



Minutes of the Parish Council meeting of Southery Parish Council held on Wednesday 10th December 2025 at 7.00 pm in 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 Sue Welch, Chris Stabile-Barnett & Roger Whitehead, Christine Feltwell, Annette Osler (Chair), Darren Smith, Diane Edwards, Chris Edwards.

Members of the public: 1, Cllr Martin Storey

Clerk: Miss Lolly Dawson

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were approved for Cllrs I Goodwin & J Osler due to illness.

2. Applications for the co-option of a Councillor for the 1 vacancy

None received.

3. Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Requests

None.

4. Public Speaking (*3 minutes per person, a maximum of 15 minutes*)

- a. Members of the Public, none in attendance.
- b. District & County Councillor Martin Storey reported there is currently an open public consultation regarding the NCC budget 2026/2027, it closes on 15 December 2025. <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/consultation/budget-proposals-2026-27/> the budget meeting will be held in February 2026, the Parish Council precept submitted in January 2026. Local Government Reorganisation & Devolution updates, Norfolk & Suffolk mayoral election has been put back to 2028. NCC elections proposed for 2026 may or may not go forward this is to be confirmed. White lining concerns, due to them fading, is being addressed, the Council reported issues with white lines at the Ferrybank A10 junction and damage to signages and chevrons, awaiting highways to repair. Cllr M Storey will report concerns with A10 safety concerns on junctions and speeding in 20mph zone at meeting with NCC Highways.

5. Minutes

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

6. To receive updates from previous minutes and consider any further actions

- a. VAT reclaim, process 23/24 & 24/25, in progress.
- b. Orchard Way Lighting Update and it was AGREED to sign the S38 agreement and send back to Hayes & Storr.
- c. Update on the noticeboard refurbishment, Cllr D Smith reported awaiting a response from Southery Academy for what could be an alternative item in its

place. It was AGREED to source quotes for a new magnetic noticeboard, next meeting.

- d. Update on the installation of the seat in the bus shelter at the end of Orchard Way, Nicholsons has been chased by Cllr C Edwards, awaiting installation, should be completed soon.
- e. Update on lockable rubbish bin, Cllr D Smith, no further action.
- f. Update on playground signage, Cllr I Goodwin to install.
- g. Pavilion fire risk assessment. It was AGREED to purchase signs & log book. Installation of the fire extinguisher & smoke detectors to be completed part of refurbishment project and prior to opening to the public.
- h. Update on fascia repairs on garage at recreation ground, in progress.
- i. Parish Online subscription is active.
- j. Asset register, send amendments and updates to Clerk.
- k. Update on the Christmas tree purchase, completed.

7. Finances

- a. A 25/26 accounts, update was received within the 26/27 budget report.
- b. To receive up-to-date bank reconciliations.
- c. Payments and receipts, as presented were APPROVED, including an added £50.00 voucher for the local volunteer.
- d. The draft budget for 2026/27 was considered, a precept figure £63,411.28 was APPROVED, PROPOSED Cllr S Welch, seconded Cllr D Edwards. It was NOTED that although this is a 103.2% increase on last year, this equates to an increase of £70.34 for a Band D property, a weekly increase of £1.33 and will support the Councils continued efforts to improve its facilities and the community, including the playground, pavilion and recreation field, burial ground, grass-cutting, streetlight maintenance and more.

8. Planning

- a. **Planning applications received from Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council prior to the meeting:**
 - i. None received.
- b. **Planning decisions made by Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council:**
 - i. 25/01793/DM, Prior Notification: Demolition of grain store, fan house, lean-to link and general-purpose agricultural building. Sedge Fen Road. DM prior notification NOT required. Delegated Decision. 26 November 2025.

9. Highways

- a. Update on highways reports, it was NOTED that highways had responded on the report of surface water at Churchgate Street, and NCC Highways had programmed works for all drains to be cleaned out and jetted when contractor is next in the area.
- b. SAM2 results and update, Cllr C Stabile-Barnett reported that the sign was at 50 Lynn Road and showed that it had a positive effect and the majority of vehicles were travelling at 30mph, Feltwell Road is showing similar statistics, occasional speeding but overall the majority are travelling within the speed limit.

- c. An update on the A10 junction speed concerns, awaiting response from NCC Highways and Terry Jermy MP, both have been invited to January's Parish Council meeting.
- d. Damage to trees at Ferry Bank, specify quote for clearing only, clerk to contact Nurture.

10. Playing Field

- a. Application to the Rural Community Small Grant Scheme. £1,000 to £5,000. It was AGREED to apply for the inclusive sensory totem £1252.00 and Double Zig Zag Twister, £2223.40 plus carriage and installation. Cllr C Stabile-Barnett to draft, circulate and submit by 11th January 2026 deadline.
- b. Update on the playground project.
 - i. Sports England funding application has been finalised to include three pieces of equipment, Parish Council contribution of £2260.00, AGREED for Cllr C Stabile-Barnett to submit.
- c. Pavilion.
 - i. Update on the pavilion refurbishment project, in progress.
 - 1. Update on the Family Hub Community Fund application, Cllr C Stabile-Barnett to chase and submit.

11. Open Spaces

- a. Community Payback Projects, all scheduled works are completed, now to break until February 2026. It was AGREED to send a thank you gift to their offices within a budget of £50.00 chocolate hamper if possible.
 - i. Update on the boundary fence removal, removal to commence February 2026, Clerk to send letter to neighbouring landowner to inform them of the works and organise skip and order wooden fence panels and concrete posts for installation.
- b. Streetlights update, no reports received.
- c. Memorial bench at Ferrybank, it was AGREED not to proceed due to unsuitability of the location and setting a precedent for all residents of the parish. It was considered that if re-planting is approved in the area after clearance is carried out, the family would be welcomed to place a memorial plaque.

12. Items of the next agenda

- a. To consider quotes for repairs to the cemetery path.
- b. To consider quotes for an additional noticeboard to be placed at Recreation Drive junction.

13. To confirm the date of the next meetings

- a. Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 7pm.
- b. Wednesday 11th February 2026 at 7pm.
- c. Wednesday 11th March 2026 at 7pm.

Meeting Closed: 20:45

Signed:

Dated: