



SOUTH CREAKE

PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Memorial Pavilion on Monday 7th of October 2024, from 8.30pm.

Present: Councillors, P Abbey, T Allen, J Amor, P Collins, L Goodall, S Baldwin, B Rosen
Parish Clerk.
Borough Councillor Chris Morley

Members of Public: 11

1. The Chair welcomed all those present to the meeting.

2. **Apologies:** Cllrs Sexton, Chantree and Chenery

3. **Declarations of Interest on Agenda Items:** None

4. **Minutes**

The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the 2nd of September 2024 were proposed by Cllr Collins, seconded by Cllr Allen, and all in favour who were present at that meeting.

5. **Parishioner's Questions and Statements:**

- a. Pavilion Report – The Pavilion was the meeting place for a very successful MacMillan coffee morning when an impressive £1,050 was raised. Congratulations to Jackie Amor, Rachel Dawson and their team of helpers and supporters for raising this commendable sum and providing a most enjoyable event on Saturday 28th September.
Thanks are due to the Parish Council for donating and fitting a much needed new water tight defibrillator cabinet. The British Heart Foundation circuit have been informed of the new cabinet number. Cllr Abbey wished to thank David for his help on this installation.
The next Pavilion Quiz Night will be held this Friday, 11th of October. Book your place in a team for an evening of good food and entertainment.
The Pavilion 100 Club starts a new year with the November draw and some numbers are still available. Contact either Paul or Sue for details.
The Pavilion AGM will be held on Monday the 21st of October at 7pm. All welcome to attend this meeting.
- b. An allotment tenant has some trees that are over 20' tall which were on the plot when she took over year ago. Most are willow which when they fall are cut back and they are concerned that these cannot comply with the new tenancy agreement for tree height. It was explained that, due to complaints from other tenants that high trees were blocking any light onto plots, the cutting back to trees was necessary. However, the willows etc., do not pose any light issues.
- c. Plot 54 tenant reported some dangerous trees which need removing and Cllr Abbey to arrange for Mark to check these. They also reported that the plot next door has tall weeds coming up every year even though the tenant puts weedkiller down and rotavate regularly. To be checked

6. Reports from County and Borough Councillors –

Cllr Morley – The budget process has just started for the next financial year and awaiting to see what the government budget has to offer. The second home double council tax takes effect from next April, but a majority of this additional funding goes directly to NCC, giving £7m and the borough are negotiating for £2m of this.

The general public space protection order is under review. Scammers are now contacting Careline users so need to be vigilant. Some care alarms may be affected by forthcoming BT digital changeover, but all will have been contacted.

The soap box derby in Hunstanton was most successful and brought in additional revenue to the shops. Entrants from outside the county attended.

Cllr Morley has some members funding available for charitable use.

A team has been set up to help people claim all the benefits they can – 0800 731 2253

Pre booking of slots for the recycling centres starts from November and concern has been raised that this will increase fly-tipping.

Cllr Chenery – just returned from Scotland – see appendix 1

7. Matters Arising:

- a. SAM speed signs – the clerk has completed a request for 50% funding for 2 new signs at a total cost of £8948. A decision should be made in December 24. These signs will be solar powered.
- b. The return of the moles on the playing field has led to another local technician being bought in to lay traps.
- c. Village sign restoration – it is hoped that the sign will be back insitu by the end of this month and huge thanks to Robert Walden for his attention to detail.
- d. Burnside land update – a letter has been sent regarding adding this land to the allotment portfolio and clerk to chase.

8. Open Spaces:

- a. SAM2 signs – no further data has been taken since the August report last month.
- b. No issues with streetlights reported.
- c. Wood carvings – It was advised that some cleaning has taken place, but Henry will clean and varnish on his next visit. CCTV was suggested to be fitted around the Pavilion.
Clerk has a contact for CCTV ACTION: Clerk

9. Finance

- a. To approve the October (to date) payments – Proposed Cllr Collins, seconded Cllr Goodall, and all in favour.
- b. Approve the September bank reconciliation, statements and payments – Proposed Cllr Abbey, seconded Cllr Collins and all in favour.
- c. To approve the first quarter financial review – proposed Cllr Allen, seconded Cllr Abbey and all in favour.

10. Correspondence:

- a. Clerks Report: Damaged dog bin on the green has been removed, rewelded and reinstalled. The Multi Agency Group meeting gave an update on the costs of the Tankering at £541k with a further £200k expected and this does not include the cost of clean ups at around a further £162k. The meeting held here in September was mentioned and the fact that concerns were raised about the potential flooding during the coming months. The Environment Agency were asked to provide an update on the groundwater monitoring at the October meeting.
- b. Items for the next newsletter – tba

- c. Request from Amigos Grill food truck to attend on a Thursday from 6pm to 8pm. This will be discussed at the Pavilion AGM.
- d. A parishioner has questioned dogs being off leads on the green as it states they should be on a lead on the website. It was agreed to amend the website to state “Dogs are welcome but have to be kept under control and ALL dog mess has to be removed. Dogs are NOT allowed in the play area.”

