would like more information*

Clerk

Parishioner, email – asking who owns the driveways leading to the first few houses down The Croft. *Cllr Morgan to look into. Clerk to send contact details.*

MM,
Clerk

76 To resolve the accounts for the month.

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| Pavilion Gas..... | 156.83 | Pavilion Elec..... | 483.50 |
| Hub Gas..... | 178.10 | Hub Elec..... | 194.93 |
| Village grass cut..... | 1300.00 | Hibbits: War mem..... | 660.00 |
| Ely skip hire..... | 198 | S Wales: pest control..... | 360 |
| Man Up Handy man..... | 145 | S Wales: Pest Control..... | £360 |
| DBS Electrical..... | £133.69 | Manup local services..... | £67.50 |
| VIA subscription: Car scheme..... | £120 | | |
| Tesco: Mobile..... | 26.99 | Cleaner Windows: Swifts..... | 30.00 |
| Clerk: Wages..... | 1301.64 | Admin Assist: Wages..... | 676.00 |
| Cleaner: Wages..... | 433.00 | DR Raven Garden: hours..... | 1227.00 |

Cllr Lockwood proposed passing the accounts, proposal seconded by Cllr Ward agreed by the Council.

77 Council Committees and Remote Meetings

77.1 Minutes from Rec Ground User meeting, 2 December 2025

- Cllr Ward reported from the rec user meeting that Cricket club were concerned about the danger of cricket balls going onto the public tennis court. Suggestion of putting warning notices that cricket is taking place. Council decided against.
- Tennis club are concerned that a tree next to the tennis courts is damaging the ground and might need to be taken down. Clerk to ask Michael Downs to look at tree.

Clerk

77.2 Minutes from Precept meeting, 3 December 2025

77.3 Minutes from Planning meeting, 3 December 2025

77.4 Minutes from Rec Expansion meeting, 9 December 2025

78 To receive items for inclusion on the next Agenda for decision and/or action.

Cllr Johnson and Bramwell spoke about a bench on the Swifts estate that Accent are looking to move; 1066 donated the bench and parish council put it there.

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| There was no further business and the meeting closed at 19:43. | |
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Attached reports:

71.1

71.2

Supplementary Report of Councillor Carla Hofman and Councillor John Williams to Parish Councils for December 2025.

This report contains factual information which we hope will be of use and of interest to the parish council and to the wider community of the parish.

*For queries please email us at cldr.williamsjg@scambs.gov.uk or
cldr.hofman@scambs.gov.uk*

Also, look out for the Parish Clerks e-Bulletin from South Cambridgeshire District Council

Greater Cambridge Shared Planning service named national Planning Authority of the Year

Greater Cambridge Shared Planning has been crowned Planning Authority of the Year by the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI). This nationwide recognition celebrates the service's outstanding commitment to delivering high-quality planning for local communities, supporting sustainable growth, and shaping places where people can thrive.

The award follows a year of significant achievements for Greater Cambridge Shared Planning (GCSP) – which is a partnership between Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District councils. It comes after GCSP was crowned Planning Authority of the Year - East of England at the local RTPI Awards for Planning Excellence earlier this year.

The national RTPI award follows a compelling nomination that showcased the service's transformative work across Greater Cambridge, including its approaches to biodiversity, youth engagement, and digital innovation. Among other councils nominated were the City of Edinburgh Council and the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham.

Three councils back case for two new unitaries: Greater Cambridge with North Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Three Cambridgeshire councils have now backed the creation of a new unitary Council for Greater Cambridge and another for North Cambridgeshire and Peterborough – with local leaders saying they offer financial security, deliver up to £43 million savings a year and respect local identities. At an extraordinary South Cambridgeshire District Council meeting it was agreed to submit their preference to Government which is known locally as 'option B' which has South Cambridgeshire and the City joining to form a new council with the County council services in those districts. This option was supported by East Cambridgeshire which felt it would be better placed with its mainly rural neighbours Fenland and Huntingdonshire, together with Peterborough an existing unitary council.

This comes after the Government asked all two-tier council areas like Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to simplify local government by replacing the current complex system of seven councils with fewer, stronger councils. Each new council would provide all local services – from housing and planning to social care – under one roof. This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to create councils that are easier to deal with, financially secure, and better able to deliver services people rely on.

The Government plans to go out to public consultation on the options submitted to it – four in all – in the new year, with the Secretary of State coming to a decision before the summer. There will then be elections to the chosen shadow unitary councils in May 2027 and a period of handover until the new councils come into effect in 2028, when South Cambridgeshire District Council will cease to exist. In the end the number of councillors will be considerably reduced, which is causing concern. For example, in Fulbourn and Fen Ditton we one county and three district councillors and this would be halved to two, to do all current district and county responsibilities.

