

A meeting of the Parish Council was held on Monday the 8th day of JUNE 2026 at the Royal British Legion, Long Lane – commencing 7.30 pm

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Messrs Cole, Fenn, Lambert (Vice-Chair), Rayner (Chair) and Storey (arrived 8.50 pm), Mesdames Grown, McGeeney, Peacock, Peckham and Wilson. 3 members of the public, Ms V Quamina (Community Relations Advisor, RAF Lakenheath) and Norfolk County Councillor Sue Prigg (arrived 7.50 pm due to Borough Council commitments) were also present.

APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Mrs Edwards.

Chair asked if anyone was recording the meeting and Mr Cole replied that he was. All present consented to be recorded.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: There were no declarations of interest.

MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: It was the Chair who asked if anyone was recording the meeting not the Vice-Chair therefore an amendment was made. Minutes of the last Parish Council meeting were then approved. Mr Cole proposed, Mrs Wilson seconded, 7 in favour, Mrs McGeeney abstained having not been present.

PUBLIC SPEAKING: The meeting was suspended for 4 minutes. There were no matters raised by the public. Chair read Cllr Prigg's report which read that she was hoping to tap into Norfolk Community Foundation funding for St Mary's Church clock face and The Food Pantry. She also gave an update on the immigrant situation raised at the Annual Parish Meeting and Southery Road repairs. Mr Storey was not present at that point in the meeting to give his Borough Council report.

MATTERS ARISING

1. Village Sign Revamp - Presentation by Robert Walden – Chair was meeting with Marcus Hawkins the next day to discuss an official unveiling ceremony.
2. RAF Feltwell – Ms Quamina read her report and gave a brief outline of events and ceremonies attended by various members of the Squadron. Chair will attend the 48FW Change of Command on 10th July. Ms Quamina departed the meeting at 7.45 pm.
3. Risk Assessment – Handyman reported missing bolt covers on the basketball base, presumably kicked off by children, which he will replace. On 26th May, Mrs Grown reported the top of the tennis court fence had come away from the wire. Clerk obtained a price to repair from Tennis Court Surface Solutions who had installed the fence in September 2021 which was £150 + VAT. After circulating the cost to Councillors, Mrs Peckham's husband had offered to repair it immediately before it became worse for £50 therefore the Clerk had asked him to proceed and the fence was repaired 28th May. Mr Fenn proposed ratifying the repairs at £50, Mrs Grown seconded, 7 in favour, Mrs Peckham abstained. Mrs Peckham said the fence had come off the wire on all four sides and her husband had secured it with cable-ties. She said if the fence had been reported when it had first started to come away from the wire then it would not have taken a lot to clip it back. Whilst at the field, she had also noticed the sign had come off the fence near the cub hut and was laying in the hedge and the court itself needed clearing. Clerk had notified the Handyman of the fence repairs and he apologised for missing the fence damage. It was felt that he should have picked up on the damage during his weekly inspection as this item was on his inspection check list. Mrs Wilson and the Clerk will meet with him to go through the check list. Clerk said he had since put the sign back up and cleared the court with the leaf blower. He had also agreed to having a brown bin but had not notified the Clerk as to whether it had been ordered.
4. Balance Sheet – No queries. Clerk's Standing Order had been amended. Mrs Peacock completed the February to April internal control check with no issues reported.
5. Allotment Pest Control – Clerk said the Allotment Management Committee had appointed Dunstone Pest Control to undertake the vermin control at the allotments..
6. NALC – Weekly updates circulated.

MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Sue Prigg arrived 7.50 pm.

7. Highways – 2 Oak Street: Ongoing - widening scheme re-scheduled for 2027/28. **White Lining:** Ongoing - scheduled for July. **Southery Road:** Mr Storey was not present to advise whether he had spoken to Southery Parish Council but Cllr Prigg's report read that it had been disclosed during a Highways meeting that major works are planned for end of September which Chair said would be the start of the Wissington campaign so probably wouldn't go ahead. **Change of Priority at Long Lane and Short Beck:** Mr Storey was not present to advise whether Andy Wallace had responded to his voicemail asking for this scheme to be bought forward. Clerk said she had furnished Cllr Prigg with details of the ongoing issues here. She had also reported vans parked on the pavement opposite Central Garage to Highways who said this was a criminal offence and referred her to the Police. **Hill Street with St Mary's/The Beck Junction:** No update as to whether the proposal was accepted by the Network Safety Team. **Lodge Road Junction:** Signs have been erected but the 'SLOW' lining has not yet been installed. **Old Methwold Road Junction:** Mr Cole said cars on Lodge Road were still parking too close to this junction. Mrs Peckham felt a large Give Way sign was needed and clearer white lines. Clerk to contact the property owner and Highways.

