

MEETING OF SWANTON MORLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Monday 9th June 2025 AT 7.30PM

SWANTON MORLEY VILLAGE HALL

Councillors Present: Mr R Atterwill (Chairman), Mrs B O'Dowd (Vice Chair), Mr B Powter, Mr J. Venworth, Mrs A Walker-Fraser, Mr J Rodrigues and Mr J Phillips

Also in attendance: 2 members of the public

Matters Raised Under Time Allocated to the Public

A member of the public raised a concern with chemicals being sprayed onto the fields at the back of Primrose Hill and the concern of what the chemicals are and the potential harm to dogs.

It was reported that an animal was not alive on the field and the next day when she returned it had been removed.

The resident would like to have signs up when the chemicals are being sprayed for awareness.

Councillor Atterwill is going to contact Environmental health.

Another member of the public reported that the ditch on Woodgate Park has been scheduled in for work to be carried out. The Highway Engineer is aware of the situation.

The member of the public also wanted clarification that there should not be conflict between the Local Plan and Neighbourhood plan should not have conflict.

The member of the public also raised a concern that the Parish Council meeting has had 7 months of closed sessions.

Councillor Atterwill confirmed this is due to sensitive information and protecting the identity of a Parishioner.

County Councillor report:

No County Councillor in attendance – a report has been received

District Council report

Local Plan – there is a lot up in the air concerning call for sites.

Local Government reorganisation – There is a conflict between District and County Councils.

The Meeting Went into Session

1. To Accept Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Turner and Councillor Gauntlett accepted by Council

2. To Receive Declarations of Interest

Councillor Atterwill declared an interest in item 5b

Councillor Powter declared an interest in item 7c

Councillor Rodrigues declared an interest in item 6d

3. Minutes from the Annual Parish Council Meeting of 12th May 2025 to be accepted, initialled, and signed.

Councillor Rodrigues proposed that the minutes are accepted seconded by Councillor Venworth and carried

4. Matters arising from Minutes of 12th May 2025 (For Exchange of Information Only)

Councillor Atterwill referred to the previous meeting and that the Clerk had contact with the organisers of Dog Agility.

5. Finance

a. Accounts to approve for payment

Payee – June 2025	Detail	Payment type	Total Amount Payable	Of Which VAT Reclaimable
Staff remuneration	PAYE Month 2	Bacs	£3692.93	
S2 Computers	IT Support	Direct debit	£170.28	£28.38
Swanton Morley Farms	24/25 6 month Permissive path rent	BACS	£1250.00	
Swanton Morley Farms	25/26 6 month permissive path rent	BACS	£1250.00	
James Keith	Manns Lane rental	BACS	£1500.00	
TOP Garden Services	March Cuts	BACS	£1471.85	£245.31
TOP Garden Services	April Cuts	BACS	£1471.85	£245.31
TOP Garden Services	May Cuts	BACS	£1471.85	£245.31
GL Jones	Ability Swing extension/Nest Swing	BACS	£26,760.00	£4460.00
	TOTAL		£37,788.76	£5224.31

Councillor O'Dowd proposed that the payments are made seconded by Councillor Venworth and carried

Councillor Atterwill left the room and Councillor O'Dowd took the Chair

b. Accounts to approve for payment for Members with a Pecuniary Interest

Payee – June 2025	Detail	Payment type	Total Amount Payable	Of Which VAT Reclaimable
R Atterwill	Expenses – Planter	BACS	£62.54	£10.42
		Total	£62.54	£10.42

Councillor Powter proposed that the expenses are paid seconded by Councillor Rodrigues and carried

Councillor Atterwill re-entered the room and resumed the Chair

c. Income to be reported

Income Received – May 2025	Details	Amount
Swanton Morley Village Hall	Grass cutting	£297.50
Allotment holder	Allotment tenancy	£74.93
	Total	£372.43

d. To agree the purchase of bleed kits for the defibrillator

The Clerk had circulated a quotation ahead of the meeting for consideration.

Mrs O'Dowd suggested looking at another provider and requesting a further quotation.

All agreed

e. To consider the quotation to install a mobile hearing loop

This was discussed and approved at the Village Hall meeting

The Clerk raised the request for a donation from the Parish Council towards the VJ Day community event of £500.

