

# STOW BEDON AND BRECKLES PARISH COUNCIL

*Chairman Coun Hannah Reed*  
*Deer Cottage*  
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*Norfolk*  
*NR17 1DA*

*Clerk: Mrs J Williams*  
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## **Minutes of Stow Bedon and Breckles Parish Council Meeting held on 20th November 2023 at Caston Village Hall.**

**Present:** Councillors, H Reed (Chair), P Childs, D Jessett, J Morfoot, C Allen, L Pilkington, County Councillor Fabian Eagle, District Councillor Phil Cowen and Jean Williams, Locum Parish Clerk. One member of the public present.

### **1. To open the meeting and welcome those present.**

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed those present.

### **2. Apologies for Absence:** Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J White.

The apology was accepted by those present.

### **3. Declarations of Interest:** No declarations of interest were made.

### **4. To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 18th September 2023**

The minutes were agreed by all present and signed by the Chair.

### **5. Matters arising from the minutes not included on the Agenda.**

Councillor Eagle stated that the works carried out on the Pingo Car Park are a big improvement, it is now back to its original state. Pot holes in the layby require some maintenance.

Councillor Eagle also informed the meeting that the situation of The Stow Bedon Footpath cannot be taken much further legally. The cost to pursue the case will be too expensive for the County Council.

Flooding on A1075 by the Pingo Trail car park were deep.

Flooding in Mere Road, Councillor Cowen stated that the drains would be cleared to prevent further problems.

### **6. Public Participation:**

Member of the public concerned about the planning application for a four bedroomed house in Mere Road.

Plans for the garage are on same area as the septic tank.

There is potential for another housing estate.

Concerns re: drainage from the site going into the Mere.

There is a change of use for the land.

Had been informed that new builds would be kept to a limit.

### **7. Report of County Councillor Fabian Eagle**

This was presented under item 5

### **Report of District Councillor Phil Cowen**

This was presented under item 5

**Report from the Parish Clerk** Parish Clerk stated that she had forwarded all relevant correspondence to the Councillors as it arrived, there was nothing further to report.

### **8. To receive an update on Cherry Tree Farm:**

The Environmental Agency state that there is no problem currently with pollution of the Chalk Stream.

They also state, to date, there appears to be no problem with odours despite complaints from the residents.

The Environmental Agency say there are no problems.

Councillors stated that there is a reduction in the number of animals housed on the site which could attribute to the odours being reduced.

Effluent had recently been sprayed on the fields which could account for a rise in odours.

Councillors stated that it is important for individuals to report any symptoms they experience to their General Practitioners.

**9. To receive an update on Stow Bedon Footpath One:**

This was covered in item 5.

**10. To receive an update on The Pingo Trail Car Park:**

This was covered in item 5.

**11. To discuss the SAMS2:**

Since the volunteer had ceased to be responsible for the SAMS2, there has been only one person who had volunteered, they would be able to undertake the area of Lower Stow Bedon only

Whilst Councillors were grateful for this offer of help, they felt that the logistics would be unmanageable.

After some discussion, it was agreed that the person who had carried out the task should be given a small token of appreciation for the work they have undertaken. The Parish Clerk agreed to purchase a voucher.

A Traffic Speed Monitoring event had taken place in Lower Stow Bedon recently, in an afternoon between 4pm and 5pm. 150 vehicles were recorded, none were exceeding the speed limit.

Discussion took place about the bridge and the weight of vehicles using it.

The bridge is not safe for heavy lorries it carries a three-ton weight limit.

Councillor Pilkington stated that the only way to access some of the land at harvest with a Combine was to use the bridge, which gives cause for concern.

**12. Update on Defibrillator Training**

A training course in the use of the Defibrillator was recently held by Heartbeat, it was a great success. The delivery of training was very good, the event was well attended.

**13. to receive and discuss any Planning Applications**

The member of the public had raised concerns about the resubmission of a Planning Application at Mere Farm, Stow Bedon Road. 3PL/2023/0979/F Discussion took place at length. Residents are concerned that this is infill building and are of the opinion that there is sufficient housing on this piece of land. Drainage could be a concern. This is a new submission 3PL/2023/1166/F of a previous application Clerk to submit objections to this application.

**14. To discuss a Litter Pick:**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

**15. To discuss the appointment of a Permanent Parish Clerk:**

The Clerk reminded Parish Councillors that there is a need to advertise the post of Parish Clerk to the Council. The Locum Clerks post was to cover the remainder of Julian Gibson's contract period.

The Clerk will begin the advertising process with NALC. She will also circulate the post within the Local Clerks network.

**16. Update of change of Bank Account:**

Clerk reported that she needed more information to complete the task, this is being gathered.

**17. To receive the Financial Statement to date and to approve any expenditure:**

The Clerk presented the Finance Account which was accepted by all Councillors

Barclays Community Account at 29/09/2023	£2734.71
Unpresented cheques	£ 50.00
<b>Balance</b>	<b>£2684.71</b>
Barclays Premium Business Account at 29/09/2023	£2750.81
Interest at 08/11/2023	£ 6.81
<b>Balance</b>	<b>£2757.62</b>

**Account was closed on 08/11/2023 Balance transferred to Community Account**  
**Total in Community Account should be £5442.33**

**Invoices owing to date:**

Heartbeat Annual support for Defibrillator	£ 165.00
NALC Payroll Services	£ 115.20
Breckland Council Election Costs	£ 75.00
Locum clerk Salary April to Oct inc	£1632.54
HMRC April to Oct inc	£ 407.40
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2,395.14</b>
<b>Balance remaining</b>	<b>£3,047.19</b>

**18. Any other relevant matters not included on this agenda:**

Councillor Allen reported that three items of furniture had been stolen from Breckles Church. Thieves stole three valuable chairs. One item has been recovered. The police are investigating the thefts further, in the hope that the other items can be recovered. The Church is now sadly closed to visitors.

**19. Items for the next Agenda**

Litter Pick

**20. To confirm the date and time of the next meeting**

The date of the next meeting is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024

The meeting closed at 9:30pm

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

