

SCOLE PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 26 February 2024 at 7.00 pm at Scole Community Centre, Ransome Avenue, Scole.

Councillors Present: Cllr P Jones (Chair), Cllr C Blakesley, Cllr G Blakesley, Cllr C Brooks, Cllr G Fisher, Cllr T McEwen, Cllr L Trevail, Cllr J Ward & Cllr D Ward

In attendance: Sara Campbell (Clerk), District Councillor C Hudson, County Councillor M Wilby and 2 members of the public

1. **To consider accepting apologies for absence:** Apologies received and approved for Cllr Lady Mann.

2. **To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 22 January 2023:**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 22 January 2023 (pages 1-5 of 5 previously circulated to all members, were proposed for approval by Cllr C Brooks seconded Cllr J Ward and unanimously agreed.

3. **To record declarations of interest and approve any requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests or other interests:**

Cllr C Blakesley – C & G Trenching

Cllr G Blakesley – C & G Trenching

Cllr J Ward – Scole Parish Hub

Cllr D Ward – Scole Parish Hub

Cllr Jones – Scole Community Centre and SNTT

Cllr C Brooks – SNTT

Cllr G Fisher – SNTT

Cllr L Trevail – SNTT

4. **To receive questions or comments from the parishioners:**

Members of the public raised the following:

- Streetlight still not working outside 15 Reeve Close
- The footpath from the Community Centre through to Bungay Road is dangerous and falling away towards the ditch. Due to the changes in the school bus collection several children use this path every day.
Clerk to report to Highways and contact Footpath Officer.

5. **To receive the reports from the District & County Councillors:**

County Cllr Wilby – updated the Council on his recent meeting in the parish regarding flood prevention.

- Create bunds after harvest at Billingford and Waterloo, Steve Halls, Norfolk County Council (NCC) will liaise and draw up plans.

- The contractor, Octavius has been appointed to constructed the Long Stratton bypass costing £46.9 million. Work is expected to start in the spring and is expected to take 18 months, opening at the end of 2025.
- Norfolk County Council's Bus Service Improvement Plan has launched 12 new bus routes and increased services on 32 others. With a £2.00 cap in place till later this year, it's a good time to use the bus!
- Steve Halls from NCC is working on the plans to create bunds to assist with excessive water, plans will be circulated to Cllr Jones, County Cllr Wilby and Thelveton Farms.

District Council C Hudson

- Fly tipping has a negative impact on the environment and human health, South Norfolk do a great job on responding to reports of fly-tipping. If you are aware of any instances of fly tipping please report in online here:
<https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/keeping-streets-clean/flytipping-littering/1>
- South Norfolk's leisure centres are opening their doors to help those struggling with the cost of living. Anyone struggling can drop in at any of the centres during opening times, let the reception staff know they're there for a 'warm space', they will be offered a comfortable seat and a free cup of tea and can stay as long as they like.

6. To receive the Clerks Report:

The Clerk had received Speed Awareness Machine statistics for December for Bungay Road, these statistics show that the weekday average speeds range from 28.6 mph to 36.3 (between 6 - 7 am) The Council was very concerned at the no of vehicles travelling along Bungay Road between 7 – 10 am, the average is 205 vehicles per hour. **Clerk** will send statistics to Gary Overland and Norfolk Police.

7. To receive an update on the installation of a plaque on the south side of Scole Bridge:

Cllr Jones to contact the Suffolk County Council Highways Engineer

8. To receive an update on the incident on St Andrews Road with a vehicle damaging a streetlight:

The streetlight is working and Team C have paid the invoices.

9. PLANNING

9.1. To Comment on and recommend for Approval/Refusal any Current planning applications:

2024/0391

Location: Trinity Cottage Upper Street Billingford Norfolk IP21 4HR

Proposal: Replace 9 x rotten windows

Application Type: Listed Building Consent

Council Comment: Listed Building's have the knowledge, no comment.

