Wreningham Parish Council
Minutes of the Council meeting

Held Tuesday 12th November 2024 at 7:30pm
in the Margaret Preston Room, Village Hall

In Attendance: Cllr M Hill (Chairman), Cllr J Lambourne, Cllr K Morris, Cllr A Tancred.

District Councillors: I Spratt

Parish Clerk: Tina Higlett

12 members of the public in attendance.

1 Apologies for absence.
H Glaves, family commitments. Council approved.
B McClenning & J Webber – District councillors

2 Consider Co-option to the council. None.

3 Declaration of Interest for Items on the Agenda and Dispensations for Councillors with a Pecuniary Interest. None

4 Open Forum, including reports from District & County Councillors

1. Public in attendance.
   - C Minns requested grant of £250 towards churchyard maintenance. Council to approve in Agenda Item 10.2.
2. District Councillors
   - Cllr Spratt had forwarded a report to council prior to the meeting. (Appendix 1).
   - Discussion followed on solar farms that are under discussion for South Norfolk. Council aware of the application for one in Top Row near Flordon. A second utility scale solar battery energy storage system is proposed on land near Long Stratton. Details can be found on the East Pye Solar website. Consultation closes on the 6 December.
3. County Councillor. Not in attendance. No report.

5 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th September 2024. These were approved.

6 Matters arising from the minutes.

1. Bleed Kits and training.
   Chairman asked Cllr Spratt if there were any grants available for purchase of kits. Cllr Spratt advised that some councils have placed the kit within the defibrillator cabinet. Kits range from £60.00 upwards. Clerk advised she had spoken with Mark Edwards, South Norfolk Council regarding training package. Advised that a three hour theory and practical session for six people would cost £150.00.

7 Planning

1. Applications
   2024/3163 App Type: Works to TPO trees. Location: Oak Lodge Hethel Road Wreningham. Proposal: T1- Oak- Raise canopy over church road to 5.5m, shorten a couple longer branches from 11m to 9m to balance with the crown, reduce three taller upright growths from 24m to 22m to balance the height, remove any major deadwood.
   Council had no comments to make.
2. Applications commented on between meetings
   2024/2627 Lawood, Church Road Wreningham. Proposal: Replacement dwelling and new double garage.
   Council commented they had no objection. Council did however state it was not in favour of garage being built in front of properties and would like to see hedging planted to the front of the property. Council also reminded applicant of their biodiversity plan and expects minimal external lights especially to the front of the property.
4. To receive a report on plans accepted/refused by South Norfolk Council.
   Nothing to report.

Chairman spoke of correspondence received from South Norfolk Planning advising council that planning application 2022/0835 would be discussed at the next Development Management Committee. The application is for the redundant Spratt's Garage site which will see the demolition of existing commercial workshop and buildings, and erection of four new dwellings and garages. The Council had already commented and had nothing further to add. Hence they would not be sending a representative to speak at the meeting.

8. The Farthings – situation report and next steps.

There have been 5 community meetings to discuss the community owned land (COL) and the way forward with its design. Ideas include a woodland area, a community orchard and two new ponds, giving a total of three; the final site plan to include locating paths, gateways and hedging. Council have to clearly specify what is included in the COL when working with the developer and County Planning on the S106. The assigned planning officer will have overall decision on planning application with supporting information from FWP Ltd. A budget for 10 years of Parish Council maintenance costs (starting from legal land transfer to the Parish Council) will be agreed between the developer and the Parish Council. Birkett Solicitors are acting on behalf of SNC and the Parish Council. Further community meetings will take place to finalise the COL documents/plans. FWP Ltd expect the development work to commence early in 2025 with the COL to be transferred to the parish in mid-2026. SNC advise that the Planning Application approval is temporary until the Parish Council accept that the S106 conditions have been met.

Members of the public voiced concerns around the requirement for proper drainage of the area and the water flow which is currently North/North West of Hethel Road. RossiLong (consulting engineers) suggest that the surface water management design introduce swales (shallow ditches) alongside the footpaths, parallel to the Church Road houses' boundary hedge and between the ponds. The swales will collect and redirect surface water to drainage points to prevent standing water, flooding and in some places erosion. FWP Ltd has assured all interested parties that the drainage will be dealt with.

Chairman advised members that he had spoken to D Brock (FWP Ltd) requesting that the design is redrawn and rescaled to provide a better overview.

A member of public voiced concerns about sufficient people assisting in the COL project work and upkeep as numbers in the community meetings are less than those expressing their interest in the first meeting last year. It is anticipated that as work starts on the COL, interest will increase and sufficient people will become engaged. Control of the COL development will be a real community project and responsibility. The Parish Council will manage the maintenance funds derived from the S106 process.

Chairman advised date of next community meeting will be on the parish council website along with all minutes.

9. Administrative Issues
    1. Appointment of Internal Control Officer.
       Cllr A Tancred was appointed. Clerk to arrange audit to be carried out prior to next meeting.
    2. Clerks' National Salary Award 2024/5 from April 1 2024. Increase of 67p per hour.
       Council duly noted and Chairman signed Employee Terms and Conditions document.