8. Overhanging Greenery – 50 Wilton Road: Cllr Prigg said Mr Wallace had advised her that the owner had trimmed the hedge. He had also scheduled the roadside to be edged to show the owner exactly where his boundary lay and where the hedge should be cut back to. The owner had not responded to his telephone calls or emails so this had not happened yet but he hoped it would be next week. Clerk confirmed Highways had arrived to cut the hedge back in November but were turned away by the owner. When Mr Storey arrived at 8.35 pm, he said he had met with the owners earlier that evening who recognised there was an issue and would cut the hedge from 1st September. Whilst there, he saw no evidence of digging underneath the hedge as promised by Highways back in April. He then said he could see no point in the pavement 50 yards down on the left which went nowhere and felt removal of the curb and slabs on the opposite side of the road would help widen the junction. Mrs Peckham disagreed and said vehicles would still have to come over the middle of the road when exiting. Mr Storey said he would convey his thoughts to Highways.

9. SAM2 Data – Chair gave an account of information collected from the Lodge Road unit in the 40mph zone; between 12th April and 5th May, it had flashed 36,219 times, the fastest recorded speed was 85 mph at 8.25 pm on 25th April and the average speed was 38.6 mph. Peak hours of traffic were 8-9 am and 4-5 pm. He is still charging the unit from The Beck near the primary school.

10. Changing Rooms – Heating: Clerk said quote from J Gooch Electrical was £1135.98 + VAT. This was thought to be reasonable considering it included the supply and installation of two heaters including all cabling and containment systems. Due to the longevity of this matter and the fact the quotation was considered good value, Mrs McGeeney proposed bypassing Financial Regulation 5.9 and accepting J Gooch's quotation, Mrs Wilson seconded, all in favour. **Window & Shutter:** Clerk had been advised by the Football Manager that the window shutter was bent and therefore difficult to close, and the window also does not shut properly. Clerk to obtain quotes to repair. Clerk to ask Handyman to pressure wash the outside doors which are very green.

11. War Memorial Garden – Ongoing.

12. Grey's Funfair Visit Request – Clerk said Mr Grey had asked if the date could be moved again, this time to w/c 17th August. She had checked with the Football Manager and although he had not received the August fixtures, he was happy to ask players to park at the Social Club should there be a home game. Several Councillors felt this was becoming a pain and although Mrs Wilson agreed, she felt it a shame for youngsters to miss out if nothing else was planned on the field for that date. Mr Cole proposed refusing the change of date request, Mrs Peacock seconded, 1 in favour, 6 against. Mrs Wilson proposed accepting the change of date request on the proviso that it was not to be changed again, Mrs McGeeney seconded, four in favour, 3 against. Clerk to advise Mr Grey that the date change request was approved but any further requests would not be.

13. Feltwell Community Group Donation – Clerk said benches and fixing kits were on order.

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

14. Roadsweeper – Clerk had been advised by Clean Up on 12th May that the roadsweeper should be in the village in the next few weeks and that Crabbes Close would be swept if accessible. Mrs Peckham said the pavement outside 54, 56 and 58 Paynes Lane also needed sweeping.

15. Feltwell FC – Clerk had received the pitch analysis report from Neil Edwards and circulated to the working party on 2nd June. She had furnished the rest of the Councillors as well at Mrs Wilson's request. Mr Lambert voiced his concern that the Football Club might be of the belief that the pitch would be exclusively theirs and not open to playing field users and that it should be made clear to them from the onset that this was not the case. Mrs Peckham reminded everyone that Mr Edwards had stated at the previous meeting that the pitch would only need to be cordoned off for one year for this work to take place. Mrs Wilson read extracts from the pitch analysis, stating the current pitch condition had only scored 36% which was not great as the minimum score for a 'good' pitch was 64%. This meant a lot of work would have to be carried out to achieve that score. She said there was funding for 75% of the work and estimated costs for a pitch achieving that score were around £3200 which did not cover grass cutting or lining which it recommended carrying out weekly. Deep slitting would need to be undertaken four times a year with annual scarification for which new equipment would need to be purchased. Mrs Peckham reiterated that Mr Edwards had said at the previous meeting that the Club would fund all ongoing maintenance. Chair said two important issues were the mandatory requirement to spray for weeds which would mean the pitch would have to be out of use for a set period or in extremely wet or dry conditions, and the guideline that maximum usage was four hours a week. He said the playing field is not a football pitch, it is a playing field used as a pitch. Mr Fenn felt compromises could be made regarding the types of soils used and that improvements could definitely be made using the available financial resources that are practical for the village although agreed that the pitch had to be multiuse. Mrs Peckham said it was for the Working Group to consider these issues but Mr Lambert said parameters needed to be set by the full Council in the first instance. All agreed that the Football Club had done exceptionally well and should be supported. Mrs Wilson will contact Mr Edwards to arrange the first working party meeting and report back at the next Parish Council meeting.

Mr Storey arrived 8.35 pm.

16. Clothing Bank – Ongoing, delivery expected from Scope in 4-5 week's time.

17. Audit – Approve Accounts – Ongoing, Clerk awaiting external auditors report.

18. Defibrillator Replacement Parts – Chair apologised and would bring costs to the next meeting.

19. Matters Arising from the Annual Parish Meeting – **Church Clock:** Mr Storey said he would advise the Clerk the proportion of his members budget he would allocate towards this project and had also tried to contact Adrian Lawrence on this matter. A local resident had also suggested submitting a private donation to fund any shortfall on the proviso that all other funding avenues had been explored but stipulated a preference for the clockface to be blue.

