Present: Parish Councillors: Kay Gingell (Chairperson), Barry Bowyer, Peter Moore and Oli Munday

Also, present Donna Secker (Parish Clerk), 2 members of the public and County Cllr Kiddle-Morris

1. To receive apologies for absence

Cllr Osborne and Cllr Garner sent their apologies. The Clerk advised the Council that this will be the third meeting that both Cllr's have missed. Due to the ongoing commitment of both Cllrs, the Council agreed to give dispensation which will permit them to continue as Cllrs.

2. To receive declarations of interest

A declaration of interest was received, completed and signed by Cllr Moore regarding item 7. Also, Cllr Bowyer completed a declaration of interest on Item 11.3 and withdrew from any discussion due to having a financial benefit from the agreed decision.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 16th July 2024

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the meeting as a true record and it was signed by the Chairperson.

4. To Co-op a new Councillor to the Council

The council received an application form from a parishioner requesting to join the Council. However, the parishioner didn't attend the meeting. This will be carried over to the next meeting.

5. To receive any brief updates from County and District Councillor

District Cllr Hunter-Clarke didn't attend the meeting. County Cllr Kiddle-Morris reported and updated the Council about the devolution deal. The outcome would mean working closely with Suffolk County Council.

It has been established that 83 pylons, 50 metres tall are situated in the North Sea spreading to Tilbury but the electricity is not going into Norfolk. Therefore, Breckland council has spent over 6 million pounds installing substations in Thetford to power Norfolk. Alongside this, Solar farms have been installed in Swaffham, 5 separate sites, one being on A47, located near Castle Acre with 1900 acres of solar panels.

County rescue services have purchased several new four-wheel-drive vehicles to deal with off-road fires in the land.

The item of Flooding was raised to make residents aware that reporting any flooding is vital and that this information is stored and can be used within future planning applications. The recent update on the Local plan has currently been suspended.

6. Open Forum for Public Participation: an opportunity to hear from members of the public (15 min max)

A parishioner raised the item that the drains located in the High Street are blocked. The Clerk will report this.

7. To discuss the lease of the allotment holders and complete the lease agreement

The Council agreed that Cllr Gingell (Chairperson) would sign the lease agreement, this was signed in front of the Council.

8. To discuss the correspondence received from the Bowls Club

Further to the discussion at the last meeting (which can be found in the July minutes), the Council were updated that the Bowls club has now amended their constitution for the Village Hall Management Committee to take responsibility of the land and building if the Bowls club was too close. It was therefore confirmed that with immediate effect the Parish Council will no longer have any rights over the Bowls Club.

9. Highway matters

Cllr Moore reported that the give-way sign on the High Street is covered with overgrown weeds. The Clerk will report this.

10. Planning Applications

- **10.1** To receive planning applications by Breckland District Council
- **10.2** To receive an update on application decisions taken by Breckland District Council

11. To discuss and update the Council

11.1 To update on the SAM2 progress

The SAM2 has been purchased and was fitted/working since August. Unfortunately, the SAM2 sign arrived without a data storage device. Therefore, the sign was returned and the Bluetooth device was fitted at a further charge of £450.00 which the Council agreed. The results taken from the data will be sent to the Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT).

11.2 To discuss the purchase of a new defib

After a long discussion, it was agreed to purchase a second defib for the village and it will be located at Godwick as this is the furthest point. The Clerk will arrange for this to be fitted and liaise with the electrician on a fitting date.

11.3 To update on the grass-cutting quotes and agree a new contract

The Clerk updated the Council on two confirmed quotes and two verbal quotes. After a long discussion, it was established that one of the main requirements that the Council is needing is for the contractor to use a mulching-type cutting machine. It was established that one of the contractors unfortunately doesn't have this. Due to the excellent work that has been carried out for the last 3 years by the local contractor, the Council agreed to continue with BB garden services and the agreement was confirmed for another 3 years.

12. To update the council on

12.1 The Emergency Plan

No emergencies were reported by the Co-ordinator

12.2 Update on the Asset Checklist

The asset checklist was completed before the meeting. It was noted that the telephone box was still requiring an urgent coat of paint to the exterior before the winter. The Council agreed that this needs to be carried out as soon as possible. The Max spend would be £150 for labour and materials. The Clerk will organise for this to happen.

13. To receive reports

13.1 To receive reports on pathways

Unfortunately, an updated pathway report was not received. Cllr Moore reported that the FP3 footpath is overgrown, the Clerk will report this.

14. Finance

14.1 To approve the list of payments for September and October 2024

Payments listed below were approved and authorised by the Council and these were agreed. The Clerk informed the Council of a Government pay increase to be back paid from April 2024. The Council agreed for this to be paid.

14.2 To discuss and agree on the projected budgets for 2025-26

The projected budgets were circulated before the meeting for the Council to review, it was agreed to discuss this in more depth at the next meeting.

14.3 To discuss the precept for 2025-26

It was agreed to discuss this in more depth at the next meeting

15. To receive items for the next meeting agenda Tuesday 7th January 2024

To invite a speaker from Active Norfolk. To discuss the precept. To discuss the allotment hedges. Update on the defib.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm

Cheque/T rans	Рауее	Reason for payment	Amount
Trans	D.K.Secker	Wages - July & August	£844.11
Trans	Village Hall	Hall hire- May & July	£30.00
Trans	Wix.com	Website	£106.06
Trans	Westcotec	SAM 2 sign	£3,810.00

September Payments

October Payments

Trans	D.K.Secker	Wages Sept & Oct (back pay)	£953.80
Trans	Westcotec	SAM 2 Sign	£540.00
Trans	BB garden	Grass cutting	£2,450.00
	services		
Trans	Poppy Wreath	Remembrance day	£19.99
Trans	Defib	London Hearts	£750.00