Chairman took the opportunity to advise all in attendance, that the silver birch tree on the Reading Room land had been removed due to deterioration and becoming a danger. Falling branches had been noted. As the landowner, Council has a responsibility for public safety on their land, hence it was removed. Suggestions for replacement were requested.

10. Finance
    1. To note council's current financial standing.
       Community account balance £29,489.27
    2. To approve payments
        i. T Higlett October/ November salaries £441.68
        ii. HMRC October/November £105.40
        iii. Autela Payroll fee £75.05
        iv. All Saints Church Wreningham £250.00
    3. To note payments raised between meetings
       None
    4. To note receipts

i. South Norfolk Litter pick £220.00
ii. Advised – Community Infrastructure Levy £900.00

5. Draft Budget 2025/26
   Draft budget was circulated prior to the meeting. This will be finalised at the next meeting prior to setting the precept. Reserves will show council preparing for future maintenance costs of COL once the S106 fund depletes. **ACTION CLLRs**

11. New
    1. To discuss standpipe for All Saints Church.
       C Minns advised standpipe will be installed in car park and will forward costs to council when available. **ACTION**
    2. Village Christmas tree
       Council approved purchase.
    3. Wickes Community Fund.
       Cllr Morris advised grants of up to £100 are available. Would like to apply for paint/brushes for the roof of the youth shelter. Possible paint/stain for fencing on the playing field. **ACTION KM**

12. Village – Maintenance and highways.
    1. Footpaths
       Footpath which goes across the field was reported as impassible. Member of public reported that the Church Road footpath, the chicken wire has lifted and could become a trip hazard. Council will secure or replace.
    2. Dog bin installation
       This is installed beside Church Road public footpath. It is planned to relocate to the other side of the footpath during FWP COL groundworks.

13. Consultations
    1. Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Publication of proposed Main Modifications and Additional Modifications available to 13th December 2024.
    2. Broadland & South Norfolk Design Code – 2nd public consultation closing 11th November 2024.

14. Correspondence
    1. Ownership of Penny Green Lane
    2. South Norfolk – Guidance on Unauthorised encampment
    3. Wymondham Rd Energy Storage Facility – parish of Bracon Ash & Hethel.
    4. South Norfolk Winter Pressures Grant
    5. CPRE Norfolk comments regarding current National Planning Policy Framework
    6. Broadland & South Norfolk Business Awards
    7. Norfolk PTS subscriber newsletters
    8. Clear Councils Insurance
    9. Business Community Action Suffolk Insurance

15. General Parish Issues
    Cllr Tancred spoke of the problem with the village hall insurance which did not cover community groups such as the Heritage Group and Last Wednesday Coffee Morning. Insurers had advised that community groups could be held responsible for the excess in the event of a claim. If this not amended, community groups have already stated they cannot afford to meet the requirement of taking out additional insurance and this will affect hall bookings. Advised that this is not applicable to one off bookings. The Parish Council are the landlords for the village hall and expect the hall management committee to ensure suitable insurance is in place for the hall and its local users. Cllr Tancred is in contact with the insurers and expects to resolve this soon.

    Chairman passed on thanks to Cllr Tancred for pursuing this and hopefully the outcome will suit all.

16. Date of next meeting will be in early January.
    The Council must meet the deadline date of precept submission to South Norfolk. **ACTION**

Meeting closed at 9:15pm

Appendix 1. SNC Councillors – Wreningham PC Report 12th Nov 2024

Grants
At present Member Ward Grants for 2024/25 have been fully reserved. Requests for future support will become available from April 2025 to support small projects (up to £1,000 usually) to benefit the local community. Contact your District Councillors for further information.

Flooding on B1113
Following the September meeting with Norfolk Highways Officers, the Flood Engineer and Cllr. Plant, the cabinet lead for Highways & Infrastructure, to discuss flooding on the B1113. A further follow up meeting is planned.
The major current problem is seen as being the run-off of water from the A47. Highways staff will increase the pressure on National Highways to get this problem attended to. The long-standing issue of surface water on the road is recognised and Highways agreed to place warning signs on the road. The need for lower speed limits in wet weather was not accepted.
Orsted will continue to store storm water on site and tanker off excess water, until better water management processes are agreed with the Environment Agency and the County Council.
We encourage residents from all local parishes to log problems on the B1113 on the Highways website and to report problems to us. Photographic evidence is always helpful (but stay safe).

Household Waste Removal – Fines of at least £120
South Norfolk Council are planning a campaign to raise consumer awareness of their responsibility for household waste disposal. Any resident found responsible for fly-tipping is liable for a fine of between £120 and £1,000. Residents are reminded that this extends to any waste disposed of by an unauthorised carrier, so asking to see waste removal permits is a good idea when using a builder or any waste removal company. Companies can be searched at the National on-line database:
https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/search-waste-operations

Food Waste Collection
South Norfolk Council is not planning to introduce domestic food waste collection until 2026. Commercial organisations will need to arrange separate collection of food waste from March 2025.

