

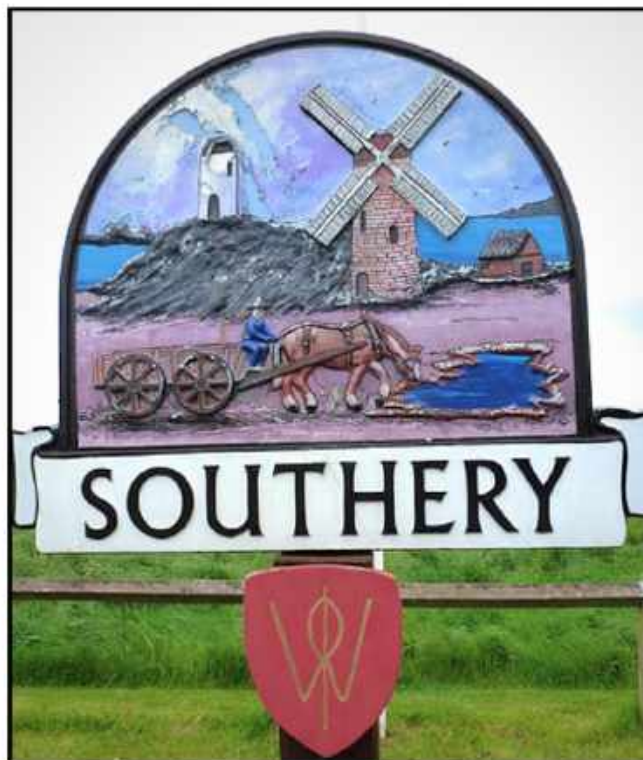
FEBRUARY 2023 ISSUE 257

# Village Voice

SOUTHERY NEWSLETTER

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[WWW.VILLAGE-VOICE.ORG](http://WWW.VILLAGE-VOICE.ORG)





## CHURCH NEWS

We were involved with the Link to Hope charity, sending Shoe Boxes to the poor of Eastern Europe, including Ukraine.

Over 26,000 Shoe Boxes were transported by the charity in time for Christmas and were gratefully received.

Many thanks to all who took part in Southery, either filling a box or giving a donation.

Tuesday 21st Feb is Pancake Day or Shrove Tuesday when traditionally all the good things in the food cupboard were eaten up before the start of Lent on Ash Wednesday.

Giving something up can be a good exercise in self control, good for the body and the soul and the money saved given to charity.

### **Services for February:**

Sunday 5th No service at St. Mary's but services at Ryston at 9.30 and Denver at 11am

Sunday 12th Eucharist Service at 10am

Wednesday 15th Hymns and Tea at 2.30pm

Sunday 19th Eucharist Service at 10am

Sunday 26th Service of the Word at 10am.

## METHODIST CHAPEL

Services now alternate with Hilgay and they are as listed below. All services at Southery and Hilgay now begin at 10:30am unless stated otherwise. Everybody is most welcome to join us at all services.

### **Chapel Services for February 2023**

5th 10:30am At Hilgay - Mr Dudley Pickston

12th 10:30am At Southery Methodist Chapel - Mrs Maggie Blowers

19th 10:30am At Hilgay - Mrs Heather Brown

26th 11:00am No service at Southery or Hilgay but Service at Wimbotsham Chapel - Rev. Robert Roberts



# SOUTHERY PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES - EXTRACT FOR VILLAGE VOICE

**Present:**

Cllr Annette Osler (Vice Chair)

Cllr Crispin Copsey

Cllr Chris Edwards

Cllr Roger Whitehead

Cllr Susan Welch

Helen Richardson, Parish Clerk & Financial Responsible Person

**In attendance:**

Members of the Public: 1

Cllr Martin Storey, NCC and BCKLWN Councillor

**Public Comments / Questions on Parish Issues**

An opportunity for public comments and questions. Items relevant to the agenda will be incorporated into later discussions. All new items will be noted for the next meeting.

**136/22 To consider and approve apologies for absence, and approve all absences for past six months**

That apologies for Cllr Alison Youngs be accepted and all previous absences over the last six months.