11. Highways Matters

- a. Cllr Rosen stated that the state the highway on London lane was still awaiting attention – clerk to report again. ACTION: Clerk

12. Planning

- a. To consider new applications at the time of publishing:
 - 24/01720/FM** – provision of new industrial/commercial units at The Common, South Creake – all in support of this application.
 - 24/01737/F** -Air Source Heat Pump at 12 Back Street South Creake – no observations
 - 24/01233/A** – road side sign for Creake Business Park – no observations
- b. To note application decisions:
 - None
- c. Appeals/Enforcements:
 - 24/00395/UNAUTU** – Alleged unauthorised use at The Elms, The Common, South Creake.

13. Allotment Matters

Cllr Amor reported:

Bank at Back Street: Continued cutting the bank between the allotments and Back Street. The weather has delayed completion. Also, the Clerk has spoken to BT who will do the part round the pole where brambles are touching the wires. Once this is completed, we will need to remove the old shed that is falling down and blocking the path the other side of the bank.

There is still rubbish dumped on the track between the allotments at Back Street that is preventing the large path being cut. We can resolve this when we get a skip.

Plot 33B If this is not cleared by the tenant, we will take back the plot at the end of this month.

We are still awaiting date for current tenants to relinquish plot and will re assign.

Chickens and cockerels: Cockerels are at plots in Back Street and Leicester Road. Reminder to tenants to remove or relinquish plots. All chickens must be registered with DEFRA.

Leicester Road: We have received a complaint of very high conifers alongside plot 43. Some of the conifers have been reduced in size. Reminder to tenant to be sent if not resolved by end of year.

Another two tenants have been asked to cultivate their plots or relinquish. One plot has been cleared. No action on the other plot.

Plot 1 – vacant. We have three people on the waiting list. New Terms of Letting. Sent out to all Tenants. Some have been returned.

We need to progress the plans for the allotments to confirm whether the paths and boundaries are to prevent gardens encroaching on allotments.

14. To propose items for the Parish Council website: n/a

15. Parishioner's Participation:

a. The village Christmas tree was mentioned and Cllr Goodall to look into the offer of a donated tree.

16. Date of next Parish Council meeting and any agenda items:

It was noted that the next meeting to be held on Monday 4th of November 2024.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending.

Meeting closed: 20:15

PAYMENTS OCTOBERER TO DATE:

Name	Reason	Amount £	
C Boyden	Salary	183.76	
HMRC	PAYE	122.00	
C Boyden	Expenses	38.50	
SSE	electricity	102.19	Standing Order
Command Pest Control	Mole control	234.00	
R Newstead	Bin repairs/Moles	220.00	

Signed :

Date

APPENDIX 1



Norfolk County Council

Latest Information, Advice, Useful Links and Service Updates

Updated 03 October 2024

This weekly briefing is intended as a resource to keep you up to date with the latest information and advice.

Service updates: The most up to date information on council services can be found at [Norfolk County Council services disruptions](#).

Norfolk County Council updates

Crowdfund Norfolk platform launched to attract donations for environmental projects

Grassroots and community-focused projects that aim to improve the environment will be supported through a donation-funding platform launched by Norfolk County Council in collaboration with Crowdfunder.

Using the power of the crowd, Crowdfund Norfolk will help environmental, sustainability and net zero projects to get the funding they need to turn their ideas into a reality.

Projects that match the criteria can seek donations from the community to reach their budget and will be eligible for 50% funding up to a maximum value of £10,000.

The innovative initiative was launched at the recent Norfolk Market Towns Conference that explored ways in which footfall can be increased across the county's 22 market towns.

Further information about Crowdfund Norfolk funding and how to apply is available on the crowdfunder site [here](#).

Norfolk county council budget update

Norfolk County Council is facing difficult decisions as the pressures on local government budgets continue to grow.

The council will need to put more money into its budget to protect vulnerable people despite 'substantial uncertainty' about local government funding.

The budget is expected to grow by £64.5m for 2025-26, however this is not expected to cover the projected increases in demand, particularly in adult social care and children's services.

Cabinet members will consider a number of budget proposals when they meet on Monday 7 October.

A number of the proposals that Cabinet members will be considering would require public consultation - with feedback taken into account before any final budget decisions are made in February 2025.

Proposals that would go out to public consultation are:

- Raising council tax - with the following options: an increase of 3%, an increase of up to 5%, an increase of more than 5%.
- Review of our Housing Related Support Services.
- Switch off a further 2% of Norfolk County Council maintained streetlights.

The pressure on the council's budget is also being felt in the current financial year.

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Further details about the challenges and budget proposals are available in our press release [here](#).

Cabinet papers and meeting links are available [here](#).

Norfolk Recycling centres – changes due in November

Changes are being made at Norfolk recycling centres that will affect Norfolk residents and traders.

The changes will help with service demand, reduce congestion and make sites safer whilst ensuring costs are covered for the disposal of waste.

Anyone wishing to visit a Norfolk recycling centre from Monday 18 November 2024 must book in advance. Bookings can be made up to seven days ahead either online via the council's website or by phoning the customer service centre. The new booking system will be live from Monday 11 November.

