

STOW BEDON AND BRECKLES PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Jonathan White
Church Cottage
Breckles
Attleborough
NR17 1EW

Clerk: Jackie Preston
Pear Tree Cottage
Magpie Lane
Rockland St. Peter
Attleborough
NR17 1UU

Minutes of Stow Bedon and Breckles Annual Parish Meeting held on 12th May 2025 at Caston Village Hall.

Present: Councillors J White (Chair), H Reed, L Pilkington, C Allen, J Preston (Parish Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

1. To open the meeting and welcome those present.

Councillor Reed opened the meeting and welcomed everyone present.

2. To elect a Chairman.

Councillor White was elected as Chairman which was agreed by all.

3. Apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from District Councillor Philip Cowen.

4. To agree and sign the minutes from the last Annual Parish Meeting.

The minutes had already been signed by the Chair of the Parish Council Meeting on 24th June 2024.

5. Any matters arising not on this agenda.

There were none.

6.a. Report of the Chairman of the Parish Council.

Councillor White summarised the last twelve months mentioning the new Parish Clerk had been with the parish council for just over a year and is fully trained, there had been two councillor resignations but a prospective new councillor, Judi Bush, was in attendance and would be joining the parish council in the next meeting. The focus of the council over the last year had been on planning applications, in particular Cherry Tree Farm and the only other change had been increasing the amount of parish council meetings from bi-monthly to monthly with no meeting being held in August or December. The chair confirmed that if at any time a monthly meeting was not necessary, it should be cancelled.

b. Report of the County Councillor.

County Councillor Fabian Eagle had not submitted a report and was not present.

c. Report of the District Councillor.

District Councillor Philip Cowen was not present but had forwarded a report which the Chair advised would be summarised in the following meeting, that being the Parish Council AGM.

d. Report of Stow Bedon PCC.

The Chair read the Report For 2024 received from Beryl Warren, Churchwarden of St Botolph's Church. *'All goods and ornaments are present and correct as stated in the Church Inventory and Terrier. During 2024 we hosted nine services of Holy Communion, one funeral and one memorial service, one wedding and one baptism. July 4th saw the induction of Reverend Vanessa Layfield into the six Wayland Parishes which was held in Caston Church. After an eight year interregnum it was great to welcome*

Vanessa and her husband Jonathan. Christine Rogers retired after playing the organ for us for many years for which we have thanked her. Unfortunately, mice decided to make their home in the organ and had bitten through the electric wires making it unplayable. As it is so old the chances of finding spare parts are nil. We have been gifted a small organ by Rhonda Spiegel for which we are very grateful. We held a Christmas coffee morning on December 16th in the church which was well attended and very profitable. We also had a Christmas pop-up shop and a hamper raffle in Wayside Farm Shop during December. The PCC thank Mr & Mrs Galliver for allowing us to park on the adjacent field and I thank the PCC for all their help during 2024.'

e. Report of Breckles PCC.

The Chair read the Churchwarden's Annual Report of the Parochial Church Council of St Margaret's Breckles, for 2024/2025 received from the Outgoing Churchwarden, Karen Allen.

'In 2024 there were six people on the electoral role, four of whom were not resident in the parish of Breckles. This is updated every six years and has just been updated. The 2024/2025 year for St Margaret's Breckles, up to the end of April 2025, has been a reasonably busy year for the PCC. The PCC held four meetings as required, with this year being my final year as churchwarden. St Margaret's Church is in good order and the churchyard has been kept in good order as usual, with the grass being cut regularly. The church building has not been subject to any major works, but the old shed that is used as a toilet when we hold events at the church, had to be replaced with a new one. Sadly, our two Gladstone chairs and the monks bench were stolen in 2024 and the two chairs were not recovered, but Trinity United Reform Church in Norwich closed in September and gifted their Minister's Chair to St Margaret's for a £200 donation to charity. One coffee morning and cake sale was held and was quite well attended. We also hosted a concert by the Norwich Ukelele Band in September 2024 and everyone had a great time. We held a Curry Night in February 2025. It was very well supported and a good amount of money was made with forty eight tickets sold. Thank you to the members of the PCC for all their help over the past twelve months and, in fact, the past nine years. I am sad to step down, I have thoroughly enjoyed my tenure as churchwarden, but it is time for someone new to take the reins.'

f. Report of Stow Bedon Fuel Allotment.

The Chairman advised that Ex-Councillor Philip Childs is still in possession of the records for the Stow Bedon Fuel Allotment Charity which should be retrieved from him. So far one donation had been made from the fund in January this year. As the funds in the Stow Bedon Fuel Allotment are invested, the chair asked Councillor Pilkington, being more familiar with investment portfolios, if he would be prepared to oversee how the funds are managed going forward to which he agreed. The clerk advised that Matthew Harrington of Lovewell Blake who had met with the parish council on 13th January 2025 to review the investment account with Fidelity was still waiting for information and completed paperwork to be returned to him. This included a risk profile questionnaire which the Chair passed to Councillor Pilkington requesting him to complete and bring to the next parish council meeting. It was agreed that Councillors Pilkington, Allen and Reed would be nominated to manage the account and the remaining paperwork would be completed and signed at the next parish council meeting so that it could then be sent back to Matthew Harrington as requested.

g. Report of Stow Bedon Village Hall Fund.

The Parish Clerk did not have information relating to the Village Hall Fund and believed this to also be with Ex-Councillor Philip Childs. The clerk advised the Chair that she would contact Mr Childs to clarify this and collect files that had not been properly handed over before the next parish council meeting. There was discussion and agreement that the bank accounts associated with both the Village Hall Fund and the Fuel Allotment investments should be changed from Barclays to Unity Trust Bank in line with the parish councils existing accounts. The Chair requested the clerk to put both the Stow Bedon Village Hall Fund and Fuel Allotment on the agenda for the next parish council meeting on 9th June 2025.

7. Questions/comments from the residents.

None were received.

8. Any other relevant business.

None.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.30 pm.

SignedChairman Date.....

DRAFT