

Minutes of South Pickenham Parish Council

Wednesday 5 April 2023 at 6.00pm in the Home Farm Hospitality Suite

Present: Cllrs John Blackburne (Chair), Sue Bloomfield, Carole Chalkley, Stephen Chalkley and Duncan More. In attendance: Melanie Cousins – Parish Clerk and one member of the public.

Apologies for absence – Fabian Eagle – NCC/BDC Councillor

1. The meeting opened at 6.00pm.
2. The Chairman welcomed everyone present.
3. **Minutes of the last Meeting** – The minutes of the meeting held on 18 January 2023 were approved and signed by the Chairman.
4. **Matters Arising not included on agenda** – None
5. **Receive reports from NCC; Breckland Council** – None received.
6. **NCC Parish Partnership Scheme 2022/23** – Poor weather had continued to delay cementing the two benches in place. Once the weather improves, the work would be undertaken.
7. **NCC Parish Partnership Scheme (PPS) 2023/24** – The Clerk advised that the application for road markings at the approach to the bend (to the north of the village of South Pickenham) had been approved under the NCC PPS. The cost, of approximately £2,000.00, would be covered by the NCC PPS, who would pay £1,000.00 and the remainder (approximately £1,000.00) had been donated by the NCC/BDC Councillor, Fabian Eagle. The Cllrs all expressed their thanks to Cllr Eagle.
8. **Update on Highways/Rangers issues** – Notice Board map pulling away – the Clerk to follow this up once more.
9. **Litter Pick of the village** – Cllr C Chalkley suggested carrying out a community litter pick to tidy up the village. The Clerk to contact BDC about litter bags, pickers and disposal of rubbish collected.
10. **Daffodils** – Cllr C Chalkley thanked South Pickenham Estate for the wonderful display of daffodils along the roadsides.
11. **Update on Elections 2023** – The Clerk had printed the Brecklands form for the village notice board. It was noted that Cllr More had not re-applied. The remaining four Cllrs had been approved and would continue as Cllrs for South Pickenham. The Chairman expressed the thanks of the Council to Cllr More for his invaluable input and contribution to the Parish Council.
12. **Correspondence** – a) **Update on AGAR 2022/23** – The Clerk advised that the Annual Governance and Accountability Returns would need to be approved by Monday, 3 July.
b) **Letters of thanks** – These had been received from World Horse Welfare and the British Legion. The Clerk to follow up with CRUSE Bereavement Support. c) **Elan City Radar Speed Sign** – The Clerk had received quotes for a new sign, but it was agreed that

this was not necessary. **d) Update of PC Website** – Cllrs advised that they were having difficulty in accessing the website; the Clerk to follow this up and report back to Cllrs.

13. Accounts/Cheques issued – Bank balance on 28-02-23 = £806.29. **Payments to npower** – DD to npower Feb '23 = £12.37; DD to npower Mar '23 = £10.72; DD to npower Apr '23 = £11.85. **Clerk's Wages** – A cheque was raised at the meeting for the Clerk's wages (5 hrs per month – Jan/Feb/Mar '23) £180.00 + work from home allowance £7.50 + Printing costs for Election papers £10.00 + Data Protection Renewal Fee 2023/24 £40.00 + Postage Stamps £5.44 = £242.94.

14. Planning – a) 3AG/2023/0001/AG – Winter storage reservoir; Applicant: South Pickenham Estate Company Ltd – Approved. **b) British Telecommunications plc** – Intend to install fixed line broadband electronic communications apparatus at South Pickenham Road. This was noted. **c) Breckland's 'Issues and Options' consultation** – It was noted that this was now live. Responses to be received no later than 5pm on 19 May 2023. Details could be seen online at <https://www.breckland.gov.uk/article/19942/Local-Plan-Full-Update> .

15. Public Discussion Time – The member of the public raised concerns about the disappearance of the kerb where the road to Cressingham joined the Watton Road. The member of the public also raised concerns about the poor state of the Hilborough road from the Great Cressingham crossroad. The Clerk would follow up these concerns with Highways. The member of public also confirmed availability to help with the proposed litter picking.

16. Matters for next meeting – follow up on the following items: Installation of the two benches; NCC Parish Partnership Scheme 2023/24; Highway Ranger Issues; Notice Board Map; AGAR 2022/23; Litter Pick.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7pm.

The next Parish Council meeting – Wednesday, 24th May 2023 at 6.00pm at the Home Farm Hospitality Suite