**137/22 To receive Declarations of Interest on Agenda Items and Dispensation Requests**

Cllr Annette Osler declared an interest in payments for approval.

**138/22 To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on 9 November 2022 and note matters arising**

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the 9 November 2022 ordinary meeting be approved. (All were in favour)

**139/22 To Discuss and Approve Any Action in Regard to the Village Voice The Editor attended and shared the following:**

- Since last month they put hard copies 100x in the shop and 50x in the pub
- They had considered comments from the PC about other locations such as the school, hairdresser etc.
- They canvassed hard copies in the issue, and had requests for one copy and ten copies elsewhere, - They don't want to distribute to every house totalling 650 as they don't have the volunteers and instead are taking a conservative approach to deliver hard copies on request but create central locations.
- They have 80 online subscribers, so 250 actively taken.
- Hoping to continue with this method and increase over time.
- They search for content and good to include the PC minutes.
- They had also been dealing with the advertising in the magazine.
- The current treasurer wishes to retire and they are looking to create a small group to agree how surplus funds can be invested in the community.

The Parish Council thanked the Editor for the update.

**140/22 To Receive an Update from Cllr Martin Storey, NCC and BCKLWN Councillor**

- Cllr Martin Storey provided the following update:
- NCC had held public consultations on how they spend their budget. Their budget process was currently being worked through ahead of the decision in the new year. They have considered all the suggestions provided from the public.
  - 47 Norfolk libraries were providing community hotspots for people to go and keep warm. There had been grants available in villages to also open these.
  - MP Michael Gove recently come to County Hall to sign in principle a deal in regard to working with Suffolk to spend a £20 m pot from central government.
  - Highways gritting lorries were out making roads safe. There were also grit bins filled by NCC and available in Southery.
  - QE Hospital: A decision on the hospital funding was imminent, and the preferred site was on the current site.
  - He has a Highways meeting with the Senior Manager soon on his funding post for the next financial year.

### **141/22 To Note Any Councillors Comments or Items for next meeting and note forward work programme**

- Suggestion that the Police should come to the village to see the damage caused by ASB.
- Campsey Dyke still had no work to it. Cllr Martin Storey made a note.
- Down Campsey Road there are three or four motors and they are allowed to do it and a little lorry there. Because cars are mounting the verge it is eroding away and exposing concrete.
- The white lines in the village and junctions were very faded, Cllr Martin Storey made a note. - Paths are terrible in the village, Cllr Martin Storey made a note.

### **142/22 To Approve Any Handyman Work**

The Clerk agreed to add to the Clerk's forward list to consider Handyman contractors as soon as possible.

### **143/22 To Approve Use of Scribe Accounting Software 2023/24**

RESOLVED: That Scribe Accounting Software be approved for 2023/24 at their going rate. (Cllr Javey Osler proposed; Cllr Crispin Copsey seconded, all were in favour)

### **144/22 To Consider and Approve Any Action in Relation to the Speed Management Sign Administration**

It was agreed that the Handyman would charge and move but not download data. The Parish Council thanked all the volunteers that had been involved.

### **145/22 To Approve Precept and Budget 2023/4**

A lot of people were struggling

RESOLVED: That the Budget 2023/23 as presented are approved and that the Precept for 2023/24 be approved as £25,000 (Cllr Sue Welch proposed; Cllr Chris Edwards seconded, all were in favour)

RESOLVED: That payments as presented are approved. (Cllr Sue Welch proposed; Cllr Crispin Copsey seconded, all were in favour)

### **147/22 To Approve End of Year Thanks**

Thank you to the resident who looks after the Werehen through the year. Thank you also to Jason Young's for putting out the wheelie bin at the cemetery through the year.

**148/22 To Approve Any Response to Planning Application Received for Consultation: 22/02150/F**

Garage extension to front and Sunroom extension to the rear of the property at Oaklea 8 Feltwell Road Southery Downham Market Norfolk PE38 0NW The Parish Council had no comments.