Councillor O'Dowd proposed that the donation is made seconded by Councillor Powter and carried

6. Land and Planning

a. To consider responses to Breckland District Council for any planning applications:

None received

Councillor Atterwill reported that a resident in the Village had been in contact concerning a caravan/mobile home that has been installed in her neighbour's garden.

Councillor Atterwill reported that he had been in touch with Breckland Council planning department and this has been done under permitted development rights.

The Clerk has spoken to the resident and will forward the evidence to Councillor Atterwill.

b. To Receive Report on Planning Decisions by Breckland District Council

None received

c. To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan review

Councillor Atterwill reported that the public consultation has now finished and the public event was well attended.

There is a meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan steering group this week where the responses will be discussed.

Mr Atterwill also reported that we are still awaiting a response from Breckland Council.

Councillor Rodrigues left the room

d. To receive an update on Breckland Council's Local Plan call for sites

The Clerk shared the interactive map on the screen.

Councillor Atterwill reported that there was a meeting held at Breckland Council to discuss the sites that had been put forward. Breckland wanted the parishes to tell them what land could be built on then Breckland council would consider this and provide a number of dwellings that would be allocated to Swanton Morley.

Councillor Atterwill responded that he felt Breckland Council should have provided the parish with a housing number.

Councillor Atterwill then demonstrated on the map of the pieces of land the notes that reflect each one.

The parcels of land submitted by land owners are available on the interactive map on Breckland Council website.

Roberston Barracks has also been put forward as a Strategic Development Area (SDA) with a potential of 2000 houses.

If this is put forward for 2000 houses then Councillor Atterwill does not feel there is a need for further sites in the Village. If they decide to reduce the scale of the site for example to 500 houses, this will then reduce the site to a 'large development area' which would mean the Parish Council would have to take account of houses on the site as well as additional houses in the Village.

Breckland Council have a copy of the notes provided by Councillor Atterwill to the following questions:

Which proposed sites are the most suitable? No answer provided

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What size houses do you think the village needs? – Councillor Atterwill suggested that they refer to the Neighbourhood Plan policies 4, 5 and 11

Are there any community facilities that would benefit from S106 money? Yes, the pre-school and surgery

Would you take on open spaces if it was provided? Generally yes

Could any of the sites offer improvements to public rights of way? No

What benefits do you think development could bring to your village? Depending on the scale of development, it could be disastrous without road improvements. The village is currently serviced by the C888 not what was the B1147.

Another note Councillor Atterwill made was to keep the communications tower on Robertson Barracks, this could be used to install extra dishes to provide better mobile phone signal referring to Neighbourhood Plan policy 13.

There is a meeting being held on 27th June with Defence Infrastructure Organisation where they will be providing an update on their situation. This will be at the Village Hall. Hoe and Worthing residents and Parish Meeting Chairman will be in attendance along with the Director of Planning from Breckland Council.

Councillor Atterwill did ask if any members of the Council would like to attend.

Councillor Venworth commented that a lot of Hoe and Worthing's comments have been towards the boundary which is nothing to do with the purpose of the meeting.

Councillor Rodrigues re-entered the room

e. To receive an update on the Parish Council submission for a Community Governance Review

Councillor Atterwill reported that Breckland Council refused the application. It was felt that the decision had already been made prior to the meeting.

Swanton Morley Parish Council have been advised that they can get a petition of 185 people from Swanton Morley and resubmit the application or wait 2 years and reapply to the new authority, this option would be closer to knowing the future of Robertson Barracks.

Councillor Atterwill made it clear this was not a land grab, it was changing the line on a map and **that the** Parish Council would not own the land.

7. To Consider Matters for Attention for the Following Parish Assets:

a. Churchyard at All Saints' Church

Nothing to report

b. Swanton Morley Burial Ground

Councillor Phillips reported that he requires the burial plan to identify some unkept plots.

Four moles have been caught in the last two weeks

Rose food is required for the memorial garden

i. To receive a request for a memorial bench in the Burial Ground

The Clerk had received a request from a resident to install a bench at the end of the footpath near to the grave.

This measures less than the width of the footpath and can be installed onto the path.

