

SCOLE PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 23 October 2023 at 7.00 pm at Scole Community Centre, Ransome Avenue, Scole.

Councillors Present: Cllr C Blakesley (Chair), Cllr G Blakesley, Cllr C Brooks, Cllr G Fisher, Cllr Lady R Mann, Cllr W Mann, Cllr T McEwen, Cllr L Trevail, Cllr D Ward and Cllr J Ward

In attendance: Sara Campbell (Clerk), County Cllr M Wilby and 3 members of the public

1. **To consider accepting apologies for absence:** Apologies received and approved for Cllr P Jones.

2. **To approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 September 2023:**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 September 2023 (pages 1-7 of 7 previously circulated to all members, were proposed for approval by Cllr Fisher seconded Cllr Brooks 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

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

Members of the public reported:

- A field entrance on the parish boundary Scole/Thelveton is attracting fly tipping and parking – Cllr W Mann will stop access.

Flooding

- Flooding at The Terrace, affecting several homes.
- Flowerdew Meadow also suffered from serious flooding.
- Mill Road the flow of water was bubbling up and lifting the tarmac.

Councillors discussed what could be done to assist residents and prevent future flooding. **Clerk to:**

- Contact Gary Overland at NCC Highways to arrange a site meeting
- Investigate if Parish Partnership money can be used to make any improvements to avoid future flooding
- Provide any information to residents regarding grant payments

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

- Norfolk County Council is looking for individuals who want to make a positive impact by becoming a volunteer driver for the Travel Norfolk Car Scheme. The scheme offers a chance for people to contribute their spare time while providing essential transportation for those who may face challenges in getting to where they need to go. Passengers contribute 45p per mile towards the cost of the journey plus any car parking fees. If you are interested in joining the scheme please visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/volunteerdrivers or by phone on 0344 800 8020
- Norfolk Fostering is part of Norfolk County Council. There are over 1,000 children and young people in care in Norfolk. Many are looked after by foster carers. Norfolk Fostering Service always needs more people who can provide the strong, stable and secure family environments that can help change more young lives in our county. If you are interested in fostering, or have more questions, please get in touch with our friendly team by calling on 01603 306649 or text fostering to 87222 or visit the website www.norfolk.gov.uk/fostering and complete an initial application form.
- The development of the Long Stratton by-pass enters a new phase following confirmation of the full planning permission by South Norfolk Council for it's construction, along with over 1,800 new homes, new employment land and a site for a new primary school. This is a significant step towards construction as it enables NCC to now seek delegated authority from its Cabinet to submit a Final Business Case to Government, which once approved will release the vital funds needed to build the new road.

6. To receive the Clerks Report:

The Clerk brought to the attention of the Council:-

- An email received from UK Potholes who will undertake the repair of potholes at the expense of the Parish Council.
- Scole Parish Council is not due any CIL payments this October.
- An invitation to the Diss Town Mayors Christmas concert on 12 December 2023 has been received.
- An invitation from South Norfolk Council to attend the Town & Parish Council Summit at South Norfolk & Broadland Council Head Office 9/11/23

7. To receive an update on the progress of the Scole Parish Hub:

South Norfolk Council officers have currently denied access to funding.

7.1. To receive an update on the Agreement for Lease and Lease

Until the promise of funding is secured the Hub will not be signing the lease.

7.2. Update on removal of the rubbish on the site for the Scole Parish Hub

Councillors discussed the rubbish left on site, and further investigation needs to be completed.

The fencing on the boundary needs to be completed.

It was decided not to undertake any clearance of the site at this time and to review in February.

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

Section 63 has been submitted to Suffolk County Council Highways Department waiting for response.

9. To consider if the parish have any projects for the Parish Partnership Scheme:

Councillors suggested with the recent flooding issues can the Parish Partnership money be used to make improvements to avoid future flooding – **Clerk to contact Highways**. Also, consider white gates at the entrances to the village to reduce speeding – **Clerk to get costs**.

10. To consider the options to change the road layout in Scole to reduce speeding traffic:

Suggestions for improvements are:

- Paint speed limit on the road
- Priority change Bridge Road
- Diss Road STOP sign
- Bungay Road STOP sign
- Re-instate the triangle at Bungay Road/Norwich Road/The Street junction

Clerk to arrange a meeting with Gary Overland to discuss options to achieve the Council's objective and funding.

11. To consider the options for the Community Garden:

Despite the concerns of the Parish Council the Gardening Club have decided to shingle the area.

12. PLANNING

**12.1. To Comment on and Recommend/Object any Current planning applications:
2010/1814**

Proposal: Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) comprising 76 (Use Class C2) Extra Care Units (32 No 1 bed Extra Care Apartments, 24 No 2 bed Extra Care Apartments, 6 No 2 bed Extra Care Bungalows, 5 No 1 bed Extra Care bungalows, 8 No 2 bed Extra Care cottages, 1 No 2 bed Extra Care coach houses) caretaker's house and community building with communal facilities and associated parking with Access and Layout to be considered.