9.2. To receive an update on any previous planning applications:

None

10. FINANCE

10.1. To approve payments: Proposed Cllr Ward, seconded Cllr G Blakesley and unanimously agreed.

PAY TYPE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL AMOUNT	VAT	PAYE
Online	Npower	Electricity January 2024	474.38	22.59	
Online	Ian Garnham	Fencing at Scole Parish Hub	1,680.00	280.00	
Online	Cozens	Streetlight maintenance	66.00	11.00	
Online	Sara Campbell	Salary & Expenses	621.45		
		TOTAL £	2,841.83	313.59	

10.1. Receipts (B):

Date	Account	Received From	Amount
23/1/24	Community	Norfolk County Council	2,769.97
26/1/23	Community	Saffron Housing	1,330.08
		Community Acct TOTAL £	4,100.05

10.2. To receive the Responsible Finance Officer's Report:

Details	CR	DR	
Cash Book Balance Brought Forward (Community Account 00473138) A	4,949.73		
Receipts this month (Community Account) (listed above): B	4,100.05		
Transferred from Savings Account			
Payments this month (listed above): C		2,841.83	
Cash Book Balance Carried Forward (=A+B-C-D) Community Account Balance			6,207.95
Business Saver Account			
Opening Balance 1/4/23 - £31,691.34			
23/5/23 Transferred to Community 1,750.00			
5/6/23 Interest 65.51			
4/9/23 Interest 80.40			
4/12/23 105.01			
			30,369.06

Details	CR	DR	
Poppy Wreath payments 176.80			
Cash in Bank			36,577.01
Allocated Funds (Listed Below)			33,749.00
Community Account + Business Saver Account - Allocated Funds = AVAILABLE TO SPEND			2,828.01

10.3. Allocated funds for the financial year commencing 1-4-23:

Details	Closing Balance 31/3/23	CR/DR	Balance
Proposed Village Hall Site (Lease) 26/2/2024 Ian Garnham - £1,400.00	553.00	1,000.00 -1,400.00	153.00
Street Lights	1,478.68	500.00	1,978.68
Contingency Fund 22/5/23 £100 for streetlight Clements Close	11,240.80	3,013.43 -100.00	14,154.23
CIL	16,463.09		16,463.09
Cycle Path	1,000.00		1,000.00
Insurance re: Clements Close Streetlight 22/5/23 Westcotec re repair of streetlight		1,650.00 -1,650.00	1,650.00 0.00
TOTAL £	30,735.57		33,749.00

11. To receive reports from Working Groups:

11.1. **Employment Working Group (PJ, CAB, LT)** – Nothing

11.2. **Internal Control (PJ, JW, TM)** – Nothing

11.3. **Cycle Path Group (PJ,)** - Nothing

11.4. **Diss & District Neighbourhood Plan (DDNP) (Graham Moore, Corinne Moore, DW)**
Nothing.

11.5. **Scole Nature Trails Trust Group (COB, LT, GF)**

- Cleared ditch Low Road
- Lot 3, inspection tank blown frame and lid away – beside footpath considered dangerous – **Clerk** to report to Highways.
- £300 wild flower grant has been awarded, soil testing to take place in churchyard prior to planting.

11.6. **Community Centre (PJ)**

- Structural engineer has completed his inspections now waiting for Building Regulations.

11.7. **Scole Parish Hub (DW, JW)**

Cllr Ward read the report which will be published in the Spring edition of the Post Horn. In summary, a meeting has been held with South Norfolk Council and work is continuing to provide this facility in the village.

12. To report any incidents of overflow, spillage and discharge into the river during the month:

None.

13. To consider any training requirements for Councillors:

None

14. To receive and discuss items from Parish Councillors:

Cllr G Blakesley

- Chevrons of roundabout still not repaired, now lying on ground
- Defib by the shop is up and running again, the defib at the Community Centre is going to be de-commissioned by East Anglian Air Ambulance – **Cllr Jones** to investigate

Cllr G Fisher

- Establish from Planners the requirements for the height of the hedge on the corner of Bridge Road and Diss Road.

Cllr C Brooks

- SNTT/WI litter pick taking place 27 February 2024
- New battery for CCTV camera at Pocket Park needs ordering – previously agreed.

15. To receive an update on correspondence received:

Two emails from residents regarding improvements to the play area. Add to the agenda for the next meeting for further discussion.

An email received regarding a noticeboard outside Scole Inn – no action.

The Clerk informed the Council that she had received an anonymous email, however, she will not discuss the content of the email as it is not signed.

All relevant correspondence has been circulated to Councillors.

16. To receive items for the next Agenda:

Any other items for the next Agenda please contact the Clerk.

17. Next meeting of the Parish Council is on Monday 25 March 2024 at 19:00.

Meeting closed at: 20:26