



Blofield Parish Council

Chair – Stuart Smith Clerks to the Council – Sarah Osbaldeston and Eleanor Bannister
Blofield Parish Council, The Lodge, 48 Panxworth Road, South Walsham, Norwich
NR13 6DX Tel: 01603 270819 clerk@blofield-pc.gov.uk finance@blofield-pc.gov.uk



Notes to the Accounts for 12 months ending 31st March 2026

ASSETS – (See Asset Register Appendix 1)

- a) The Parish Council has taken on ownership of part of the old school site; the play ground area and year six classroom incorporating the UK Power Network substation too. This is a government approved 'land swop' enabling the build of the new school.

1. **BORROWINGS** – The Council does not have any borrowings.

2. **EARMARKED RESERVES DETAIL** - (including CIL) see Appendix 2 – Reserves Balance Sheet. Detail of the significant reserves are noted below.

CHURCHYARD RESERVE – The second phase of churchyard wall repairs is scheduled for May 2026 at a cost of approximately £6,000. This will be funded from reserves.

COURTHOUSE RESERVE – The Courthouse is a listed building requiring regular maintenance work to the fabric of the building. Therefore, the Council maintain significant reserves for this building. In 2025/26 works took place on significant damp repairs to the Solicitors Room at a cost of £6,920, in addition, a new hall projector was purchased for £2,549. It is anticipated that in 2027/28 works will be required to the bricks / steps at the entrance to the cellar. Further damp and cracking issues are monitored regularly.

MARTY'S MARSH RESERVE – Tree works were carried out at a cost of £500 at Marty's Marsh. Works have also been completed in early 2026/27 to clear out the ditch on site. In addition, in 2026/27 works are planned to improve the footpaths further at an anticipated cost of £16,834.62. 50% of this will be funded by the Parish Partnership Scheme and a further grant of £1,000 has been received from County Councillor Andrew Proctor. The balance will be funded by the parish council budget and reserves.

CIL RESERVE – The huge growth in population over recent years in the parish will require significant improvement to village facilities. In summer 2024 the Council installed a mixed age playground on the 'old school site' now called Blofield Park, funded by a Designated Funds National Highways grant.

This has enabled the Parish Council to maintain the CIL reserve and the Council is working towards developing a community hub adjacent to the new playground. During 2024/25 and 2025/26 the Council has developed a design for the community hub including provision for a preschool in a refurbished year 6 classroom. The Council took ownership of the year six classroom and old school playing field in March 2026. Detailed planning approval has been applied for and the project continues to progress.

During 2025/26 the Council spent £45,829.30 of CIL funds towards developing the new community hub project. In addition, it spent £10,000 in the community. Heathlands Community Centre received a grant of £5,000 towards their carpark extension and the Margaret Harker Hall received a grant of £5,000 to assist with asbestos removal on site.

The CIL balance is currently £925,525.25 at 31/3/2026. £727,054.63 is ringfenced towards the community hub project to further development of the old school land ('Blofield Park') and year 6 classroom.

In 2025/26 CIL funds of £8,260.30 were received from developments. Significant interest of £33,328.38 was also received.

FUTURE CAPITAL PROJECTS RESERVE – This reserve has £30,902.79 held at 1/4/2025. During 2025/26 £9,690.66 have been spent from this reserve on the new community hub site. These are on fencing for the forest school, specialist VAT guidance, a utilities search and legal costs for the substation UK Power Network lease. It is anticipated these funds will be required in 2026/27 from these funds, including partial cost of fencing Blofield Park (split between the Parish Council and District Council), new utilities installation, together with new access and gates and fencing to the new site. Legal costs for the land transfer will also be covered from this reserve.

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT RESERVE now the Parish Council owns significant play equipment it has started a playground equipment reserve for any repairs/replacement required. This currently holds £5,000 of council reserves for 2025/26.

WYNGATES AREA 1 & 2 MAINTENANCE RESERVE – These areas have now been handed over to the Parish Council to look after and maintain in perpetuity. As a result, a commuted sum was received in 2023/24 of £24,589.50 for ongoing maintenance of these two pieces of land. Some of these funds have been used for annual maintenance and the Council will start to budget for this reserve going forward.

