



Minutes of the meeting of Southery Parish Council held on Wednesday 12th March 2025 at 7.00 pm in the The Village Hall, Ten Mile Bank, Station Road, Ten Mile Bank, Downham Market, PE38 0EP.

Email: parishclerk1@hotmail.co.uk
Phone: 07522 137101

In attendance: Cllrs Christine Feltwell, Chris Edwards, Diane Edwards, Ian Goodwin, Annette Osler (Chair), Javey Osler, Darren Smith, Chris Stabile-Barnett, Sue Welch & Roger Whitehead.

Members of the public: 2

Clerk: Lolly Dawson, Parish Clerk & RFO

1. Apologies for absence

None.

2. Declarations of Interest

None.

3. Co-option

It was NOTED that there is 1 Parish Councillor vacancy, and no applications were received.

4. Public Speaking

- a. Elliott Fisher, Site General Manager & Kris Flynn Project Manager from British Sugar plc attended, to talk about the Steam Dryer, which is one of their carbon reduction projects and fits with their focus on minimal waste and utilising all the by-products of the sugar making process. This energy reduction, £42.5m program, will reduce carbon emissions by 50,000 tonnes. Steam drying project overview, project will remove the steam pollutant, the technology will dry under pressure, water leaving the pulp is captured under pressure and can be reused within the factory, two enormous vessels on site, demolition has started, 7 months to construct on site, June to November. Second phase is managing the water product so a new reservoir will be construction 11 hectares, across road from factory near fishing ponds, will also include increased biodiversity area within the development, to start w/c 17th March 2025.
BCKLWN page, nothing will come through Southery all through A134, around 50 deliveries for steam drying equipment, 20 to 30 trucks per day during construction period. Speed of lorry drivers was noted. A road sweeper was considered. On the Wissington factory's agenda is increasing community engagement: whether it's providing funding, providing product (sugar, topsoil), volunteering, grounds maintenance or sponsoring local events. New ideas are welcome for discussion.

- b. Members of the Public
None.
- c. Borough & County Councillor Martin Storey reported on the devolution white paper, on 9th January 2025 NCC held an extraordinary meeting to discuss the devolution, Norfolk and Suffolk are on the priority programme, and this has resulted in the postponement of NCC elections in May 2025. Preliminary proposals to central government will be sent on 21st March outlining how NCC and BCKLWNBC think the devolution should be structured. NCC budget meeting was held in February 2025, the gross expenditure budget is £2.2 billion, £1.7 billion excluding schools, which is a 4.99% increase, all information is available on the Norfolk County Council website.

5. Minutes

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12th February 2025 were APPROVED as a true and correct record of the meeting and signed by the Chair.

6. Updates from previous minutes and any further actions

- a. It was NOTED that the K&M Lighting maintenance contract for 2025 was agreed for 3 years.
- b. Orchard Way Lighting Update, no further information.
- c. Update on the bench and trees on recreation drive, it was NOTED that the three trees have been purchased and to be planted by Cllrs I Goodwin, D Smith & C Barnett.
- d. Minute book binding, in progress.
- e. The garage and football club rental fees are in progress.
- f. Clerk to write to local builder to request moving the beacon onto the Werehen, and check permissions with highways and insurance as to lighting procedure.
- g. It was NOTED that mole catching at the Werehen and playing field has been actioned.
- h. It was NOTED that the laurels have been purchased for planting at Ferrybank, site visit to be arranged to agree locations with Councillors.
- i. SAM2 administration, clerk to organise site visit with Cllr I Goodwin & D Smith to clarify locations.
- j. It was NOTED that T&A Tree Logic will be carrying out the tree survey in March.

7. Finances

- a. An accounts update was RECEIVED
- b. An up-to-date bank reconciliation was RECEIVED.
- c. The payments and receipts, as presented were APPROVED.
- d. It was NOTED that Lloyds will now be charging an account maintenance fee of £4.25 per month for each account.
- e. It was NOTED that Lloyds have changed the the Lloyds treasurers account to a Community Account.
- f. It was APPROVED to apply for a company credit card for online purchases.
- g. The quote of £1095.00 excl VAT for an external heated locked defibrillator cabinet and Mindray C1A defibrillator was APPROVED. It was NOTED that the AED battery has a 5 year life span, cost of replacement is currently £235.00 excl VAT, and that the pads have a 3 year life span and require replacing if used, £47.00

excl VAT to replace. It was APPROVED to purchase including installation of external socket at the village hall, price to be confirmed. Cllr D Edwards volunteered to carry out checks once installed.