Location: Land Between Lodge Farm and Scole Lodge (Oak Park)
Norwich Road Scole

Application Type: Outline Planning Permission

Comment: The Council approved providing the development complies with policies within the Diss & District Neighbourhood Plan.

2023/3076

Location: 70 Scole Common Scole Norfolk IP21 4ET

Proposal: Proposed two storey rear extension

Application Type: Householder

Comment: No comment

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

Application from Scole Inn for a permanent marquee has been withdrawn.

13. FINANCE

13.1. To approve payments:

PAY TYPE	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL AMOUNT	VAT	PAYE
Online	Npower	Streetlight Electricity Sept 2023	381.84	18.18	
Online	CAS	Adding CCTV to Insurance	6.29		
Online	Sara Campbell	Re: 123 Domain Name	28.78	4.80	
Online	Sara Campbell	Re: RBL Poppy Wreaths (\$137)	327.50	54.58	
Online	Sara Campbell	Salary & Expenses	582.90		
Online	Sara Campbell	Re: Tayna Batteries	157.65	26.27	
		TOTAL £	1,484.96	103.83	

Proposed Cllr J Ward and seconded Cllr G Blakesley and unanimously agreed.

13.2. Receipts (B):

Date	Account	Received From	Amount
29/9/23	Community	SNC Precept	12,695.00
		Community Acct TOTAL £	12,695.00

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

Details	CR	DR	
Cash Book Balance Brought Forward (Community Account 00473138) A	1,971.90		
Receipts this month (Community Account) (listed above): B	12,695.00		
Transferred from Savings Account			

Details	CR	DR	
Payments this month (listed above): C		1,484.96	
Cash Book Balance Carried Forward (=A+B-C-D)			
Community Account Balance			13,181.94
Business Saver Account			
Opening Balance 1/4/23 - £31,691.34			
23/5/23 Transferred to Community 1,750.00			
5/6/23 Interest 62.51			
4/9/23 Interest 80.40			
			30,087.25
Cash in Bank			43,269.19
Allocated Funds (Listed Below)			35,149.00
Community Account + Business Saver Account - Allocated Funds = AVAILABLE TO SPEND			£8,120.19

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

Details	Closing Balance 31/3/23	CR/DR	Balance
Proposed Village Hall Site (Lease)	553.00	1,000.00	1,553.00
Street Lights	1,478.68	500.00	1,978.68
Contingency Fund	11,240.80	3,013.43	
22/5/23 £100 for streetlight Clements Close		-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		1,650.00	1,650.00
22/5/23 Westcotec re repair of streetlight		-1,650.00	0.00
TOTAL £	30,735.57		35,149.00

14. To receive reports from Working Groups:

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

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

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

14.4. **Diss & District Neighbourhood Plan (DDNP) (Graham Moore, Corinne Moore, DW)**

The plan has been passed and will be considered by South Norfolk Council planning officers when determining planning applications.

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

- 2 fly tipping incidents reported.
- The outdoor classroom is working well.
- All projects completed and now undertaking seasonal maintenance.
- River Waveney Trust – Hatch Testing System on the River Waveney.

Cllr D Ward, on behalf of everyone, thanked the SNTT group for all the work they do in the Parish.

14.6. Community Centre (PJ) – no update.

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

7/10/23 – strong smell on land behind Lot 2 ditch.

8/10/23 – smell gone.

9/10/23 – suspicious material in ditch, reported to Anglian Water Authority (AWA) who arrived on site within 4 hours, tested water, no sewerage – think it was iron deposits. Phosphate present.

20/10/23 – Flood water.

Cllr Brooks has sample jars, any future issues, samples can be taken immediately.

16. To consider any training requirements for Councillors:

Cllr Mann booked for whole day Induction Course on 23 November 2023.

17. To receive and discuss items from Parish Councillors:

Cllr G Fisher

- Hedge on corner of Bridge Road/Diss Road still high, **Clerk to contact South Norfolk Council to establish hedge heights in sight splays.**

Cllr G Blakesley

- Give-way sign top of Scole Common, junction with Church Road needs replacing.
- Grass has been too wet to cut, will make sure the area around the War Memorial is tidy for Remembrance Sunday.

Cllr C Brooks

- CCTV installed no problems in the park.

Cllr T McEwen

- Will help with the distribution of sand-bags if required.

18. To receive an update on correspondence received:

Relevant correspondence has been circulated to Councillors.

19. To receive items for the next Agenda:

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

20. Next meeting of the Parish Council is on Monday 27th November 2023 at 7.00 pm.

Meeting closed at: 20:52 pm.

21. Pursuant to s 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and the press leave the meeting during consideration of 23. for the Council to discuss streetlight maintenance quotes:
Councillors' unanimously approved to close the meeting.

22. To discuss the quotes received for the new streetlight maintenance contract and appoint the contractor:
Councillors' considered the quotations received for Streetlight Maintenance. The majority voted to appoint Roy Cozens. **Clerk will contact Roy Cozens.**

DRAFT