**149/22 To Note Date of next meeting – Weds 8 February 2023 at 7pm in the Southery Village Hall** It was noted.

**150/22 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The Council will be requested to pass a resolution excluding the press and public from the meeting in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted (staffing ). Opportunity for to discuss any HR issues, Contracts or Legal Proceedings. To Discuss HR Related Matter as follows:

**To Approve Appointment of New Parish Clerk and RFO to start from 1st January 2023**

RESOLVED: That the New Clerk as presented following the recruitment process be approved subject to agreement of contact and its terms and conditions to start in post from 1st January 2023.

(Cllr Roger Whitehead proposed; Cllr sue Welch seconded, all were in favour)

**To Approve Payment for Current Clerk hours paid as usual rate subject to PAYE until handover is finalised HANDOVER**

RESOLVED: That the Current Clerk Helen Richardson be paid for any hours worked and paid until handover to new Clerk is finalised at their current rate of pay as required.

(Cllr Roger Whitehead proposed; Cllr Sue Welch seconded, all were in favour)

**To Approve a Locum Clerk should it be required**

RESOLVED: That a Locum Clerk be sort from 1st January 2023 should recruitment not be possible by end of 31st December 2023, to be in place from 1st January 2023. (Cllr Annette Osler proposed; Cllr Chris Edwards seconded, all were in favour.)

# TIME TO GET WALKING AGAIN!

With Spring on its way we start to think about getting out to walk in the beautiful English countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Norfolk

<https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/norfolk> has loads of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (who maintains the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Norfolk (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

**So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!**

**John Harris**

*[www.walkinginengland.co.uk](http://www.walkinginengland.co.uk)*  
**[john@walkinginengland.co.uk](mailto:john@walkinginengland.co.uk)**



## SOUTHERY WOMENS INSTITUTE

President Caroline Hansford welcomed members to the first meeting of 2023. The speaker for the evening was unable to attend due to unforeseen circumstances and a number of members were also unable to attend due to illness with many bugs and viruses doing the rounds once more.

Committee nomination forms were completed and names taken for committee members for 2023.

Outings for this year were also discussed and a few ideas were put forward. Members were also asked for ideas on how we could celebrate King Charles Coronation on May 6th.

Treasurer Beryl Stubbins reminded members that subscriptions due in April will be 46 pounds.

Our AGM will be held at our next meeting on February 2nd.

Our flower of the month competition was judged 1st Sue Stacey, 2nd Doreen Goodwin, and joint third being Sue Hilton and Beryl Stubbins.

Val Osler

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**Southery**

Southery Village Hall  
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**deanjamesfox.com**

## VILLAGE HALL

Available for bookings!

<https://hallbookingonline.com/southery>


### Information

The hall is licensed for:

- 250 seated at tables
- 250 mixed occupancy tables and dance
- 299 dancing only
- 299 closely seated audience

The village hall also has a kitchen with a range of appliances.

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## EMERGENCY FINANCIAL SUPPORT ASSISTANCE

THIS NOTICE IS FOR ANYONE FINDING THEMSELVES IN FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY IN THE PARISH OF SOUTHERY.

YOU CAN CONTACT THE NUMBER'S BELOW FOR EMERGENCY SUPPORT WHICH MAY BE AVAILABLE TO YOU.

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## NOTE FROM **SOUTHERY VILLAGE VOICE**

### Paper copies of The Village Voice

We are providing a limited number of paper copies of the newsletter. If you would like to receive a paper copy, please send a email with your name and address to:

**contact@village-voice.org**

so delivery arrangements can be made.

**If you would be willing to support the delivery of the newsletter to people who need a hard copy then please send a message to the email to:**

**contact@village-voice.org**

We currently have more than 80 subscribers to the electronic version of the newsletter and our website is continuing to provide updates and showcases the current and all previous editions of the newsletter.

Our website is **<https://www.village-voice.org>**

## LIGHT RELIEF

**DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE CLAUSTROPHOBIC ASTRONAUT?  
HE JUST NEEDED A LITTLE SPACE!**

**WHAT DO YOU CALL A FAKE NOODLE?  
AN IMPASTA!**

**WHAT KIND OF EXERCISE DO LAZY PEOPLE DO?  
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