

MEETING OF SWANTON MORLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Monday 13th February 2023 AT 7.30PM

SWANTON MORLEY VILLAGE HALL

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

Also in attendance: Mrs K. Pickard (Clerk), District Councillor Richard Duffield and three members of the public

Matters Raised Under Time Allocated to the Public

A member of the public raised the ongoing issue of the dog mess particularly on the permissive footpath leading to Primrose Hill.

The Clerk reported that there had been advice sought from the dog warden as it is becoming a nuisance on the Village Hall football pitches as well.

There will be signs mounted at the entrance to the field from Harkers Lane.

There was no County Councillor Present

District Councillor Report

District Councillor Duffield suggested that the primary school could be involved in designing some new signs to ask members of the public to pick up after their dog.

District Councillor Atterwill reported that a new bus timetable will soon be available as there are now buses running later in the evening and on Sundays through the village.

Councillor Atterwill also reported that the Breckland Council precept has had a 4.95 increase for a Band D property

The new levelling up bill is being considered and rules around a five year land supply are being relaxed. Councillor Atterwill also reported that Breckland Council would like to paint a mural in Dereham Market place.

The Meeting Went into Session

1. To Accept Apologies for Absence

No apologies received

2. To Receive Declarations of Interest

Councillor Atterwill declared an interest in item 7c

Councillor Venworth and Councillor Turner declared an interest in item 9c

3. Minutes from the Parish Council Meeting of 9th January 2023 to be Accepted, Initialled and Signed

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

Financial Year 2022/2023

4. Matters Arising from Minutes of 9th January 2023 (For Exchange of Information Only)

None were raised

5. To agree the minutes from the Budget Meeting held on 19th January 2023 to be accepted, initialled, and signed.

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

6. Matters arising from the minutes of the Budget Meeting held on 19th January 2023 (For exchange of information only)

The Clerk reported that the Grass cutting contractors had now been appointed

7. Finance

a) Accounts to Approve for Payment:

Councillor Rodrigues proposed that the payments are made seconded by Councillor Walker-Fraser and carried

Payee	Detail	Payment Method	Total Amount Payable	Of Which VAT Reclaimable
Staff remuneration	PAYE Month 11	Bacs	£3894.73	
S2 Computers	Monthly subscription	Bacs	£163.44	£27.24
BT	December	DD	£110.65	£18.44
N Power	Electricity	DD	£117.50	
W Mason	Allotment refund	BACS	£34.00	
T Homer	Allotment refund	BACS	£68.00	
Breckland Council	Hedgecutting	BACS	£1563.32	£260.55
Community Heartbeat	Defibrillator pads	BACS	£100.80	
Anglian Water	Water supply to the allotments	BACS	£1547.61	
		Total	£6317.15	£306.23

b) Income to be reported

Income Received from	Details	Amount
Allotment tenants	Allotment fees	£1580.00
TNLF	Lottery funding	£10,000.00
		£11,580.00

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

c) To agree the fee for the installation of an infant headstone in the burial ground

Councillor O'Dowd reported that the Clerk had been contacted by the parents of an infant who has a grave in the burial ground querying the cost of a headstone being placed.

The Clerk had contacted Councillor O'Dowd as a matter of urgency and it was suggested that a full headstone is £150 for residents that an infant or child headstone could be £75 as there is currently no fee detailed for this

Councillor O'Dowd proposed that the memorial fee for an infant headstone is £75.00 seconded by Councillor Turner and carried

Councillor Atterwill re-entered the room and resumed the chair

d) To consider an increase for the Manns Lane pitch fees

Councillor Atterwill reported that it had been a number of years since the Manns Lane pitch fees had been reviewed.

It was suggested that due to the increase in cost to maintain the grass cutting and pitches that the fee could be increased from January 2024 to £500.

Councillor Atterwill proposed that the Manns Lane pitch fees are increased to £500 seconded by Councillor Rodrigues and carried

8. Land and Planning

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

3PL/2023/0109/HOU - 4 Middleton Avenue - Proposed single storey rear extension and front porch

Councillor O'Dowd proposed that the Parish Council respond with no objections seconded by Councillor Turner and carried

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

None received.

c. To receive an update on the Local Plan review

Councillor Atterwill reported that this is still ongoing.