Councillor Atterwill asked if he would maintain it. The Clerk will confirm this.

Councillor O'Dowd proposed that the Parish Council approve the request seconded by Councillor Rodrigues and carried

c. Swanton Morley Allotments

The Clerk reported that there is a site inspection booked in for the following week. The padlock is being changed on the pedestrian gate.

There are some available plots.

d. Swanton Morley Open Spaces (Gooseberry Hill, Village Green and Davidson Park)

Councillor Venworth had circulated his inspection reports ahead of the meeting.

The grass seed in Gooseberry Hill is doing well.

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Councillor Atterwill requested that the Clerk writes to Mr Milne and Mr Leneve thanking them removing the swings and removing and replacing the seats at the Village Green and request the invoice.

Councillor Venworth referred to Davidson Park needing to be seeded. A quotation has been requested from the contractor to carry out this work.

Councillor Atterwill discussed the purchase of topsoil for the trench on Middleton Avenue.

Councillor Atterwill proposed that the Council purchase 2 x 1 tonne bags for £56 + VAT seconded by Councillor Venworth and carried

e. Swanton Morley Common Lands

Councillor Atterwill read out the grazing report received from Mr Harris for Mill Common.

f. Streetlights

The 6 yearly inspection needs to be carried out. This was agreed in the budget.

Councillor Atterwill proposed that the standing orders are waived for the contractor appointed seconded by Councillor Venworth and carried

g. Village paths (Rights of Way)

Councillor Walker-Fraser confirmed all footpaths were accessible.

The Clerk is to chase the Trails team at Norfolk County Council concerning the footpath on Primrose Hill.

Councillor Atterwill reported that the tree officer has been to look at the trees from Hoe Road East and Harkers Lane due to a resident complaint,

The landowner is working on appointing a contractor to carry out some remedial work.

Breckland Council are looking at requesting a TPO.

h. Noticeboards

Nothing to report

8. Policies

a. To agree the amended Standing Orders

The Clerk had circulated the document ahead of the meeting for consideration.

Councillor O'Dowd proposed that the amendments are accepted seconded by Councillor Rodrigues and carried

9. Highways

a. To receive reports of Highways faults / matters for attention

Thomspon Close footpath

Gooseberry Hill water leak

Town Street bend – Highways to reclaim the highway

'No Entry' sign to be re-marked

b. To receive an update on the Community Speedwatch

Further dates have been circulated – there is a new volunteer interested

c. To discuss a Swanton Morley Community Neighbourhood watch

Councillor Gauntlett reported that the scheme is working. He is in touch with one resident with an ongoing issue with anti social behaviour

d. To discuss the location for a memorial bench requested by a resident

Councillors discussed a proposed location at the end of Lincoln Close.

It was agreed that the Clerk will contact the family to confirm ownership, maintenance and to organise a concrete pad

10. Correspondence (For Exchange of Information Only)

None received

Meeting to Be Suspended for Further Time Allocated to the Public

A member of the public asked if the Call for Sites interactive map is available for the public, the Clerk confirmed that this is on the Breckland Council website.

The member asked if the public could comment on it? Councillor Atterwill is not sure as the land surveys are still being carried out.

The member of the public asked if they could attend the meeting with the DIO, Councillor Atterwill responded that this is not open to the public.

Another member of the public reported that they were not aware of future development proposals in the Village.

Councillor Atterwill reported that there is planning information shared regularly in the Mardler, in the minutes and on social media.

The member of the public asked if there is anyway that developments can be stopped, the Clerk responded that Breckland Council have confirmed that they are mandated to build 903 dwellings per year so there is no way to stop development

11. Any item to be reported for the next agenda

Feedback from meeting with DIO

12. To Confirm the Date & Time of the next meeting of the Parish Council to be held on Monday 14th July 2025 at 7.30pm

All agreed

13. To receive a receive a proposal to close the meeting to the press and public for item 14 for the reason that the content of discussion relates to confidential correspondence received from Breckland Council (permitted under Section 1 para 2 of the public bodies (Admission to Meeting Act 1960)).

Councillor Rodrigues proposed that the meeting is closed seconded by Councillor Powter

14. Confidential correspondence received from Breckland Council

Approved by _____

Signed _____

Date _____