

Pulham St Mary Parish Council

Clerk to the Parish Council

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at the Pennoyer Centre, on Tuesday 11th July 2023, commencing at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Scanlan, CllrMc Daniel, Cllr Yaxley, Cllr Boardman, Cllr Langshaw, Cllr Hudson, Cllr Burrige and Cllr Andersson Hewitt. The Clerk, 2 representatives from South Norfolk and Broadland Council Communities' Team and 3 members of the public.

1. Welcome.

Councillor Scanlan welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. To consider apologies and reason for absence.

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Freeman, County Cllr Wilby, District Cllr Thompson.

3. To consider declaration of interests and dispensation by Councillors

Cllr Scanlan declared an interest in matters relating to Pennoyers and YEP.

The Public forum was brought forward to open the meeting for Richard Squires from South Norfolk and Broadland Council to give a presentation on developing a Neighbourhood Plan.

Neighbourhood Plans are allowed for under the Localism Act 2011, and RS explained the basic stages in preparation of a plan: -

To form a steering group, define the area, engage with the community and gather evidence on key areas to be addressed within the plan. To prepare and consult on a draft plan, submit to the local authority, who would organise an independent examination and if/when the document is acceptable this would be tested through a community referendum. Finally, if successful the plan could be adopted by the local authority. Financial assistance and neighbourhood planning support are available from Locality and the Local Authority team. It is usual, although not obligatory to employ a consultant.

Q&A covered average development length – 18Month to 2 years, total cost - £20k but approx. 16K is potentially available in grants and longitude of a completed plan – 15/20 years, ideally with reviews. Details on local consultants and other local plans completed were discussed.

The current cluster plan allocation for development in Pulham St Mary could benefit from the support and structure of an adopted Neighbourhood Plan and if the village possesses an adopted plan, CIL payments could be increased from 15% to 25%

Council thanked RS, who left the meeting

4. To approve minutes of the last meetings of 13th June 2023.

The minutes of 13th June 2023 were ratified as a true record of the meeting, a copy was signed by Cllr Scanlan.

5. To discuss matters arising from the last meeting – for information only.

Parish Website.

All news items and statutory records have been updated. Information on South Norfolk and Broadlands Customer Satisfaction Survey and details of the National Grids Pylons consultation, on a grid upgrade from Tilbury to Norwich, are available on the website.

Village/CIL Maintenance and Projects.

Councillor training has been confirmed for 24th July 2023 at Pulham Market Memorial Hall. The Clerk will circulate an email confirming detail.

The defibrillator has been inspected, is not repairable and will be replaced FOC under guarantee. The Clerk will organise delivery to the Chair, who will ensure it is replaced for active use. Cllr Andersson Hewitt asked about availability of child pads, this will be checked and additional pads purchased if required.

The highway rangers will be visiting the village, Councillors will inform the Clerk of areas requiring attention.

The Clerk has been contacted on parking on pavements obstructing clear passage, she will organise a polite reminder in the parish report for considerate parking.

6. To receive the Chairman's Report.

The Chairman reported on the Church Fete and the Gin and Beer Festival. The bus shelter has been cleaned and the damaged manhole cover surround in the play area, repaired. This work was approved under delegated powers of the Clerk as it required attention for health and safety reasons.

Cllr Hudson raised the importance of pursuing the engagement of a handy man within the village to attend ad hoc repairs and maintenance.

Cllr McDaniel and Cllr Scanlan attended the Norfolk Show as nominated Community Champions and reported on this to Councillors.

Cllr Scanlan is continuing to steer the set up of the neighbourhood watch scheme and a village meeting should be taking place in August.

Cllrs Scanlan and Langshaw attended the pylon consultation public meeting and reported back to Council.

7. To receive County and District Councillors Reports

Reports were received from County Cllr Wilby and District Cllr Thompson, copies attached.

District Cllr Hudson noted congratulations to all those involved in the Pink Ladies Tractor Run on 2nd July 2023 and on the success of Pulham Market Music Day. He had utilised part of his members grant to support Music Day and also YEP.

Planning application 2023/0630, despite being recommended for refusal by the District Cllr and Parish Council was approved at committee.