South Norfolk Civic Charity Concert
Cllr. Sharon Blundell is hosting the Civic Charity Concert at 7pm on Thursday 14 November at Wymondham Abbey. The concert is in support of MIM Youth Services and Costessey First Responders. It is hosted by Stephen Yallop and will feature talented young voices from Voice Junction. Tickets from:
https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/snc-civic-charity-concert-tickets-1015371532587

Defibrillator Grants
The charity LondonHearts has received an award from the Dept. of Health & Social Care to install 1,100 defibrillators. Matched funding of £750 is required. Applications via http://www.defibgrant.co.uk/.

***Design Code Consultation**
The second online consultation on the new Design Code for South Norfolk & Broadland closed on Monday 11th November. The consultation focuses on the draft vision for the design code, and the priorities and opportunities for the different character areas identified. The elements specifically relating to villages like Wreningham is attached.
https://southnorfolkandbroadland.placechangers.co.uk/page

Town & Parish Council Summit
Parish councils are encouraged to register for the annual summit meeting on 13th November at 9.30am at the Horizon Centre. The summit includes advice and new resources to help in the recruitment of Parish Councillors.

South Norfolk Planning – Suspension of Pre-Application Advice
The planning team is currently experiencing a very high workload resulting from the number and complexity of

planning applications and enquiries being submitted. It has therefore reluctantly suspending our Pre-Application Advice service until January 2025.Due to a high volume of enquiries. Residents should still be able to have a short phone conversation with a planning officer for informal advice.

South Norfolk Council – Business Awards

South Norfolk and Broadland Community Link Network
This network is designed to bring together people who serve as community leaders and volunteers with voluntary groups and organisations. The objective is to encourage communication, collaboration, and support within the voluntary, community, and social enterprise sector. Membership is open to anyone who is part of a group and to residents interested in learning more about opportunities in the voluntary sector.

To find out more please email: **communities@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk** or call **01603 430431**.

South Norfolk and Broadland Business Awards
Nominations are open for the different categories of awards available. Nominations close on 13th December 2024.
Further information from: SNC Business Award Link

Winter Preparedness
A focus of South Norfolk Council is encouraging communities to prepare for winter and further adverse weather:

- Community organisations can apply for a winter pressures grant of up to £500 https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/communities/community-funding/winter-pressures-grant.
- The Council is producing a flooding prevention action plan.
- Residents living in properties at risk of flooding are encouraged to prepare for the winter.
- Parish Councils are encouraged to check that local emergency plans are up to date.

'Norwich to Tilbury' Update
National Grid has announced that it is now be undertaking a number of surveys along the proposed route of the pylons, to help refine and complete its application for planning permission (known as a Development Consent Order or DCO) to the Planning Inspectorate in Summer 2025.

PylonsEastAnglia are continuing to campaign against the pylon proposals. For further information visit https://pylonseastanglia.co.uk/actions

Bob McClenning, Ian Spratt & Jim Webber

	Councillor Contact Details	
Cllr. Jim Webber	jim.webber@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk	07394 323215
Cllr. Ian Spratt	ian.spratt@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk	07554 668337
Cllr. Bob McClenning	bob.mcclenning@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk	07769 030926

***Extract from Design Code Consultation**

The Consultation considers four classifications of settlement pattern in South Norfolk:

- Norwich Fringe Settlements including Costessey, Cringleford & Trowse;
- Market Towns & Key Service Centres including Wymondham and Hethersett;
- Medium & Large Villages including Mulbarton, Wreningham & Ashwellthorpe; and
- Dispersed Settlements & Countryside including smaller villages such as East Carleton and Hethel.

Swardeston is classified in the Medium & Large Village Category. The issues and opportunities for these villages are suggested to be:

Key issues:

- Safety/attractiveness of pedestrian and active travel routes
- Loss of mature landscape features (e.g. hedgerows)
- Speed of vehicle traffic (particularly at edges of villages), and congestion on wider street network

Key opportunities:

- Retain 'rural' character of village, for example the importance of village greens/centres
- Use of locally distinctive, traditional materials (e.g. red brick, flint etc)
- Views and visual impact to local landmarks (particularly with regards to local landmarks e.g. windmills/ churches)
- Retain and enhance physical and visual connection to the countryside
- Protecting and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and their setting (e.g. listed buildings, farmhouses etc) – protecting views from these to the countryside. Any architectural response to adjacent listed buildings must be carefully considered (not pastiche).
- Varied typologies – design approach to new development may result in more variation in patterns of development e.g. courtyards, farmsteads
- Improved connections to centres/services
- 'Gateways' into the villages to address congestion and speed of vehicles (positioning/placement of housing – using the built form to mark the transition into a village)
- Reinforcing status/identity of villages (e.g. signs, heritage, use of colour, white marker stones)