There is a new draft levelling up bill that is due for review by June 2025

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

a) Churchyard at All Saints' Church

Councillor Atterwill had circulated his report ahead of the meeting for consideration

There is mole activity

The bricks require some attention due to frost damage

The grass is in good condition and there is good coverage of snow drops

The gravel requires weedkiller at the West door

By the East door there is debris near the netting

It was agreed that the Clerk would obtain a quotation for a Tree Survey

It was suggested that the clerk put contact information for the Parish Council in the noticeboard

b) Swanton Morley Burial Ground

Councillor Atterwill had circulated his report ahead of the meeting for consideration

There are a number of plots that have installed kerbstones or plastic surround. This is not permitted in the regulations so the Clerk is to contact the families

Two new graves have shown signs of sinking, the Clerk is to contact the grave digger to come and tend to these

Moss killer is required

Debris will need clearing by a working party

There is a gap in the hedge to access Thompson Close

c) Swanton Morley Allotments

i) To receive an update on the water supply to the allotment site

The Clerk and Cllr Turner are monitoring the meter readings while the supply to the allotments is off. The landowner has agreed to pay 50% of the last water bill.

ii) To consider an increase to the allotment fees

An increase to the rental for the allotment tenancy was discussed as this has not been reviewed in four years.

Councillor Atterwill proposed that the rent is increased by 10% with effect from January 2024 seconded by Councillor Rodrigues and carried

Councillor Venworth and Councillor Turner abstained

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

Councillor Venworth had circulated his reports ahead of the meeting for consideration.

It was reported that there are moles on Gooseberry Hill.

Councillor Venworth had looked at an alternative quote for the surfacing under the equipment but this was higher than the original quote.

There is a report of a vehicle that is parked in the carpark and has not moved for some time. The Clerk will report this.

e) Swanton Morley Common Lands

i) To receive an update from the Environment Agency for Burgh Common

Councillor Turner reported that he is in talks with the environment agency for permission to carry out the work.

ii) To receive an update on the access to Mill Common

It was agreed that the Council will open dialogue with the new owners in the Spring

f) Streetlights

Nothing to report

g) Village Paths

Councillor Venworth reported that he has spoken to a resident regarding the flyers for the original walks in the village but nothing is on file. This may need to be re written.

Councillor Venworth also suggested a good spot for an additional dog bin at the bottom of the public/permissive footpath on Worthing Road.

The clerk is to contact Norfolk County Council Highways to inspect the public footpath.

h) Noticeboards

Councillor Venworth reported that he had inspected the new village map and the Perspex is not fitting properly and requires additional bolts.

10. Highways

a) To Receive Reports of Highways Faults / Matters for Attention

There is a broken manhole cover on Gooseberry Hill.

Something more structurally sound is required on the bends of Tuddenham Road

Financial Year 2022/2023

Anglian water have flushed out the drains that are backed up from the new construction site

b) To receive an update on the Community Speedwatch scheme

Councillor Turner wanted to place on record his thanks to the existing volunteers that are coming forward for the Speedwatch sessions.

Unfortunately, without further volunteers this may not be able to continue

c) To receive an update on the flooding on Woodgate

The Clerk is still awaiting the date of the survey on Woodgate, another email will be sent copying in The highway engineer and County Councillor.

11. To receive an update on the 'Mens Shed'

Councillor Almond reported that there has been significant interest in the Shed project and the session in January was a success.

The possibility of hiring a container and siting it at the Village Hall was discussed to be able to commence the group.

12. Correspondence (For Exchange of Information Only)

The meeting was then suspended for further time allocated to the public

A member of the public requested that the Parish Council do not put contact information in the noticeboard at the churchyard, they are happy to contact the Parish Council with any issues.

The member of the public raised the issue of the kerbstones in the Burial ground and that they have not been allowed for some time.

13. Any Item to be Reported for the Next Agenda

Internal Audit

Water supply to the allotment

Elections

14. To Confirm the Date & Time of the next Meeting of the Parish Council to be held on Monday 13th March 2023 at Swanton Morley Village Hall at 7.30pm.

All agreed.

The meeting closed at 9.26pm.

Approved by _____

Signed _____

Date _____