South Cambridgeshire welcomes almost 1,000 Ukrainians under Homes for Ukraine scheme

South Cambridgeshire has welcomed almost 1,000 Ukrainians fleeing the war, thanks to the generosity of local communities and support provided by the District Council.

The Government launched the Homes for Ukraine scheme in 2022 to enable UK residents to offer accommodation to people escaping the conflict in Ukraine. The District Council responded rapidly to ensure that residents who were keen to support those fleeing the war in Ukraine could offer a place to stay as promptly as possible. This initial work included hundreds of DBS checks, in-person visits to check accommodation was suitable, ensuring payments were made to both guests and hosts, and much more.

Recognising that guests want to live more independently where they could – the Council established dedicated support for those who wanted to find their own accommodation early in the scheme. This included involvement from Homes for Ukraine guests who have in-turn helped other guests.

Councillors have said that South Cambridgeshire residents responded with extraordinary kindness, making the district one of the leading areas nationally for participation.

Council campaign secures free school meals for more families

More than 80 extra children in South Cambridgeshire are now receiving free school meals, thanks to a pioneering initiative between two councils. The campaign uses smart technology used by South Cambridgeshire District Council and innovative data-sharing between it and Cambridgeshire County Council to identify families eligible for support - but not currently claiming it.

The additional free school meals are expected to be worth more than £314,000 to the 66 families over the lifetime of their claims – if they claim from now until their children reach the end of year 11. Additionally, it is expected to be worth more than £1 million to local schools in government funding in the process.

Communal Room in St Vigors Road Fulbourn converted to sheltered bungalow

An unused communal room in a sheltered housing scheme has been transformed into a wheelchair-friendly sheltered bungalow thanks to a renovation project by South Cambridgeshire District Council.

The former communal space at St Vigors Close, Fulbourn - once overlooked and unused by residents - has been given a new lease of life through an 18-month transformation.

The property has been turned into a vibrant two-bedroom bungalow with features to ensure it is fit for the future, including full wheelchair accessibility throughout, a level access wet room and an open plan living and kitchen area suitable for wheelchair users. There is also a redesigned frontage with off street level access parking.

The project was made possible following extensive negotiations by the Council to revise lease agreements and create workable planning solutions after it was found the sheltered scheme communal room building was not being used, and the residents had no interest in keeping it.

The 18 Shopper Bus is back serving Six Mile Bottom

The Tuesday only bus from Teversham to Newmarket had stopped serving Six Mile Bottom without permission. Having got nowhere with the officers of the Combined Authority which contracts the route, we complained to the Traffic Commissioner because the bus operator A2B was breaking its licence to operator the route. Within days it got sorted and A2B is being investigated by the Traffic Commissioner.

Local Housing Nominations for Teversham and Fen Ditton for Springstead Village and Marleigh for South Cambs residents

We found out that local nominations on the housing waiting list for South Cambridgeshire allocated affordable homes in the Springstead Village and Marleigh housing developments were not being given preference over others living in the district, whereas those living in the City close to the developments were being given preference for the City council allocated homes. This has now been corrected. The developments in Fulbourn are not affected, with nominations with a local connection being given preference as per the long held South Cambs policy.

Carla & John

71.3

District Councillor report to Parish Council December 2025

It has been a very busy time at SCDC this month. Alongside my regular councillor casework, November included two extraordinary council meetings, as well as two scrutiny meetings: one examining the Greater Cambridge Local Plan ahead of December's public consultation, and another reviewing proposals for local government reform.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy Christmas. Please be assured that I will remain contactable throughout the festive period should you need to get in touch.

Local Government Reorganisation

Ahead of November's council meeting, I didn't promote one business case over another. I felt it was important to use the meeting as the proper time to review all available information, including the public consultation and survey responses, before deciding which option would best serve residents in South Cambridgeshire.

My priority has always been to listen to local views and take a careful, balanced look at the details before reaching a conclusion. After considering everything presented, I felt that **Option C** offered the most suitable way forward for South Cambridgeshire.

Option C brings together South Cambridgeshire, Cambridge City and Huntingdonshire. In my view, this creates two local authorities with a more even distribution of residents, avoids the challenges of a heavily city-weighted structure, and maintains stronger representation for our rural communities.

