

## **Minutes of South Pickenham Parish Council**

**Wednesday 24 January 2018 at 6.00pm in The Shoot Room, Home Farm**

**Present:** Cllrs John Blackburne (Chair), Sue Bloomfield, Carole Chalkley, Stephen Chalkley, Simon Kroon, NCC Cllr Fabian Eagle, BDC Cllr Frank Sharpe & Melanie Cousins – Parish Clerk.

1. The meeting opened at 6.00pm. The Chairman welcomed Councillors. There were no members of the public.
1. **Apologies for absence** – There were no apologies for absence.
2. **Minutes of last meeting** – The minutes of the last meeting held on 24-11-17 were approved.
3. **Matters Arising** – There were no matters arising that were not included on the agenda.
4. **Reports from Norfolk County Council and Breckland Council** –
  - a) **Breckland Council Report** – Frank Sharpe advised:
    - i) BDC is launching 'Our Breckland Lottery', which will donate 50p from £1 ticket sales go to local good causes (the detail will be put on the website);
    - ii) BDC is seeking feedback on a consultation on car parking with a proposal for 2 hour limits (8am-6pm Mon-Sat) in Market Place, Peddars and Pit Lane car parks in Swaffham and Queen's Square in Attleborough for a 6 month trial period;
    - iii) Swaffham Air Quality Consultation was launched on 12 January, seeking views on proposed measures to improve air quality in the town. Questionnaires are available on-line, from the Library and at the Green Britain Centre;
    - iv) Silver Social workshops run by Kate Dimpleby will be touring the towns, introducing 'Sing your Song' workshops (Swaffham Commty Centre Tues 20 Feb (10-11.30am)/ Ashill Commty Centre Wed 21 Feb (10-11.30am)/Shipdham Church Wed 21 Feb (2-3.30pm) /Necton Commty Centre Fri 23 Feb (10-11.30am). Clerk to put details on website.
    - v) Examination of the BDC Local Plan 2011-36 – Hearing sessions will start on Tues 10 April 2018 and are anticipated to last for 12 days. vi) BDC Leader announced plans to create a 'digital highstreet' to enable local people to shop locally using website ShopAppy to bring independent shopkeepers together in the 5 market towns.
  - b) **NCC Report** – Fabian Eagle advised that:
    - i) it is hoped that an extra 1% on Council tax will be agreed and, if so, the current arrangements for road gritting and buses will stay as they are. There will also be an increase to include social care.
    - ii) The Police Commissioner has put in a bid to run the fire service as well. This is going out to consultation.
    - ii) Straw Lorries – road safety issues (see Agenda Item 8) – In view of the blocking of roadside grips and drains from loose straw and the damage being done to the roads from the constant passage of straw lorries, plus the concern about potential lack of road safety, it was suggested that the Clerk write to Elizabeth Truss MP. The letter will raise the issues and query whether a storage area could be identified nearer to the Snetterton Biomass, rather than the constant travelling from the North Pickenham airfield site.
5. **Accounts/Cheques issued** – The updated accounts for January 2018 were available at the meeting. The balance on 29 December 2017 was £2,456.05. The cost of plants for the West View flower box and the flower box near the postbox in November had been £31.50 (£16 for Cllr Carole Chalkley and £15.50 for Cllr Bloomfield). E-On street lighting costs have been paid by direct debit each month (£7.64 for December and £7.90 for

January). Expenditure in January 2018 is for the Clerk's wages and work from home allowance totalling £49.27 plus £17.50 for half the cost of a training session on the new Data Protection Regulations (costs shared with Hilborough Parish Council).

6. **Community Defibrillator** – Cllr Bloomfield had copies of a flyer for Cllrs to deliver to each household in South Pickenham advising them of the location of the defibrillator and its use in the event of an emergency. This is in addition to the summary given in the December issue of The Pickenhams' Newsletter. The Clerk confirmed that she had written a letter of thanks to the North Pickenham Windfarm Community Trust for the grant that had made all this possible.
7. **Straw Lorries – road safety issues** – See discussion with NCC Cllr Eagle above (item 4.bii).
8. **Highways/Ranger Work** – Cllr Kroon advised that the ditch has caved in from Hall Farm to the bridge over the River Wissey and he asked that the Clerk report this to Highways. The problem of flooding has been raised with Highways and this will be raised again. Both Cllr Kroon and the Clerk had previously reported that the drains in the street required clearing and this will be raised with Highways again. The Clerk will also raise again the need to cut back the vegetation near the signpost on the Swaffham to Hilborough road and will also ask if the Council can be informed of the anticipated date when this work will be carried out, especially the urgent problem with drains.
9. **Correspondence** –
  - Police Community Engagement Officer – January Parish Newsletter – to be displayed on the notice board.
  - Email from Cllr Eagle re PC Commissioner – on hold currently.
  - Barclays Bank – a) The Clerk has been advised to call in at the local branch re the address for bank statements and to request statements that had not been sent from April-August 2017.
  - Clerks & Councils Direct – These are available for Cllrs to read.
10. **Public Discussion Time** – **a)** Fallen tree in Churchyard – Cllr Kroon said the South Pickenham Estate will repair the damage to the wall; **b)** Laurel hedges growing out over the wall – The Chairman raised this issue and Cllr Kroon confirmed that the Estate will trim the laurel hedges.
11. **Matters for next meeting** – Follow up on the following items: Information on the new Data Protection Regulations; Straw Lorries and road safety issues; Highways/Rangers issues.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7.00pm.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 14 March 2018  
at 6.00pm in the Shoot Room, Home Farm (South Pickenham Estate)