Cllr Hudson reported on the gullies in the village, cleared by the County Council over recent weeks. He advised that the Pylon consultation is not being supported by either the District or County Councils. South Norfolk and Broadland are currently running a customer satisfaction survey. South Norwich Recycle Centre will be running a Hazard Material Amnesty weekend on 9th and 10th September 2023.

Public forum

The Meeting was adjourned for the public forum

A member of the public reported water ponding at the junction of Doctors Lane. The Clerk has already reported this to GO but will again follow up and include the County Councillor on details of this complaint. He noted the flower boxes at the ends of the villages require planting - Cllr Scanlan will organise this work – and his

displeasure at the cutting of the hedge in front of the post office during the bird breeding season. This matter will be discussed later in the meeting.

P McD updated council on Anglia Waters recent responses on the flood mitigation within the village but requested Council contact NCC for an update on the flood report received and action taken since. He also raised further work required in dirty lane to clear a gully. These points will be raised by the Clerk with NCC.

2 members of the public left and the meeting reopened.

8. Items for discussion and ratification

• Current Planning Applications

2022/0873 The Country Store – **Request to consider for approval submitted 15/6/22**

2022/1353 Land South of Norwich Rd – **Objection submitted 22/8/22 Amendments received January 2023, Objections confirmed 24/1/23**

2022/1630 & 1631 Barn at the Beeches, Station Rd – **Support submitted 29/9/22**

2022/2394 Land South of Chestnut Rd. Erection of 9 dwellings – **Objection submitted by 14/1/23**

2023/0630 – 6 The Maltings – **Objection submitted 11/5/23, approved at committee 5/7/23**

New Planning Applications

2023/1811 - Land at Ashmere Bush Green – Erection of agricultural building – **No objection were raised or received a request to consider for approval will be submitted 12/7/23**

Cllr McDaniel Chaired the first two items for consideration as Cllr Scanlan had declared interests.

• To consider updated schedule and request from Pennoyers for funding towards community provision at the centre.

Councillors discussed information provided by the trustees and funding of this support from community money for 2023/24. Cllr BurrIDGE proposed no funding should be provided for the current financial year; this was seconded by Cllr Yaxley. There were no counter proposal and following voting the motion was passed 5:2 not to provide funding for 2023/24. Cllr Scanlan abstained

• To consider request from YEP.

Cllr Scanlan identified the items required by the group to support the active day to day running of activities. Cllr McDaniel asked for details on the group's insurance, Cllr Scanlan advised this was in place. Cllr Yaxley proposed £1,587.41 to purchase equipment for use by young people attending the youth project events. This was seconded by Cllr BurrIDGE. Cllr Scanlan abstained as an officer of YEP and Cllr Andersson Hewitt abstained because of family use of the facilities. All remaining Councillors voting in favour of support. A request was made for data on attendance/by village, for the next parish meeting.

Cllr Hudson asked if this payment would be approved under S137. The Clerk advised that as Council agreed to renewal adoption of general power of competence at the May 2023 meeting this would not be necessary.

Funding has been set aside in the 2023/24 budget to promote youth engagement, this was considered beneficial to the Parish to mitigate low level ASB in the area and surrounding villages.

• To consider work required at North Green Playpark.

This will be moved to the September meeting as Cllr Freeman has led on this matter to date.

• To consider ground maintenance complaints from parishioners.

Four complaints have been received on the cutting of the hedge in front of the Post office during the bird breeding season and the quality of the cutting. The Clerk confirmed the timing of the cut was discussed at the last meeting and with the contractor, as the hedge was causing a restricted spatial view it was considered a health and safety issue and therefore allowed in principle. The contractor has been contacted since the work was completed and has advised all employed staff are fully trained and instructed to cease work if there is any sign of birds nesting when work needs to be carried out at this time of year. However, they could not guarantee evidence of nesting may have been missed on this occasion and have apologies for distress caused. The Clerk will

respond to individuals who have raised issue, offer an explanation and apologise on behalf of the Council for their lack of clear instruction to the contractor on the amount of hedge removal.

This matter has further raised a requirement to procure a regular handy man for small village duties. The Clerk will continue to advertise and is currently talking to one applicant.

- **To receive notice of Pylon Consultation and consider comment**

Council received notice of this consultation and the Clerk has provided signposting from the parish website to submit comment. No further action considered necessary at this time.