WYNGATES AREA 3 (FARMAN FIELD) MAINTENANCE RESERVE – The Council will take ownership of this land from Broadland District Council in circa 18 months following the completion of the development of the housing and adjacent new school. At this point the Council will receive a commuted sum for maintenance of this/the Blofield Park site. The Council are currently paying the annual grounds costs for this site from precept. The Council is in the process of installing a small trim trail on this site with S106 funds allocated to this site. The deposit has been paid from general reserve in 2025/26. The cost of the whole project will be funded from S106 payments once it is completed in 2026/27.

GRANT RESERVE

The Council also holds a small grant from our District Councillor, Paul Newstead for £532.99 for a bench on this site or an alternative location within the parish.

The Parish Council secured a grant of £10,000 towards community hub development for items such as architects fees for concept designs, feasibility study data and planning costs. This has been spent against in 2024/25 and the grant was received to Parish Council funds in April 2025.

GENERAL RESERVE – This currently sits at 31.3.2026 at £81,966.65. General funds are held at approximately 6 months precept / running costs.

ALL SMALLER RESERVES – These have been established from the last financial year when all allocated precept funds were not spent that year.

3. **COMMITMENTS** – The Council does not have any current outstanding financial commitments.
4. **TENANCIES** – The Council leases 2 pieces of land from local landowners and rents this to the allotment holders. The Council collects annual rent from each allotment holder. Day to day management of the allotments is carried out by the Blofield Allotment Association.
In addition, the Council leases a small piece of land (adjacent to the allotments) for the Millenium Orchard. Day to day management is carried out by the Blofield Orchard Conservation Group through sales of fruit and trees.

5. **SECTION 137 PAYMENTS** – Section 137 of the Local government Act 1072 enables parish councils to spend up to the sum of £11.10 per head of electorate for the benefit of people in the area on projects on specifically authorised by other powers.

6. **SECTION 106 PAYMENTS** – The Council has not spent any Section 106 funds in 2024/25. The Council Section 106 balance at 31 March 2026 held by Broadland District Council is £240,182.87. The majority of these funds are ringfenced towards the community hub project.

7. **AGENCY WORK** – Blofield Parish Council has delegated authority to carry out the grass cutting of the verges within the parish and receives a sum from Norfolk County Council to carry out this work.

8. **CONTINGENT LIABILITIES** – A contingent loss will be accrued in the financial statements where it is possible that future events will confirm a material loss which can be estimated with reasonable accuracy at the date when the financial statements are completed.
 Where a material contingent loss is not accrued, perhaps because it cannot be accurately estimated or because the event is not considered sufficiently certain, it is disclosed in a note to the accounts.
 The Council’s accounts for the year to 31 March 2026 do not include a provision for any such contingency.

9. **ADVERTISING AND PUBLICITY** – No advertising took place.

10. **TRUST FUNDS / VILLAGE HALLS** –

Blofield Courthouse -

The Council owns and insures the Blofield Courthouse building. The Courthouse Management Committee are responsible to Blofield Parish Council for the day-to-day proper management, maintenance and development of the Courthouse in line with the Courthouse’s objectives. This fund has been separately constituted.

The auditor opinion does not cover this fund and the fund has not been included in the Council’s statement of account for the year ending 31 March 2026.

Heathlands Community Centre -

The Council are custodian trustee for Heathlands Community Centre land. This fund has been separately constituted. The auditor opinion does not cover this trust fund and the fund has not been included in the Council statements of account for the year ending 31 March 2026.

Margaret Harker Hall and Blofield Memorial Ground –

This is a registered charity and Blofield Parish Council does not have any trustee or financial responsibility for this facility.

Signed.....*Sarah Osbaldeston*.....

Responsible Financial Officer

Blofield Parish Council Assets List for 2025/26 (Appendix 1)

(RED-new purchases 25/26)

The Courthouse , Yarmouth Road, Blofield – Village Hall	£390,227.86
(Contents is insured on a separate policy by Blofield Courthouse Committee)	
War Memorial, Blofield Church	£12,460.05
Marty's Marsh Land	£80,000.00
Wyngates Area 1	£1
Wyngates Area 2	£1
Blofield Park and Year Six Classroom	£1

Street Furniture:

BUS SHELTER – Woodbastwick Road, Blofield Heath	
BUS SHELTER – The Street Blofield	£8,918.74
BUS SHELTER – Planation Road, Blofield	£5,660.40
BUS SHELTER – Mill Road, Blofield Heath	£5,166.00

