

TACOLNESTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Tacolneston Parish Council held at Tacolneston Village Hall on Wednesday 13th November 2024 at 7pm.

Present: Cllrs L. Pincher (Chair), B. Gulliver (Vice-chair), K. Darrell,
B. Spratt, P. Butcher and D. Hayward.
Parish Clerk/RFO: D. Wickham
District Councillor K. Carsok, County Councillor C Rowett,
Tree Warden and two members of the public.

- | | Minute
Ref
No: |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. To consider approving any apologies for absence.
Apologies were received from Cllr Langley. These were approved by the Council. | 24/080 |
| 2. To receive any declarations of interest and dispensation requests on any items to be discussed.
None were received. | 24/081 |
| 3. Public Participation.
a) District Cllr Carsok was thanked by Cllr Pincher for her assistance with grant funding for the village hall. The Planning Enforcement Team at South Norfolk Council (SNC) had recently been expanded and would be investigating more planning breaches.
A report from County Cllr Rowett had been circulated to the Council prior to the meeting. Cllr Spratt complained about Norfolk County Council (NCC) making payments to Norse. Cllr Rowett explained that NCC operated by cabinet and that those in the opposition parties were holding the leadership to account on this issue. Cllr Hayward raised the ongoing issue of the flashing lights that were not working properly outside the school. Cllr Rowett had discussed this with Highways and been advised that the Council would need to replace the lights. Cllr Hayward pointed out that it would cost approximately £12,000 to replace the lights that would work properly if the operating switch could be found!
b) The Tree Warden reported that Sudden Oak Decline was present in the village and that he would be seeking Tree Preservation Orders on a number of trees that were considered to be at risk. | 24/082 |
| 4. To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 11th September 2024.
Having been circulated to the Council prior to the meeting, it was agreed by all that the minutes were approved as a correct record. | 24/083 |
| 5. To receive any updates from the Media and Communication Working Group.
A letter had been sent to a gentleman who was mediating between affected local landowners and National Grid regarding the pylon proposals. The gentleman was willing to speak to the Council informally, and Cllr Pincher agreed to contact him directly. | 24/084 |

Signed:



Date: 8/1/25

6. **To receive any updates from the Pylons Working Group.** 24/085
There were none.

7. **To adopt the 2024 Freedom of Information, Equality & Diversity and Data Protection Policies.** 24/086
Having been circulated prior to the meeting, the Council unanimously **Resolved** to adopt these three policies.

8. **Financial Matters** 24/087
a) The bank reconciliation was reviewed and approved.
b) The Council **Resolved** to add Cllr Butcher to the banking mandate.
c) Following receipt of the relevant invoices these payments were approved:

Payee	Detail	Net	Vat	Gross
D Wickham	Clerk's Expenses Sept & Oct	£137.49	£10.00	£147.49
D Wickham	Clerk's Salary November*	£426.70		£426.70
HMRC	Clerk's PAYE November	£106.80		£106.80
D Wickham	Clerk's Salary December	£338.65		£338.65
HMRC	Clerk's PAYE December	£84.60		£84.60
TAFRA	Village Hall Hire 11.09.24	£16.00		£16.00
Ribbonsdale Nurseries	Grounds Maintenance	£432.14	£86.42	£518.56
Ribbonsdale Nurseries	Grounds Maintenance	£432.14	£86.42	£518.56
ICO	Annual Data Protection Fee	£40.00		£40.00
TAFRA	Village Hall Grant (item 10)	£3,000.00		£3,000.00

*includes Local Government Pay Scales increase backdated to April 2024.

9. **To discuss Neighbourhood Watch Scheme recruitment.** 24/088
Following a discussion it was noted that such schemes improved security and reduced home insurance premiums. Cllr Darrell suggested highlighting this on social media. Cllr Pincher agreed to post an item on the village Facebook.

10. **To consider grant requests from TAFRA in relation to:** 24/089
10.1 Disabled toilets – additional costs;
10.2 Water mains leak; and
10.3 Solar panels project.
Cllrs Pincher and Butcher explained that there had been a £1,500 overspend on the disabled toilets, due to unforeseen professional fees and necessary electrical upgrades. A water leak had been discovered and was as yet unresolved – this was resulting in extremely high water rates of approximately £3,000. A £10,000 grant was available for solar panels to be installed at the village hall, but additional funding of £2,000 - £3,000 was needed from the Council. A total grant of £6,000 was sought by TAFRA.
Cllr Gulliver noted that the village hall was now well-used by the community. Cllr Darrell suggested phasing any grant based on necessity. The Council **Resolved** to award a grant of £3,000.00 to TAFRA at this time.

Signed:



Date: 8/1/25

- 11 **Planning Matters:** 24/090
11.1 No planning applications had been received.
11.2 The temporary access at The Lakes development appeared to be becoming permanent. This was causing concern as it was hazardous to traffic on the B1113. District Cllr Carsok agreed to raise the matter with the SNC Enforcement Officers.
11.3 Cllr Darrell noted that the original plan at the Hill Top Farm development was for housing for local residents, but that this appeared to have drifted. District Cllr Carsok explained that housing allocation would be based on a points system giving local residents higher priority. She would liaise with Saffron Housing and invite them to a future Parish Council meeting.
- 12 **To agree the 2025 Parish Council meeting dates.** 24/091
The Council agreed the following meeting dates:
8th January
14th May
9th July
10th September
12th November
- 13 **Public Participation.** 24/092
There was none.
- 14 **To confirm the date of the next Parish Council meeting as** 24/093
8th January 2025 at 7pm.
Agreed

The meeting ended at 8.30pm

Signed:



Date:

8/1/25