- **To consider bid for parish partnership funding. Bus Stop**

Cllr Langshaw updated Council on requests received for a bus stop to be installed outside Pennoyers, where there is currently a bench. There has been notice that the 36a bus service through the village is going to be extended to an hourly service with additional buses into the evening. It may be a Bus Stop could be considered for 50% support through the parish partnership. The Clerk will contact GO to discuss further and this matter will be moved to the September meeting.

- **To ratify a letter of request for original copy of deeds and agreement documents in the name of Pulham St Mary Council, held by Ashtons Legal.**

Councillors signed a letter of request to enable the Clerk to collect documents held by Ashtons Legal.

- **To consider concerns raised on the Kings Head ph.**

Cllr Scanlan updated Councillors on several comments on social media platforms raising concerns on the condition of the old public house. The Clerk will contact the local planning authority for an update and viability of considering further action under section 215.

Presentation of income and expenditure for July 2023

Cllr Yaxley proposed accepting the accounts report for July 2023, this was seconded by Cllr McDaniel and was unanimously agreed. Cllr Broadman inspected and signed approval of the Back reconciliation for 30/6/23.

The balance following presentation of the listed Income and expenditure will be £63,711.85

ACTION the Clerk will raise the bank transfers required for July payments and Cllr Langshaw will approve all payments.

July – No Income

Expenditure

EXPENDITURE:	Gross	VAT	Net	Description
BT	25.18	4.19	20.99	BB and Call Pack to 23/7/23
Excite Solution	1,166.10	194.35	971.75	GM Contract
Excite Solution	576.00	96.00	480.00	GM Extras- estimated split between
L Shulver	29.50	-	29.50	WFH/Mileage
L Shulver	581.60	-	581.60	Salary
N Power	65.91	3.14	62.77	Streetlights June
CTS / B&Q vat adj	-	12.91	- 12.91	Materials work at Allotments
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£2,444.29	£310.59	£2,133.70	£2,444.29

Additional invoices have been received from GA to repair manhole casing and TT Jones for Streetlight maintenance. Payment to YEP approved above and the late invoices will be raised for payment immediately but included in the accounts for August.

Cllr McDaniel proposed extending the meeting by 15 mins, this was seconded by Cllr Hudson and unanimously agreed.

9. To receive other reports.

Flood Mitigation within the village

Anglian Water have stated they would update Council following their area meeting on the 5/7/23, this has not happened the Clerk will chase. Further information on Leaky Dams vs other farming flood mitigation methods has been received and circulated to Councillors.

Youth Engagement Programme

The Meeting was closed to allow a representative from the YEP to update Council

Grants have now been procured to cover funding to the end of the year. There are now 37 young people in attendance and 10 volunteers. The group now has a designated volunteer fund raiser.

Sports and Recreation Committee.

No further report.

Footpath Warden.

No further report

Tree Warden

No further report.

SAM

No further SAM report this month

Armed Forces Champion.

The Chairman advised the AFC was currently following up on two individuals interested in attending regular met ups.

To consider the date of next meeting

There will be no meeting in August the next meeting will be held on 12th Sept 2023 at the Pennoyer Centre, commencing at 7.30pm.

Meeting Closed at 21.35

Signed Date.....

A BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PINK TRACTOR LADIES for smashing through their £1m target for Cancer Research. A special mention for Annie Chapman for all of her hard work in organising such a large event that brings thousands of supporters out along the route to cheer them on. The weather was perfect and over 200 brightly decorated tractors and drivers took part, supported by a large back up team of helpers. It's always good to see the tractors arriving from 6.30am in the morning on Thorpe Abbots airfield lining up ready for the off at 11.30am. **WELL DONE ALL.**

Congratulations also to the Winners and Nominees for the recent South Norfolk Community Awards. A special mention for Peter Been and Glyn Jordon for winning the Inspiration of the Year Award. Peter and Glyn have gone above and beyond to support families affected by the war in Ukraine. These two friends of 40 years began fundraising and collecting donations in and around Harleston. They then decided that they would drive the donations the full 1,300-mile trip to Lviv themselves. Since the war began, they have travelled to Ukraine on four occasions with donations and aid.