7 SEATS/BENCHES SITED AT:

Mill Road, Blofield Heath	
King's Head Junction, Blofield	
Yarmouth Road / Danesbower Lane, Blofield	
Church Road / Stocks Lane, Blofield	
Outside Blofield School	£3,207.69
Junction Pedham Road/Mill Road/Hemblington Hall Road/Ranworth Road	£650.00
The Street, Blofield, outside Spar shop	£650.00
Marty's Marsh plastic benches x 2	£1,018.73
Marty's Marsh memorial donation bench	£620.29

NOTICE BOARDS ETC SITED AT:

The Post Office, Woodbastwick Road, Blofield Heath	
The Library, The Street, Blofield	
The Newsagents, The Street, Blofield	£3600.00
Marty's Marsh fixed noticeboards x 2	£1633.20
VILLAGE SIGN ornamental (Blofield)	£2,231.13
VILLAGE SIGN ornamental (Blofield Heath)	£1,796.72

10 village maps	£1463.00
1 PORTABLE SPEED SIGN UNIT	£2800.00
2 PORTABLE SPEED SIGN WITH DATA COLLECTING UNIT	£4057.20
DATA COLLECTING UPGRADE & BATTERY	£430.00
Ladder	£23.88

4 GRIT BINS SITED AT:

Holy Lane, Woodbastwick Road Junction, Blofield

The Street, North Street Junction, Blofield

The Bus Shelter, The Street, Blofield

Junction Pedham Road/Mill Road/Hemblington Hall Road/Ranworth Road £668.41

Dog waste bin x 2 £223.54

Machinery / Contents:

Black Bisley Filing Cabinet, 2 Draw &

Printer, LaserJet pro MFP M426dw &

Portable Hard drive, Buffalo ministration 500GB £474.65

Dell laptop computer x 2 £668.00

Lenovo laptop computer x 2 £999.98

A3 printer £124.96

Projector & Case £265.15

LAND - Town Pit (pond) £1

(The basis for valuation is insurance value Community land is valued at £1)

Defibrillator pads and cabinet x 2 (Heathlands, Margaret Harker Hall) £1

Blofield Park Site:

14 x play equipment, 5 x outdoor gym equipment, 3 x picnic benches & 5 x £261,238.87

Benches and associated fixings and wetpour surfacing. (Old school playing field)

TOTAL ASSETS VALUE AT 31 March 2026 £791,281.45

Blofield Parish Council
Reserves Balance
2025-2026

<u>Reserve</u>	<u>OpeningBalance</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Spend</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>CurrentBalance</u>
Earmarked					
Churchyard Reserves	22,328.55	946.80	2,265.00		21,010.35
Courthouse Reserves	19,234.02	2,000.00	9,714.00		11,520.02
Marty's Marsh Reserves	20,471.41	-5,000.00	500.00		14,971.41
Future Capital Projects	19,902.79	11,000.00	9,690.66		21,212.13
CIL Reserve	939,765.87	-797,883.93		41,588.68	183,470.62
Playground Equipment	-503.27	5,503.27			5,000.00
Wyngates Area 1 & 2	21,290.50	500.00	2,014.10		19,776.40
Grant Reserve	-9,463.62			10,000.00	536.38
Allotments Reserve	5,002.41		1,447.53	1,287.50	4,842.38
Wyngates 3 Large Area	-100.00	1,500.00	5,699.32		-4,299.32
Asset Reserve	350.00	350.00			700.00
Bus Shelter Reserve	820.00	800.00	480.00		1,140.00
Town Pit Reserve	1,420.00	600.00	834.00		1,186.00
SAM sign costs reserve	200.00	200.00			400.00
Parish partnership reserve		5,000.00	5,267.50		-267.50
parish poll reserve	1,500.00	500.00			2,000.00
Small Local	2,225.00	1,500.00	450.00		3,275.00
Highways Grass Verge	246.14		3,473.00	3,528.96	302.10
CIL Community Grant		26,000.00	10,000.00		16,000.00
Defibrillators Reserve		500.00			500.00
Community Hub Project		772,883.93	45,829.30		727,054.63
Total Earmarked	1,044,689.80	26,900.07	97,664.41	56,405.14	1,030,330.60
TOTAL RESERVE	1,044,689.80	26,900.07	97,664.41	56,405.14	1,030,330.60
GENERAL FUND					81,966.65
TOTAL FUNDS					1,112,297.25