

South Walsham Parish Council Meeting

Minutes of meeting on 2nd February 2026

at South Walsham Village Hall

1. ATTENDANCE

Present: Peter Crook, chair and interim clerk (PCr), Clive Grant (CG), Sue Grant (SG), Malcolm Steward (MS) Apologies: Amanda Miller

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of meeting on 2nd January agreed and signed as a true record.

4. PUBLIC FORUM

- a. Prolonged closure of Panxworth Road by Anglian Water works – county councillor Fran Whymark outlined the legal aspects of closing roads for emergency works and agreed to ensure verges damaged by diverted traffic would be reinstated. There was considerable dissatisfaction from members of the public at the way the situation had escalated and the lack of communication and effective traffic management that had been highly disruptive to the village and beyond. It was suggested that A NCC working group on traffic issues would be interested in people's recent experiences and feedback could be sent to stuart.clancy.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk Complaints already lodged about the AW works will be responded to in due course.
- b. Councillor Whymark outlined how some verge maintenance/drainage issue were being devolved to parish councils.
- c. Communications mast at the playing field – the concrete foundation was installed and the mast is expected to be erected next week.
- d. General – the School Road hedge was cut extremely late, but to a very good standard; a branch had been broken off by the mast contractors; the VH bonfire ash had not been put in its usual place.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

- a. Church lime trees – a quotation to undertake maintenance work on these trees principally to remove dead wood was accepted and work will take place this summer.
- b. Iron road sign continues to remain with NCC for repair.
- c. King's Arms triangle – agreed to put the PC's proposal for a historic marker in this position to the VH committee and seek community wide support. PCr to action.
- d. Burlingham Road ponds – a competitive application to BDC's Future For Nature Fund for a grant to refurbish the ponds has been won and work will commence shortly.
- e. Churchyard lights – options to upgrade lights are being finalised.

6. FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- a. January accounts and bills for payment approved.
- b. The annual governance and accountability return for 2025/26 requires the PC to have a council owned government email domain name. The council can now be contacted on clerk@southwalsham-pc.gov.uk
- c. New IT and Data Protection Policies - approved
- d. Meetings in 2026/27 – agreed to hold 10 meetings in the coming year (no meeting in August or December).

7. VILLAGE ISSUES

- a.** Play equipment – monthly inspections show no safety concerns. Annual inspection to be arranged by MS. Noted that twigs from birch tree in play area need clearing and waste bin is regularly overflowing after the weekend.
- b.** Parking on Burlingham Road at the junction with The Street. PCr to ask NCC highways for information to initiate a request for yellow lines to reduce dangerous parking.
- c.** VH defibrillator – PC to fund new battery and to explore taking out a maintenance contract.

8. Items for inclusion in the next agenda - none

Next meeting:

Monday 2nd March 2026 at 7.30pm South Walsham Village Hall

All Parish Council meeting dates, times and venues are displayed on village notice boards and website