

**The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of Stow Bedon & Breckles Parish Council held on Monday
17th May 2010 in Caston Village Hall.**

Present:

Mrs S Tanner, Chairman

Ian Monson, County Councillor, Phil Cowen, District Councillor and 9 members of the public.

1. To receive apologies for absence:

Mr H Greenland

2. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 19th May 2009.

As the minutes of the meeting had only just been disclosed due to the ill health of the clerk, it was decided they would be signed and agreed as a true record at a later date.

3. County Councillor's report.

Ian Monson presented the following report.

- A busy year which has included ongoing local government reorganisation.
- Budget complications
- Front Line services are being retained.
- Fire Services to be overhauled, including new fire stations and upgrading rural ones.
- Maintaining Public Rights of Way
- Libraries and Museums continue to be a success with higher usage.
- Recycling Centre modernisation.
- Care in the Community and keeping people in their homes for as long as they wish.
- Schools for the future, Academies planned.
- Roads to be tarred and stoned in the summer to prevent damage in the winter.

Mr Monson was thanked for all of his hard work and input.

District Councillor's report.

Phil Cowen presented the following report.

- Icelandic Banks reimbursing investment to Local authorities etc.
- Lowest Council tax in the district.
- There is now a 6 week consultation period with meetings etc for residents and Councils to look at and agree.
- It is the intention to switch the balance of the planning policy to local communities, thus speeding up the planning process.
- Unitary – Norwich – still undetermined but the debate is finished.
- Main plan on future agenda is Shared Serviced incorporating the possibility of shared Senior Management Team and shared CEO with South Norfolk Council, this may enable some positions to be merged and save costs therefore allowing funds to be used maintaining frontline services.

4. Chairman's report.

Another busy year has passed, we still do not have our full complement of Councillors, Howard Greenland has resigned as he no longer lives in Stow Bedon and our clerk has resigned due to ill health.

Breckland finally initiated the 30mph speed limit through the village and I think most people welcomed it although we did have 2 complaints.

We have received 19 planning applications throughout the year. The Precept has been kept at the same amount as last year but the Parish Council has made fewer donations to charity.

Regarding the Local Development Framework in Stow Bedon, the Parish Council decided to keep the Settlement Boundary as it is. The Noticeboard at the Pingo Trail has finally been replaced and we now have a glass re-cycling container at the Pingo Trail which will produce some funds for the Parish Council. There has been the usual complaints of overgrown hedges, pot holes and broken signposts although the Highways have been concentrating mainly on the large amount of pot holes the cold winter incurred so they have had less time to replace and repair signposts.

Our County Councillor Ian Monson and our District Councillor Phil Cowan have attended several of our meetings and we thank them for their input and involvement.

Finally I would like to thank the Councillors for all their recent support and work due to the Clerk resigning.

5. Parish Council Accounts.

Stow Bedon & Breckles Parish Council

Income and Expenditure Year ended 31 March 2010.

Income

Precept	£2000
Interest Govt Stock	£1311.12
Interest on CAF	£15.70
Transfer from CAF	£250.00
Alliance Ins Noticeboard	£786.00
Alliance Ins Noticeboard	£125.00

Expenditure

Allianz Insurance	£487.77
NALC Subscription	£91.73
Clerks Pay	£1361.80
Clerks Travel	£252.98
Postage, Stationery, etc	£14.04
Clerks Office Expenses	£50.00
Thompson Parish Council	£40.00
Stow Bedon grass cutting	£393.00
Breckles grass cutting	£393.00
Donation Caston Village Hall	£100.00
Audit Mr Gee	£45.00
Rent Caston Village Hall	£50.00
H Stebbings Noticeboard	£1047.65
Charge for BS Store	£4.00

TOTAL **£4472.12**

TOTAL **£4330.97**

SURPLUS **£141.15**

31 March 2009 Bank Reconciliation

£4040.05	Village Hall Fund
£6591.79	CAF Gold Account
£868.09	Community Account
£154.83	Awards & Grants
£16917.84	Treasury Stock

31 March 2010 Bank Reconciliation

£3868.13
£6357.14
£1244.41
£154.83
£16917.84

6. Stow Bedon Fuel Allotment Charity Report & Accounts.

Phil Childs read out his report. (This is now available on the Parish Council website.) Mrs MacHorton congratulated Phil Childs on a very healthy bank balance.

7. Breckles PCC Report.

Mrs Morfoot advised the Parish Council that 2009 had been a successful year for fundraising. The church and churchyard are in good order and much of this is down to the hard work of Tom and Pat Goddard who work at the church on a weekly basis. Mrs Moorfoot thanked the Parish Council for their contribution to the grass cutting costs and would like to be considered for a donation to the forthcoming yearly costs, there were 16 services held at the church in 2010.

8. Stow Bedon PCC Report.

The churchyard was cut regularly from March to October. The Church council would like to thank the Parish Council for their grant towards the cost of this. The path and gully round the church was sprayed for weed control 3 times.

We receive many comments in the Visitors book on how well cared for the Church and churchyard are and also on how nice it is to find an open church. We have had rather an expensive 2009, as for Insurance purposes we have had to have the electrics and lightning conductor inspected and serviced. We also had all slipped slates replaced and all loose ones made safe. The guttering was repaired, sealed and painted. We obtained a faculty to remove the three back pews on the south side, west end of the church, to make a meet and greet area, the PCC are very pleased with the work that has been done, which has already proved a great asset. The choir now have room to robe up and there is much more space to serve refreshments after services.

A donation of some fold up wooden chairs means we can use them to replace the removed pews if and when necessary, the cost of all this work can be seen in the Annual accounts.

We have two fundraising events planned for this year. A flower festival on July 10th & 11th and a Prelude to Christmas Concert on November 27th. Our two marriage registers which date back to 1837 were taken to the Registrar for closure at the request of the Archdeacon , we now have two new more modern ones.

There are just five PCC members and we continue to do our best to keep the church and churchyard there for everyone to use and enjoy.

Beryl Warren – Churchwarden.

9. Wayland Partnership Report.

The Wayland Partnership Trust has had a busy year. It was established in 1999 to provide and enable the economic regeneration of the area known as Wayland. It has raised millions of public and private funding to enhance the Wayland area.

There are many services based at Wayland House including Community Support Services such as the Community Bank-Credit Union, Breckland Council's Presence Officer for advice, the Register Office, Breckland Council's Housing Advice and the Homelessness Service, Peddars Way Housing and Connexions Norfolk who provide a free drop in service for young people.

They have been awarded a grant to fund a 3 year project about The Wayland Heritage centred on the town of Watton and the surrounding villages and the Dragonfly Ehibition Centre has hosted a variey of numerous events such as Craft fairs and Art exhibitions.

10. Home Watch.

A new contact is required for Homewatch Reports due to the resignation of the clerk. Mr Childs will take over responsibility for this contact.

11. Public Participation.

Mrs Rosemary Mackintosh very kindly offered her services as Parish Clerk for a 3 month period to assist with the Accounts and Parish Clerk duties whilst advertising and interviewing tales place for a new permanent Parish Clerk.

Meeting closed at 9.10 pm.

Confirmed:

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Peter Mills, Chairman

16 May 2011