20. Review Changing Room User Agreement & Hire Rates – Chair said the Changing Rooms had been left in a mess by the football club recently with mud on the floor and asked how the agreement was policed. Clerk said the team often sweep the floor the next day when the mud has dried. Chair believed the facilities should be returned in the state they were hired but Mrs Peckham questioned why the council employed a cleaner if that were the case. Mrs Wilson proposed the User Agreement remain the same, Mrs McGeeney seconded, 7 in favour, Mrs Peckham abstained. Mr Cole proposed increasing the hire to £30 per use but there was no seconder. Mr Storey felt Feltwell was fortunate to have a successful football team and was reluctant to put any pressure on them and Mrs Wilson agreed, stating the Parish Council should support the football club. Mr Storey proposed the hire charge of £27.50 remain the same for the forthcoming season, Mrs Wilson seconded, 6 in favour, Mr Cole and Mrs Peckham abstained.

21. Request for Changing Room Hire – KFN Events – A request to hire the changing room facilities for a men's mental health charity event on 18th July was received. Mr Lambert proposed accepting but applying no charge since it was a charity event, Mr Storey seconded, all in favour.

MATTERS ARISING (CONT)

22. Green Lane Enquiry – An elderly resident had enquired who was responsible for trimming back the greenery growing from Green Lane onto their property. As the lane is unadopted, Mr Lambert said it was the responsibility of each landowner and Mrs Peckham agreed, suggesting the Clerk furnish the resident with contact numbers of the Probation Service or Age UK.

23. Norfolk County Council Bus Shelter Scheme 2027/28 – Clerk advised the scheme was running again and Mrs McGeeney queried whether a new shelter should be installed outside Hereward Way. Mr Storey felt that if NCC were willing to fund 80% of the cost then this should be seriously considered. Cllr Prigg to confirm the funding amount.

24. Request for Assistance from Norfolk Citizens Advice – Clerk read a request from Citizens Advice for a discretionary donation due to challenging times. Mr Lambert said the Parish Council does not donate to other charities and felt such a donation was a personal choice so proposed making no donation, Mrs Peckham seconded, 6 in favour, Mrs Gowns and Mr Storey abstained.

CORRESPONDENCE

25. BCKLWN - Emails - Weekly Planning Applications & Decisions; 'Your News'; Local Plan Consultation; IDOX Public Access Unavailable – 20/5/26, 9 -10 am; Parish Update Training Sessions Reminder 16 & 22/6/26; SNN Ref 5835 Street Name Approval Correspondence – Westwick Lane; SNN Ref 5835 New Residential Property Addresses: 1 to 6 Westwick Lane,

26. RAF Lakenheath - Emails – **Notification of operations:** Demolition training 20/5/26, 9 am - 1 pm, 2 demolitions; Explosive operation 26/5/26, 8 am - 1 pm; Demolition operation 3/6/26, 5 pm - 8 pm, 2 detonations. **Other:** Final Call - Joan Mann Special Sports Day 4/6/26; Invitation to 48FW Change of Command 17/6/26

27. West Norfolk Community Transport – Email – Newsletter

28. Caloo – Email – Promotion of play equipment

29. Brochures - Parish Magazine, NBB Recycled Furniture

30. CHEQUES/PAYMENTS – Mr Lambert proposed approving the Payments Schedule, Mrs Wilson seconded, all in favour. Payments Schedule was approved and cheques were signed for J Martin £104.83, S Sargent £90.45, D Wilkinson £50.75, R H Landscapes £482.98, Norfolk ALC £86.88, S Peckham £50.00, TDP £1311.31, D Cordner £250.00, L Freeman £100.00. Direct Debits to Biffa £155.23, BCKLWN £245.98, British Gas £66.78, SSE Energy £497.12, Vodafone £21.23. Standing Orders to K&M Lighting £104.80, J Martin £1684.40.

31. PLANNING

Breach of Planning - 21/00066/RM: 30 Long Lane – No update from Planning Enforcement regarding the demolishment of the chalk barn and sale of open space. Clerk said Highways would not cut the greenery but would contact the owner of the new plot to cut it back. As this could take a while and greenery is growing over the pavement and dog bin, Mr Lambert proposed asking the Handyman to cut it back, Mrs McGeeney seconded, 7 in favour, Mrs Peckham abstained. Mr Storey said the cost for the Handyman to do this should be passed on to the new owners, all agreed.

26/00816/F: Single storey extension to rear, replacement single storey extension to front, external and internal alterations at 22 Paynes Lane, Feltwell – 9 in favour, Mr Storey abstained – APPROVE.

26/00822/F: Change of use from a shop to an Air B&B, including removal of ground floor glazing and replacement with UPVC windows, size to match first floor frontage at Waterman Newsagent, 1 St Mary's Street, Feltwell – 9 in favour, Mr Storey abstained - APPROVE

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

32. Dog Fouling – Clerk read email from resident regarding an incident with a dog walker who he had seen leaving his dog's waste on Paynes Lane.

Next meeting to be held on Monday 13th July 2026 at the British Legion at 7.30 pm.
Meeting declared closed 9.50 pm.