

STOW BEDON AND BRECKLES PARISH COUNCIL

*Chairman: Hannah Reed
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*Clerk: Jean Williams
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Minutes of Stow Bedon and Breckles Parish Council Meeting held on 17th May 2023 at Caston Village Hall.

Present: Councillors H Reed, (Chair) C Allen, D Jessett, L Pilkington, and Jean Williams Locum Clerk and one Member of the Public

- 1. Welcome:** The Clerk opened the meeting and welcomed those present, she invited nominations for the post of Chairman.
- 2. To Elect a Chairman:** Councillor Reed was nominated as a Chairperson, the nomination was agreed unanimously and Councillor Reed took the Chair.
- 3. To Elect A Vice Chairman:** Councillor White was nominated as Vice Chair the nomination was agreed unanimously.
- 4. All Councillors to sign Acceptance of Office forms:** All Councillors present signed their Acceptance of Office Forms witnessed by the Clerk.
- 5. To receive and approve apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from Councillor White, Councillor Childs and District Councillor Cowen, accepted by all present.
- 6. To receive any declarations of interest from members and consider requests for dispensations:** None
- 7. To discuss Councillor Vacancies:** John Morfoot had not submitted his nomination form, however, he still wishes to be a Councillor. It was agreed that he would be co opted at the next Parish Council Meeting.
- 8. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 30th March 2023.**
The minutes of the last meeting were agreed by all present and signed by the Chairman.
- 9. Matters arising from the minutes not included on the agenda.** None
- 10. Public Participation.** None
- 11. To receive a report from County Councillor Eagle.**
Councillor Eagle not present, no report received.
Report from District Councillor Cowen, read by Councillor Reed.
Councillor Cowen reported that he is proud to have been part of Breckland's achievements over the last four years. He is looking forward to working to support the local environment through the Breckland 2035 initiative, by delivering services to enhance and protect the environment.
Helping the district to thrive by investing and supporting various schemes and programmes.
Inspiring local communities.
Continuing the smarter working within the District Council to build upon their achievements.
The District Council intends to continue to provide services to the elderly and vulnerable.
Protect green spaces and the environment.
Reduce crime and anti -social behaviour.
Supporting the local economy.
Providing good quality local services.
Keeping the district charge council tax bill, by strong financial management and providing well run and effective local services.

Chairman's Report.

Councillor White the past Chairman submitted a report read by Councillor Reed.

He stated that the last twelve months had been unusually busy, the achievements have been over shadowed by the serious illness of the Parish Clerk, whose illness had caused him to be hospitalised and he is subsequently unable to work.

As a result, a locum clerk has been appointed to cover for Julian who is currently on sick leave.

Councillor White reported that Cherry Tree Pig Farm has been the biggest project during the year. Many complaints have been made in writing to Breckland Council Planners, the Environment Agency (EA) the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) and Liz Truss the local MP. Meetings and discussions have taken place between all the relevant agencies.

Councillor White stated, it is disappointing that little progress has been made. The Parish Council and the Residents must accept that all agencies can only work within their own regulations. Enforcement notices are continued to be served on the company.

Councillor White said that at the current time the Parish Council has taken the matter as far as they can, but will continue to be vigilant to ensure that planning procedures are adhered to and upheld.

The same applies to Environmental health issues.

Councillor White informed the meeting in his report that, Stow Bedon Footpath One has also caused some issues with the wilful blocking of the footpath. Norfolk County Council's Officer in charge of footpaths is initiating action against the landowner. Enforcement action could also be taken against the land owner for the removal of hedgerows.

A further issue that has been dealt with by Councillor White on behalf of the Parish Council, is the Pingo Trail car park and lay by. Norfolk County Council were asked to clear the site of overhanging trees and vegetation to open-up the car park so that users felt safer. A small amount of vegetation had been cleared by Council workers, which made very little difference. Intervention by Norfolk Wildlife Trust who thought the area was being made bigger and attracting more footfall has meant that the clearance has been hampered. More vegetation has recently been cleared but it is still an on going project.

Councillor White reported that he had written to the MP Liz Truss in response to an invitation to arrange a visit with her in the parish. At the time of writing his report Councillor White had not received a response.

Report of the Locum Parish Clerk including any correspondence not previously circulated.

The Clerk stated that all correspondence had been circulated and there was nothing further to report.

12. To receive Updates on Cherry Tree Pig Farm.

Councillor Reed, read a report from Councillor White re: the latest information on Cherry Tree Pig Farm.

There are no further developments since the last meeting held in March. A response had been received from the office of local MP Liz Truss, which appeared to illustrate a lack of understanding of the pollution issues, no other areas were addressed.

Clerk will respond to Liz Truss's office.

13. To receive updates on Stow Bedon Footpath One.

The matter of the footpath is now in the hands of Norfolk County Councils legal team.

14. To receive updates on The Pingo Trail Car Park.

See the comments in the Chairmans Report item 11.

15. To receive updates on the meeting with Liz Truss MP.

The Parish Council are awaiting a date to be suggested from the MP's office.

16. To receive any planning applications.

There were no new planning applications.

17. To discuss the possibility of a Litter Pick.

A litter pick will be planned at the January meeting.

18. To update on training for the use of the Defibrillator.

Clerk to forward information to Councillor Jessett.

19. Update on SAMS2

Clerk to investigate, and feedback at the next meeting.

20. To discuss Frosts Common

While Frosts Common is not in the Parish of Stow Bedon and Breckles, it is an eyesore on the approach to the village.

Councillor Pilkington stated that there is an Enforcement Notice on the piece of land for the rubbish to be cleared.

Clerk to contact Great Hockham Parish Clerk to discover what progress has been made.

21. To discuss the website

To date the website has not been investigated, needs updating, the passwords have not been found. Clerk to contact Spanglefish.

22. To discuss the Finance Report

STOW BEDON AND BRECKLES FINANCE REPORT

Balance in Community Account at 01/11/2022 2,895.99

Date	Receipts		Expenditure		
04/04/2023		Lap top	409.99		
		Salary			
04/04/2023		J.W.538.00	538		
11/04/2023	3.000.00	Precept			
13/04/2023		Insurance	675.17		
26/04/2023		ICO (DD)	35		
Total	3.000.00	Total	1,658.16	Balance	4,237.83

Money owing to date

Caston Hall Hire	120
NALC subscription	135.92
Clerk April Salary	233.22
HMRC	58.2
Total	547.34

Amount owing to J Gibson

21/09/2022 to 11/12/2022	1,193.64	
18/12/2022 to Date Sick pay	2,188.34	this can be claimed from insurance

I have sent these figures to the Accountant who is dealing with Julian’s salary.
Donations for the maintenance of the grounds of St Margarets Church, Breckles and St Botolph’s Church Stow Bedon, were made of £150.00 each, a total of £300.

Business Premium Account

28/04/2023 Balance 2,737.75

23. To confirm the dates of Meetings for the coming year as:

Monday 17th July 2023	Monday 18th September 2023	Monday 20th November 2023
Monday 15th January 2024	Monday 21st March 2024	Monday 16th May 2024

24. Any other relevant matters not included in this agenda.

None

25. To receive items for the next agenda.

Fuel Allotments

26. To confirm the date of the next meeting as Monday 17th July 2023 at 7:30 pm

The meeting closed at 8:35 pm

SignedChairman Date.....

DRAFT