- h. The membership to Norfolk ALC of £235.22 for 25/26 and National ALC of £91.07 Total cost £326.29 was not approved.
- i. The membership to NPTS for 25/26 at a cost of £312.05 was APPROVED.

8. Planning

a. Planning applications received from Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council:

- i. Ref 25/00240/F – HOUSEHOLDER - Proposed side extension replacement and detached garage. 7 Hall Close, Southery. Deadline 7 March 2025. Extended to 14th March 2025. It was AGREED to respond with NO OBJECTION.
- ii. 25/00306/DM – Prior notification demolition – The building is a two-storey building of red brick construction with pitched slate roof and a chimney. At Farthings Drove Farm, Farthing Drove, Brandon Creek, Southery. Deadline 17 March 2025. It was AGREED to respond with NO OBJECTION.

b. Planning decisions made by Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council:

- i. 24/02261/F – 11 Feltwell Road, Southery, Householder: Construction of a 2 storey side extension and retrospective permission for a rear conservatory. Application Permitted, delegated decision, 28 February 2025
- ii. 25/00027/F – TOPOTH'ILL 33B Feltwell Road, Southery, PE38 0NR. Householder, single storey extension to front. Application permitted 19 February 2025. Delegated Decision.

9. Administration & Policies

- a. The Safeguarding Policy was APPROVED.
- b. The Equality Policy was APPROVED.
- c. The Action Plan for 2025-2030 was considered, Clerk to update and circulate.
- d. It was AGREED to implement a Parish Council Facebook Page, Clerk to administrate.
- e. It was AGREED to hold a VE Day event at the pub, 8th May 2025. Clerk to look into possibility of beacon lighting, if it is to go ahead a volunteer was elected to light beacon, Cllr A Osler to contact.
- f. The road closure and Remembrance Day event on 9th November 2025 was APPROVED, Clerk to process.

10. Highways

- a. It was NOTED that highways have confirmed that roundels have been ordered to be painted in the 20mph zone, they were painted 6/3/2025.
- b. It was AGREED to ask British Sugar if they would contribute towards the bus shelter removal and replacement.
- c. Update on highways reports.
 - i. Campsey Lane sign has been reported as leaning against hedge.
 - ii. Chevrons at junction of Ferrybank reported as no longer reflective.
 - iii. Hedge on Lynn Road has been cut back.

11. Open Spaces

a. Playing Field

- i. The playing field booking for the Southery Yard Sale, to hold a Car Boot Sale on 1st June 2025, was APPROVED, risk assessment and public liability insurance to be requested.
 - ii. It was AGREED for Southery Academy's to use the playing field for a Sports Day and Colour Run on 19th and 20th June 2025.
 - iii. An update on the playground project was received, meeting of working group is to be scheduled. NCC funding "underutilised spaces in west Norfolk" was noted. SWISH AGM have up some funding available to go towards the playground.
 - iv. It was AGREED to pursue the climbing wall funding and location confirmed to be at the back of the play area.
- b. An update on the Community Payback Projects was received and Cllrs D Edwards & C Edwards were elected a representative to be on site and supervise works. It was AGREED to order green paint to paint the fence at the cemetery.

12. Correspondence

- a. Email from resident regarding dog waste on Upgate Street was received it was AGREED for Clerk to publicise reporting available to residents on new Facebook page.

13. Items of the next agenda

- a. To consider an additional bench at the cemetery.
- b. To consider signage at the Bowl's Club.
- c. To consider the play area car park.

14. To confirm the date of the next meeting(s)

- a. Tuesday 8th April 2025 Annual Parish Assembly followed by Parish Council meeting, at 7pm at the Village Hall, main room, location TBC.
Wednesday 14th May 2025, at 7pm Annual Parish Council Meeting.
- b. It was AGREED to cancel the 11th June and move to 25th June 2025 to be able to receive and approve the Internal Audit Report for 24/25.

Under Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the Council AGREED to move to exclude the press and public for the remaining items of the agenda, by reason of the confidential nature of the business.

15. Staffing

- a. The Clerks probationary review was received and AGREED to be successful, and it was APPROVED to increase hours from 6 to 10 hours per week and implement LGPS pension scheme from 1st April 2025.

16. Cemetery

- a. Information for the land adjacent to the cemetery was received it was AGREED for Clerk to request updated map from landowner.

- b. To review the cemetery fees. APPROVED.
- c. The Scribe Cemetery software is now available, Clerk and Cllr S Welch to carry out an audit of the cemetery to be able to map and upload up to date information.
- d. It was AGREED to send a letter to plot 1983 Block A, Row A 27 & 28, for breach of the cemetery rules.

Meeting Closed 21:18

Signed:

Dated: