

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD FOR BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2025 AT 7.30 P.M.**

**Present**

Councillor R. Richmond (Chair)  
Councillor M. MacArthur.  
Councillor P. Minchin.  
Councillor P. Lawton.  
Councillor D. Howard.  
Councillor L. Sarll.

District Councillor Richard Duffield  
8 members of the Public.

**In Attendance**

A. Leigh. Clerk  
R. Wade RFO

1. **To Consider apologies for absence. Parish Councillor Billings, County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris.** These apologies were proposed to be accepted by Councillor Howard and seconded by Councillor Lawton, all were in agreement.
2. **To receive Declarations of Interest.** None received.
3. **To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025.** It was proposed by Councillor Minchin and seconded by Councillor Richmond that the minutes were true and accurate, all were in agreement.
4. **Finance.**
  - 4.1. **Budgets as circulated.** It was proposed by Councillor Lawton and seconded by Councillor Howard that the budgets as circulated were in order, all were in agreement.
  - 4.2. **Balances and cheques for authorisation as circulated.** C.A.N. £40.00, Beetley Village Hall £294.00, Anglotech £18.14, Clerks Salary (September) £518.58, R.F.O. Salary (September) £133.00, HMRC (September) £162.80, Angela Leigh (Beetley Community Car Drivers pay) £99.60, East Coast Fabrication £300, J & A Luck Builders £190.00, Unity Bank service charge £6.00. It was proposed by Councillor Sarll and seconded by Councillor Minchin that these payments were correct. All were in agreement. The payments this month will be approved online by Councillor Richmond and Councillor MacArthur.
  - 4.3. **Charity account update** The RFO reported that there was no further update.
  - 4.4. **Precept – 2<sup>nd</sup> payment.** The RFO reported that this was now in the bank account.
  - 4.5. **Agar update.** The RFO reported that there was one exception which had now been corrected.
  - 4.6. **To receive and consider the Financial Monitoring Officers report.** Councillor Minchin the Financial Monitoring Officer reported that all was satisfactory.
5. **Beetley & District Pre-School new site.** No further comment had been received from Norfolk County Council. Councillor MacArthur will forward the copy of the last minutes to Chris Griggs of Norfolk County Council to keep him updated. It was agreed that the Parish Councillors will have a site meeting on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October @ 10.30. The Clerk will contact the Parishioner on Fakenham Road regarding the new site and an invitation will be given to attend the site meeting.
6. **Reports from County and District Councillors. Public Participation.**
  - 6.1. **To receive reports from County and District Councillors.** There had been no report received from the County Councillor. District Councillor Richard Duffield informed the meeting that the Council tax rate may rise when the Local Government Review is complete as Breckland Council's rate has always been the lowest in the County.
  - 6.2. **Public comments.** None.





## **7. Matters for report.**

**7.1. Speed Watch.** The Current Beetley Speed Watch Co-ordinator informed the meeting that there will be a new Co-ordinator Mr. John Castleford as from 2/10/25. The Clerks email address will be forwarded to him to enable reports to be sent each month.

## **8. Highways.**

**8.1. Clerk to give feedback on ongoing Highway problems.** The Clerk informed the meeting that there was no further update regarding the possible Highway encroachment on Elmham Road which County Councillor was taking forward on behalf of Parish Councillor Billings. The request from a Parishioner for the blocked gulleys to be emptied, the County Councillor had passed this onto N.C.C. Highways to deal with. The potholes on High House Road which Councillor Lawton had reported where still outstanding although he had a response stating they would be deal with.

**8.2. To note any new problems within the Parish.** Councillor Howard reported that there was a pothole at the end of Elmham Road heading towards North Elmham. Councillor Lawton will report this issue to Norfolk County Council Highways.

**8.3. To receive a report from all Councillors on the footpaths.** A Parishioner informed the meeting that there was a footpath sign damaged on Sorrel Lane across the road to the Church. this is on Councillor MacArthur's footpath list; he will report it to Highways. All other footpaths were satisfactory, Councillor Mac Arthur reported that footpath 10 had now been cut he thanked the Clerk for her input.

**8.4. Verge cutting Beetley Parish.** The Clerk had passed the thanks for the good cutting of the verges onto County Councillor Mark-Kiddle Morris for him to pass onto highways.

**8.5. Bus shelter grant update.** The latest update the Clerk had received was that the replacement bust shelter should be installed on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November this year.

**8.6. Parish Partnership Scheme 2026/7.** This will be carried forward to the November meeting which will be the last meeting for any suggestions to be made as the bid needs to be with Norfolk County Council in December.

## **9. Planning.**

### **Applications.**

**9.1. PL/2025/1237/OMAJ Land to the North East of Fakenham Road Beetley. Outline planning application with all matters reserved except access for the erection of up to 16 dwellings, landscaping an all associated infrastructure.** There were several objections which the Parishioners who were present put forward. Councillor Sarll read out the report from the Parish Council's Planning Portfolio holder in his absence which recommend refusal. Councillor Minchin proposed and Councillor MacArthur seconded that an objection is placed on Breckland Council's Planning Portal stating the points which had been read out. All were in agreement. The Parish Council and the Parishioners who objected to this application requested that it is taken to Breckland Council's Planning Committee. District Councillor Richard Duffield agreed to do this.

**9.2. PL/2025/1269/FMIN The Old Farm Office, 6 Highfields Meadow East Bilney. Demolition of farm office & store and construction of cottage style dwelling & garage.** A Parishioner put forward his objections to this application. After listening to the report from the Parish Councillors Planning Portfolio holder which recommended refusal Councillor MacArthur proposed and Councillor Sarll seconded that the Parish Council objects to the application. All were in favour.

### **Decisions made by Breckland Council**

**9.3. PL/2025/0999/VARMJ The Shrublands Gressenhall Road Beetley.** Variation of conditions 2 & 12 on application PL/2025/0385/VARMAJ. **APPROVED.**

**9.4. PL/2025/0902/VAR Fairhaven Caravan site School Road Old Beetley.** Removal of condition 7 on application 1996/0081/CU to allow permanent occupation of the site. **APPROVED.**

**9.5. PL/2025/0699/DPO The Shrublands Gressenhall Road Beetley.** Application to modify the Planning application on 3PL/2022/1414/F Schedule 1, part 1B to change tenure of plots 9,10,11 to First home. **REFUSED.**

**9.6. PL/ 2024/1033/FMIN Land & Building west of Folly Lane & North of School Road Old Beetley.** Proposed change of use & conversion of brick & flint agricultural building & land within Curtilage to a self-build 4No bedroom single dwelling. **APPROVED.**

**9.7. PL/2025/1196/TRE 10 Wood Drive Beetley. T1 Oak. **APPROVED.****





**10. Beetley River Meadows.**

**10.1. Monthly play equipment inspections.** Councillor Sarll passed the monthly inspection sheets to the Clerk for filing.

**10.2. RoSPA report update.** Councillor Sarll stated that the 2 Basketball hoops had been taken down for repair and one had been re fitted. The second one will be fitted shortly. The Toddler replacement top bar which NGF Play Equipment are supplying and fitting is still outstanding. The majority of the issues raised on the report have been deal with and hopefully by the next meeting all will have been completed.

**10.3. Grassed area 3 yearly rotational cut update.** There are two further trees to be cut down which should be carried out on 29<sup>th</sup> October.

**11. Parish Council Matters.**

**11.1. Inspections:- Pavilion : Defibrillator.** Councillor MacArthur reported that the Pavilion is clean and tidy and the Defibrillator is working ok.

**11.2. Biodiversity Policy Action Plan.** Nothing to report.

**11.3. Beetley Brick sign and Clock - Outside of School Elmham Road update.** The work has now been completed.

**11.4. East Bilney Townlands meeting update.** The work has now been completed.

**11.5. East Bilney noticeboard.** The Noticeboard is now fixed into the ground, Councillor MacArthur is now going to treat the wood with wood preservative.

**11.6. GOV.UK email address update – Gov.UK website address.** Nothing to report.

**11.7. Breckland Local Plan update.** No further update received.

**11.8. "Operation Radium Trigger Plan"** This was discussed and agreed that the Parish Council would not be involved. The Clerk to respond stating this.

**12. Matters for next meeting (not for discussion).**

**13. To confirm the next meeting of Beetley Parish Council will be held on Thursday 6th November 2025 7.30 p.m. at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall High House Road Beetley.**

The meeting closed at 20.46

Signed as a true and accurate record.....

Date signed.....6.11.2025