Option C also supports better coordination on transport and housing across the region, balances development between villages, towns and the city, and keeps the A14/A428 corridor intact rather than divided. It would also help ensure that housing pressures are shared fairly, rather than South Cambridgeshire becoming a primary overspill area.

At the November meeting, I explained why I believe Option C provides the best balance of financial stability, rural representation and long-term service sustainability for our area. Both Options B and C were discussed in detail, and although the administration voted for B, each council across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is submitting its own preferred option to the government.

Greater Cambridge Local Plan

Hopefully you are all aware of the upcoming public consultation on the Greater Cambridge Local Plan. Taking part in the public consultation is a vital opportunity for residents, workers, and community groups to shape the future of where they live and work. The Local Plan will guide decisions on housing, transport, green spaces, climate action, and infrastructure for years to come, influencing how towns and villages grow and develop. By sharing your views, you help ensure that planning decisions reflect local knowledge, priorities, and real-life needs - rather than being based only on statistics or distant assumptions.

The public consultation is running from 1st December for 8 weeks. You can find out more information and how to take part in the consultation here: [Greater Cambridge Local Plan: the 20-year master plan for the Greater Cambridge area](#)

Men's Health Strategy for England Launched

The government has unveiled the Men's Health Strategy for England, aimed at tackling men's mental health challenges, improving physical wellbeing, and reducing

health inequalities so that men and boys can live longer, healthier lives. Men are often less likely to seek help and more likely to struggle in silence. Combined with higher rates of smoking, alcohol consumption, gambling, and drug use, this has a significant impact on families, workplaces, and communities.

As part of the strategy, the government is investing £3.6 million over the next three years in suicide prevention initiatives. These projects will address barriers faced by middle-aged men in seeking support, including stigma around asking for help and limited awareness of available resources and how to access them.

The strategy prioritizes men's health by directly addressing these challenges and developing solutions designed with men, for men. Councils are encouraged to share this information where relevant.

More information:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-unveils-englands-first-ever-mens-health-strategy>

Concerns over transparency

Concerns have been raised about transparency relating to the ongoing discussions on the 4-day week. Following a letter from Steve Reed MP, the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, setting out the government's position, and noting feedback from the recent public consultation which indicated low levels of trust in the council, an extraordinary council meeting was requested to allow for open discussion of the next steps.

At this meeting, which focused on how the council planned to respond to the Secretary of State's letter, a proposal was made to share minutes and materials from the council's discussions with the minister. This proposal did not pass.

Given the meeting's purpose was to support clarity around the issue, the decision not to release further information has prompted concern among some members. There remains a strong emphasis on promoting transparency and keeping residents informed about matters that affect everyday services and the use of public funds.

The Budget and what it does for local government

Many residents in South Cambridgeshire may feel understandably frustrated by this year's budget, and I share some of those concerns. Although ministers have described it as a budget focused on "stability," the impact for many local families may feel quite different. With income tax thresholds frozen and changes affecting savers and those preparing for retirement, many people could end up paying more over time, even if their earnings don't increase by much. This is my view, but I am sure many will disagree.

I've stolen the following summary from the media in relation to local government, which I hope you find helpful:

- The government is committing to a large-scale increase in funding and support for local authorities. [GOV.UK+2GOV.UK+2](#)

- For roads & infrastructure: there will be over **£2 billion per year by 2029–30** for local authorities to repair and maintain roads, fix potholes, and improve local highways — effectively doubling funding since the current administration took office. [GOV.UK+1](#)
- For housing and planning: The Budget promises “hundreds more planners” to speed up housebuilding and planning decisions — which could help speed up housing, infrastructure and development projects locally.
- For community infrastructure and public spaces: There’s a commitment of £18 million to upgrade or establish around 200 children’s playgrounds across England, under the broader community-regeneration scheme (the “Pride in Place” initiative).
- More local control and flexibility for “Mayors and local leaders” (in areas with mayoral Combined Authorities), including giving them new powers to invest in transport, infrastructure and the visitor economy, using new levers such as a planned overnight-stay levy.
- Many of the new funds or powers are directed through “business cases” or as part of larger regional/mayoral-level plans — so it’s not guaranteed all councils will benefit equally. For example: some of the growth or regeneration funds apply to “mayoral city regions,” which may not include our district. [Local Government Association+1](#)
- The increased funding for roads and maintenance — while substantial — is only part of a long-term plan (up to 2029–30). Given existing maintenance backlogs, it may take many years for significant improvements to reach all areas.
- For housing / planning improvements: while extra planners are promised, the actual impact locally will depend on how quickly and effectively recruitment happens, and how planning applications in each council area are prioritised.