Additionally, from the 1 November trade customers will see a change to the way they pay to dispose of their waste. Businesses will be charged based on the size of vehicle and the type of waste they bring, instead of the number of bags.

Further details about these changes are available in our press release [here](#).

Further information about rubbish and recycling, including more information about the new booking system is available on our website [here](#)

Norwich Park and ride update

Following a competitive tender process Norfolk County Council has this week awarded contracts to run Norwich Park and Ride services for up to the next eight years, starting in early 2025.

Two operators have been successful, with First Bus having been awarded the contract to run services from the Airport and Thickthorn sites, and Central Connect (operating as Simonds) providing services from Harford and Postwick. First Bus has committed to running zero-emission buses from the Thickthorn and Airport sites. All four sites will see earlier and later journeys and a service on a Sunday.

The Sprowston site will continue to be part of the overall park and ride offer but offering a slightly different service as it will be opened up to local bus services to use as a transport hub on local routes.

More details on each service will be provided in the coming months as the new operators finalise their plans.

Details about current park and ride services are available on our Travel Norfolk site [here](#).

School safety inspections update

Initial safety inspections of ceilings at 60 Norfolk schools have now been completed, with no further school or class closures needed.

Fifteen schools of the 60 inspected, require immediate work on parts of their ceilings and a small number of schools require follow-up checks where specialist equipment is needed to reach inaccessible areas.

All schools remain open and have appropriate measures in place to ensure a safe and effective learning environment for pupils.

Norfolk County Council commissioned the inspections at the start of the new academic year, following the partial collapse of a lath and plaster ceiling at an academy led by Synergy Education Trust.

The council is still calculating the cost of the maintenance work needed because of the inspections.

Regular visual inspections take place at all of Norfolk's maintained schools, in addition to day-to-day checks carried out by the schools themselves. Some schools also sign up to a Building Maintenance Partnership scheme, to manage the regular maintenance of the buildings which provides additional

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checks. This is in line with the inspection programme in other local authorities, but the council will look at whether future additional checks are needed, because of this latest issue.

Academies are responsible for their own maintenance programme and the council has written to trusts to notify them of this issue.

National updates

Improved accessibility on buses and coaches

New regulations came into force on 1 October that will improve accessibility for passengers on local bus and coach services

The Public Service Vehicles (Accessible Information) Regulations 2023 require operators of local bus and coach services to provide information on the route, direction of travel and each upcoming stop.

The regulations will boost confidence for travelling passengers, including those with sight and hearing impairments because route information will be clearly displayed and announced.

The introduction of the regulations means newer vehicles (those first used on local services since 1 October 2019) must now be compliant. There is a staggered deadline for older vehicles through to 2026, with partially compliant status vehicles needing to be compliant by 2031.

Shadow Great British Railways update

The Transport Secretary has [appointed Laura Shoaf as Chair of Shadow Great British Railways \(SGBR\)](#).

In the role, Laura will help drive the government's overhaul of the railways, bringing senior leaders together to deliver improvements for passengers and work towards a more unified rail system.

SGBR will also help design Great British Railways – a permanent body that will oversee railway infrastructure and services, unifying the oversight of track and trains.

Ahead of legislation being passed, SGBR will lay the groundwork for this new system, ensuring no time is wasted in delivering better for passengers and freight.

Solar power taskforce

At the first meeting of the government's reactivated [Solar Taskforce](#), Energy Secretary Ed Miliband said that solar power will be a key driving force behind their 2030 clean power mission.

The taskforce brings together leading figures from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ), industry and regulatory organisations, and will focus on accelerating the delivery of solar energy across the country. It aims to drive forward the increases in rooftop and ground mount solar needed to accomplish the [government's 2030 Clean Power Mission](#), laying the groundwork for longer-term growth.

The government says that homegrown, renewable energy projects including solar will help build the UK's energy independence and reduce dependence on volatile fossil fuels – protecting consumer bills and providing clean power.

Reflecting the government's ambitions to generate more solar power by 2030, the taskforce has committed to delivering an updated solar roadmap within the coming months. The solar roadmap will outline how the UK will overcome critical barriers to the sector's growth, among them skills and access to the electricity grid.

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Homes England Priorities

The Minister of State for Housing and Planning, Matthew Pennycook, has [written](#) to Homes England’s Chair, Peter Freeman, setting out his priorities for the Agency in their role of delivering housing and regeneration across England.

The letter includes 7 immediate priority areas to support delivery of new homes and places:

- For the Agency to do everything in its power to accelerate development and increase delivery in 2024/25.
- To continue to provide appropriate support to the New Homes Accelerator.
- For the Agency to continue to support the Department’s work on new towns and other major schemes.
- To take steps to ensure that the Agency is maximising the number of social rent homes.
- For the Agency to support the reform and diversification of the housing market.
- To continue to focus on achieving best value for money for the taxpayer and ensure that the Agency drives efficiencies and prioritises resources.
- To ensure that the Agency provides robust and timely input into the Budget and Spending Review processes.

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Date