

SOUTHERY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council
Held on Wednesday 8th February 2023 at 7.00pm
In Southery Village Hall

Present:

Cllr Annette Osler (Vice Chair)

Cllr Roger Whitehead

Cllr Chris Edwards

Cllr Crispin Copsey

Cllr Javey Osler

Gail Robinson Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

In attendance:

Members of the public: 1

Public Comments / Questions on Parish Issues

An opportunity for public comments and questions. Items relevant to the agenda will be incorporated into later discussions. All new items will be noted for the next meeting.

1/23 To consider and approve apologies for absence and approve all absences approved for past six months

It was **resolved** to accept apologies from Cllr Susan Walsh and Cllr Alison Youngs. Apologies were also received from Borough and County Cllr Martin Storey.

2/23 To receive Declarations of Interest on Agenda Items and Dispensation Requests

Cllr A Osler declared an interest in attending a village meeting.

3/23 To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 14 December 2022 and note matters arising

It was **resolved** to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chair. (All in favour.)

4/23 To discuss and approve any action in regard to the Village Voice

The Chair of the village hall is going to be invited to the next meeting.

5/23 To Receive an Update from Cllr Martin Storey, NCC and BCKLWN Councillor

No report from Cllr Stoney in his absence.

6/23 To Note Any Councillors Comments or Items for next meeting and note forward work programme

- Cllr Whitehead noted that there is a lot of dog fouling, broken glass and rubbish round the football hut. PC Higgins has been phoned four times. The Clerk noted that PC P Gilluley has also been contacted. The members felt that it was disappointing that the police do not attend Parish Council meetings. There is a fence near the playing field that looks bad and the fence around the mobile goals has been smashed. Cllr Edwards has kindly picked up rubbish around the playing field for 2 weeks. The cemetery end the gate latch is broken need someone to fix, the Clerk to seek quotes. The Clerk's phone number needs updating information boards.
- Fridge been dump at cemetery - will be removed.

- Batteries in the defibrillator have been replaced. Littleport surgery own the defibrillator, Clerk to contact Littleport surgery to see if we can get a grant.
- Post office mobile van has not been turning up. Should be coming an hour each day. Clerk to follow this up.

7/23 To consider King Charles III Coronation event, including NCF grant application - deadline 21.2.23, including gifts for local children

Cllr A Osler noted that she attended a meeting yesterday to organise many activities in the village to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. It was suggested that Saturday a royal themed quiz evening is held. Sunday would be for teenagers, and Monday would follow the volunteer theme and a village litter pick would be held for anyone to join with councillors. Afterwards, in the church for refreshments, the Parish Council will give the refreshments. The Village Hall would like to give a grand raffle and asked if the Parish Council would give £100 for the raffle. S Shaw Chair of FOSA asked if the Parish Council could purchase coins for the school. They would like them to be inscribed with the school academy details to be consistent to other coins given to children by them. The members discussed having the name from the Parish Council on the coin. Last time 280 coins were purchased at around £400 and given to all children living in the village. Cllr Edwards proposed and Cllr Copsey seconded and all agreed the coins should be purchased for the children. It was thought the money raised from the events could be used to purchase a shelter for the playing field. Cllr A Osler noted that someone is coming to discuss grants. Cllr Whitehead expressed concern about other things that have been purchased and then not used. It was noted that Feltwell Parish Council has a very good playing field. Clerk to send details of possible grants available.

8/23 To consider request from Watlington Football club to use village playing field on a regular basis

The Clerk explained the request from C Farr to explore the use of the playing field. It was noted that it is already used on a Wednesday. There are problems with moles on the field. Currently being used by a Downham group and Cllr Edwards explained how good it is for them to use the field. Clerk to ask Mr Farr how often they would like to use the field but noted this is just an exploratory exercise at the moment. Cllr Edwards to ask the current user of the field for their thoughts.

9/23 To consider request from FOSA to use the village playing field on a single occasion

It was **resolved** that they could use the village playing field.

10/23 To consider Wicksteed inspection report and items for resolving

It was **resolved** that Wicksteed would be asked to correct the red highlighted items and the Parish Council will monitor the rest over the next 6 months and consider if any other repairs need to be made after that time.

11/23 To consider and approve memorial inscription request

It was **resolved** to approve this request.

A parishioner was invited to speak about concerns he had as he is concerned about the welfare of some parishioners. He noted that he had rang the police. The members considered other problems that need to be addressed by the police. Clerk to address this problem police.

12/23 To Approve the need for a Tree Management Survey

It was **resolved** that a Tree Management Survey should be conducted.

13/23 To review Payroll services for 2023/24

It was **resolved** that this should be considered at the next meeting.

14/23 To Approve the Internal Auditor for the 2022/23 Accounts

It was resolved to continue with the current internal auditor for the 2022/23 accounts.

15/23 To Approve Any Handyman Work and Annual Review

It was resolved that a concrete post at the cemetery need to be added to the handyman work list.

16/23 To Discuss preparations for Local Elections

Details of the nomination and local election process have been circulated prior to the meeting.

17/23 To Consider Quarterly Bank Statement

The bank balances:

Treasurers account as at 3rd January 2023 £5458.91

Business Bank Instant as at 9th January 2023 £23,289.53

18/23 To Approve Payments

It was resolved to make the following payments in line with the budget:

Payee	Net	VAT	Gross
Clerk wages and exp	271.17	0	271.17
HMRC	57.40	0	57.40
Handyman	40.00	0	40.00
Southery VH - for 080223	12.00	0	12.00
Wicksteed	222.00	44.40	266.40
Scribe	288.00	57.60	345.60
K & M Lighting Jan	59.03	11.80	70.83
K & M Lighting Feb	59.03	11.80	70.83
ICO	35.00	0	35.00
Total	1043.63	125.60	1169.23

19/23 To Note Date of next meeting – Weds 8 March 2023 at 7 pm in the Southery Village Hall

Planning application 22/01619/FM - Alterations to existing vehicular entrance, provisions of 2 No. new office/welfare cabins, relocation of an existing storage container, extension of existing vehicular storage yard, recladding of an existing steel frame storage shed, installation of a new 2 bay lorry wash facility, revised/alterations to boundary treatments and all associated site development works including drainage & lighting at Southery Mill Sedge Fen Road Southery. Received 7th February 2023, deadline 28th February. It was resolved to support this application with no comments.