Reminder for postal vote renewals

The rules brought in by the Elections Act 2022 means that if you are a postal voter you have to renew your postal vote every 3 years. This means that if you completed a postal vote application before October 2023, you will need to renew it by January 2026 at the latest in order to remain a postal voter for the district council elections in May 2026. The easiest way for residents to re-apply is online at www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote, but the council can send paper forms to anyone who needs them. Please email elections@scambs.gov.uk if you have any questions.

Christmas bin collection dates

Ahead of a typical busy and festive month next month, we want to give you a head start and remind you to check the bin collection days over Christmas and into the new year. There may be a couple of changes over Christmas and New Year for you to be aware of. You can check your scheduled collections here: [View your bin dates - South Cambs District Council](#)

*Thank you for taking the time to read my report; if you have any questions or want to discuss any of the issues raised email me on graham.cone@councillor.online or ring 07595 361 285 (please leave a voicemail if I am unavailable) **Councillor Graham Cone***

77.1 Minutes from Rec Ground User meeting, 2 December 2025
Recreation Ground Working Party - Tuesday 2nd December

Present:- Chris McMullen, Mike Humphrey- Davis, David Smith, Richard Drage, Ian Still
Apologies:- Robert Lacey, Kim Howell

Hedges/Trees: Ash and Maple need checking.

Tree near tennis courts needs felling to stop damage.

Pavillion Architect still working on plans either to demolish and rebuild or to extend existing.

Cricket plans approved.

Car park pot holes, pavilion tiles, gate post in Impetts Lane awaiting attention of My village handyman.

David has added further light on Drive.

Compost bin emptying awaiting better weather and Robert Lacey.

Protection needed from cricket balls on public tennis courts – contact Cambridge Courts for cost.

Monitor rabbits, moles.

Discussion needed with Institute regarding locking of Main Gate. Electronic gate lock suggested.

AOB- Cricket would like outfield cut shorter in Summer.

Awaiting architect for planning new entrance.

Two new bins needed for plastics/metal.

77.2 Minutes from Precept meeting, 3 December 2025

77.3 Minutes from Planning meeting, 3 December 2025

Minutes of a Planning Meeting of Fulbourn Parish Council

Location: The Hub, Home End, Fulbourn.

Date: Wednesday 3rd December 2025

Present: J. Gaskell (Chair), G. Ward, T. Andrews, L. Saunders, M Drage, K. Howell, A. Bramwell, M. Drage, K. Johnson, E. Sullivan.

Apologies: D. Brown, T. Lockwood, R. Lacey, D. Smith.

Consultation on application for Planning Permission:

25/04493/FUL

Location: New Shardelowes Farm, Balsham Road, Fulbourn, Cambridgeshire

Proposal: A new Cambridge Airbase for East Anglian Air Ambulance including a hangar, garage, crew facilities, offices, training facilities, FATO area (final approach and take off), sleeping accommodation and other associated infrastructure including landscaping, parking and drainage.

Comments: The Parish Council supports this application on the condition of highways

advice regarding the traffic vacating Alan's Ark onto the road (Fulbourn to Charter House Bridge). The Parish Council does not request that the application be referred to the District Council Planning Committee (signed by Councillor J. Gaskell on 03/12/25).

Comments submitted to SCDC on 03/12/25 by Alison Mclellan.

25/04555/FUL

Location: 20-24 Pierce Lane, Fulbourn, Cambridgeshire

Proposal: Change of use and demolition of existing commercial unit, ancillary stores/workshops and erection of 8 no dwellinghouses including new access and associated works.

Comments: The Parish Council objects to this application based on overdevelopment of the site, poor access onto Pierce Lane at the junction with Haggis Gap, insufficient parking and access for refuse collection, regular use of a bus stop outside the existing property, location of the site in a conservation area, and the fact it is not in keeping with Fulbourn neighbourhood plan and village design guide. The Parish Council does request that the application be referred to the District Council Planning Committee and requests a site visit from SCDC planning department (signed by Councillor J. Gaskell on 03/12/25).

Further Consultation on application for Planning Permission

25/01014/FUL

Location: Land Off Low Fen Drove Way Horningsea Cambridgeshire

Proposal: Construction and operation of a temporary solar farm and energy storage system with associated works, equipment and necessary infrastructure.

Amendment: additional drainage information submitted. Further information in the supporting statement covering grey belt, site selection, drainage, highways, heritage and fire safety.

Comments: The Parish Council have no further comments to add to this application following the submission of supplementary information.

77.4 Minutes from Rec Expansion meeting, 9 December 2025