A new fleet of 22 Norfolk fire engines has been unveiled – featuring special sirens to alert drivers of soundproofed cars that firefighters are on emergency calls. Fire chiefs say that the fleet, part of 320m investment by Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service, will make it quicker and easier for firefighters to tackle blazes and other incidents across the county. The new, eight-crew vehicles, will be deployed across Norfolk over the next 12 months replacing existing engines which are reaching the end of their lifespans. The new appliance was launched at the Royal Norfolk Show, where the Prince of Wales was among those to inspect the new kit.

A summer of conversation is taking place in Norfolk, as the County Council ask people from across communities about the future of Adult Social Care. Entitled Conversation Matter, NCC is holding a wide-ranging engagement programme, asking people to shape its future priorities for Adult Social Care. Adult Social Care covers a wide range of activities to enable people to live independently, stay well and safe. Under the banner Promoting Independence, the council wants to support people to be independent, well and able to deal with life's challenges. With an aging population, people living longer with ill health, and proposed national reforms to social care in 2025, the council wants to make sure it has the right priorities to plan for the next 5 years. For all information visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/conversationmatter or pick up a hard copy of a survey at one of our libraries.

Norfolk's popular chain of reuse shops at 15 recycling centres help stop unwanted goods being thrown away, and sell the good quality items at bargain prices. A cut of the proceeds is donated to a chosen charity, which since April 2022 is Big C. Over the last year the reuse shops raised £22,177 for the Big C cancer charity, prevented 1333 tonnes from materials of being thrown away and saved an estimated 1270 tonnes of CO2. This is because materials are reused again instead of being transported away for processing or disposal. It also means that fewer new natural materials are required to make new products, as reused products are given a second life.

Best Wishes

Martin

Cllr Delme Thompson

Report for Pulham St Mary Parish Council, July 2023.

Firstly, it was lovely to see and chat to many members of the community out in support of the Pink Ladies Tractor run on 2 July, whilst marshalling at the airfield and Gawdy Hall. A truly lovely community backed campaign, and a phenomenal achievement passing the £1 Million mark. Roll on 2024!

Congratulations also to all at the Pennoyer and wider team on a successful Gin and Beer festival over the weekend. No raffle prizes in the Thompson household this time, but a fine drop of Sparta in the sunshine on Friday evening was very welcome.

1. We've been asked to remind Parish Councils about the **Pride in Place - Capital funding:**

Grants are available to cover 50% of the total cost of a project, up to £25,000. Funding is available towards the cost of new or improved community facilities – such as:

- a. Funding towards a new community sports pitch.
- b. Funding towards a green infrastructure project.

Applications are due on or before July 28th. Forms again attached. For further information do contact: Andy Sexton Andy.Sexton@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

2. SAVE THE DATE - The first in-person Town and Parish Summit will be held at The Horizon Centre, **Thursday November 9th from 9:30am – 12:30pm.**

3. Pylon Consultation

While this does not directly affect PSM, I am sharing a brief update here given the scale of local concern. I attended an online briefing last week as well as the in-person session in Diss and was deeply disappointed at the lack of true consultation on offer. The exercise appears to be far more of a PR exercise than consultation with no credible discussion of different options that were considered – offshore Vs underground Vs Pylons etc, the costs associated with each option and rationale for the route now being proposed.

In light of the lack of credible comparison details, and somewhat dismissive tone to residents objections, SNC and NCC are continuing to raise objections and call for a full and proper consultation.

4. Working with District and County Colleagues to address serious concerns re Country Broadband.

I have been contacted by a group representing multiple residents across Tivetshall, PSM and beyond regarding poor service standards and alleged 'intimidating practices' from County Broadband, including promise of service but failure to connect for 2yrs, empty boxes installed at end of drive, but nothing else, and intimidating letters issued to elderly and seriously ill residents, which resulted in the Ombudsman's involvement.

Noting that Broadband is a County issue not District, I am in touch with members of the District Council Cabinet to ensure a robust and unified approach to investigating the issues raised and holding service providers to account.

This is even more important now, given that on the 3rd July it was announced that Norfolk had secured 150M through Building Digital UK, Norfolk County Council and City Fibre 'project [Gigabit](#)' to see 60,000+ homes and businesses connected to gigabit-capable broadband starting next year.

I will of course, keep the council updated.

Kind Regards

Cllr Delme Thompson