

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD FOR BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 2nd July 2026 AT 7.30 P.M.

Present

Councillor R. Richmond (Chair)
Councillor P. Minchin.
Councillor P. Lawton.
Councillor D. Howard.
Councillor J. Bell

District Councillor R. Duffield. R. Atterwill.
0 member of the Public.

In Attendance

A. Leigh. Clerk
R. Wade RFO

1. **To Consider apologies for absence.** Parish Councillor M. MacArthur, Parish Councillor J. Billings. County Councillor T. Dickerson. The apologies were accepted.
2. **To receive Declarations of Interest.** None received.
3. **To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4th June 2026**
It was proposed by Councillor Lawton seconded by Councillor Howard that the minutes were true and accurate, all were in agreement.
4. **Finance.**
 - 4.1. **Budgets as circulated.** It was proposed by Councillor Richmond and seconded by Councillor Minchin that the budgets as circulated were in order, all were in agreement.
 - 4.2. **Balances and cheques for authorisation as circulated.** Clear Councils £1442.33, C.D. Ground Services £376.10, NPTS £76.80, CAN £80.00, M. MacArthur (Linked alarms) £49.98, M. MacArthur (Toolstation) £7.99, M. MacArthur (Screwfix) £4.99, Anglotech £16.10, BCCS £68.20, Clerks salary (June) £518.58, RFO salary (June) £133.00, HMRC (June) £162.80, Unity Bank (service charge) £7.00. It was proposed by Councillor Bell and seconded by Councillor Howard that these payments were correct. All were in agreement. The payments this month will be approved online by Councillor Richmond and Councillor Lawton.
 - 4.3. **Recycling payment.** Not received.
 - 4.4. **Agar update.** Nothing to report.
 - 4.5. **HMRC mileage rate up to 55p per mile backdated to April 2026 – Clerk, RFO, BCC drivers.** It was proposed by Councillor Richmond seconded by Councillor Minchin that the increase of 10 pence per mile which is backdated to April 2026 is paid to the Clerk, RFO and Beetley Community Car drivers. The Passengers will continue to pay 25p per mile and the Parish Council will pay 30 pence per mile the increase of the 10p per mile.
 - 4.6. **To confirm the first instalment of the Parish Precept.** £14610.75 was received in April.
 - 4.7. **Finance Officers report.** Councillor Minchin reported that all the accounts were in order.
5. **Reports from County and District Councillors. Public Participation.**
 - 5.1. **To receive reports from County and District Councillors.** No report had been received from County Councillor Dickerson.
District Councillor Atterwill reported that the County Councillors personal budgets have been taken away, these are the budgets which they could use to assist with projects such as the Parish Partnership scheme. The food recycling for all households will commence in September. There had been a change for Beetley in the Breckland Local Plan regulation 19 that the development on Fakenham Road Beetley has an increase in the density of houses. There were 10 houses and it is has now increased to 14/15. The consultation will take place July – September. The School Road Old Beetley enforcement he will discuss with Breckland Council Officers. LGR = Breckland have written to the Secretary of State to ask for confirmation re N.C.C. working with Breckland as Reform have stated they are not taking part in this.
 - 5.2. **Public comments.** None.

6. **Matters for report.**
 - 6.1. **Speed Watch.** None received.
 - 6.2. **Shed on Village Hall Playing field.** No further update had been received. The Clerk will contact the Village Hall Management team for an update.
 - 6.3. **Training booked James Bell – Councillor Induction, Deborah Howard, James Bell – Play Area Inspection.** The first session of the Councillor Induction training had been attended by Councillor Bell the second is next week.
7. **Highways.**
 - 7.1. **Clerk to give feedback on ongoing Highway problems.** The Clerk reported that the Gressenhall sign on Fakenham Road Beetley had been repaired. There were no other problems outstanding.
 - 7.2. **To note any new problems within the Parish.** There were no new problems.
 - 7.3. **To receive a report from all Councillors on the footpaths.** Footpaths were all in order other than footpath CRB1 which Councillor Lawton will attend to. The Clerk read out the footpath report from Councillor MacArthur he stated that all were ok other than footpath 13 which was overgrown with Maize. The Clerk will inform Foxburrow Farms who are the owners of the land. Councillor Bell will now take on inspecting CRF16, FP17 and CFP18. The Clerk will circulate an updated list.
8. **Planning.**

Applications.

 - 8.1. **PL/2026/0888/TRE The Potting Shed 16B Fakenham Road Beetley. TRE/2024/0134/TPO** Previous approved. For information only not for consultation.

Decisions made by Breckland Council.

 - 8.2. **PL/2026/0593/HOU Ferndale House the Drift East Bilney. Single Storey form extension to create small veranda.** **APPROVED.**
 - 8.2a **PL/2026/0696/HOU Beechcroft 45 Elmham Road Beetley. Extension to existing garage to open-sided carport with pitched Roof.** **APPROVED.**
 - 8.3. **Enforcement request ID785 Work at Waterside Old Beetley. Councillor Billings to report.** The Clerk read out the report: The enforcement submission has been accepted, but an enforcement notice has not yet been issued. Remember that Breckland have already indicated that they do not have the legal resources to enforce every breach - I cannot imagine this would be top of their list when neighbours are not as yet complaining about it. District Councillor Atterwill will contact the Breckland Council Enforcement team as requested regarding this matter.
9. **Beetley River Meadows.**
 - 9.1. **Monthly play equipment inspections.** Councillor Howard passed the monthly inspection sheets to the Clerk for filing.
 - 9.2. **RoSPA report update.** No report had been received the Clerk will follow this up.
 - 9.3. **Grassed Area.** The Clerk had received the quotation for the work required which had been agreed. The work will be carried out over the next 2/3 months together with a fence being erected on the bank near to the "Beach" to reduce the bank erosion.
10. **Parish Council Matters.**
 - 10.1. **Beetley Common.** The Clerk read out the report from Councillor Howard outlining the meeting which she and Councillor MacArthur had discussed with Aaron Brown the NWT Officer, Councillor Howard informed the meeting that the work which is being carried out was very beneficial for the bio diversity of the Common and the wildlife.
 - 10.2. **Inspections: - Pavilion: Defibrillator.** Pavilion: - FRA - APF services have surveyed and provided lists of items to be achieve compliance. Smoke alarms have been set up and tested. APF services will carry out the necessary to meet compliance. No update regarding the benches which Beetley United Football team requested. The window lock has been replaced. The outer door cabin hook has been replaced. The door handle is still outstanding to be repaired. Defibrillator: - All working ok but the battery is now getting low and a replacement has been ordered.
 - 10.3. **Insurance update.** The Clerk reported that the quotation had been accepted for the forthcoming year with Ecclesiastical Insurance. All were in agreement.
11. **Matters for next meeting (not for discussion).** Breckland Local Plan Regulation 19 Consultation.

12. To confirm the next meeting of Beetley Parish Council will be held on Thursday 3rd September 2026 (Please note no meetings held in August) at 7.30 p.m. at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall High House Road Beetley.

The meeting closed at 20.44.

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

Robert Richmond

Date signed.....

3rd Sept. 2026.