

Clerks Report March 2024

Following on from the February meeting and the previously reported poorly installed dropped kerbs NCC have confirmed they have inspected and have stated they will not be taking any action. The system does not allow you to report these again and so I have liaised with Councillor Mark Kiddle⁰ Morris and asked him to take forward and challenge this decision. These need further inspection and a report undertaken to rectify the poor installation. Councillor Mark Kiddle- Morris will keep us informed of his progress.

The Clerk has also reported a damaged tree with heavy low hanging branches near the trod on North Pickenham Road to NCC, I have also reported the terrible dropped kerb on North Pickenham Road and Wyndfields junction again.

As agreed the PC has contacted Anglian Water and asked them to under investigations into the flooding and sewage issues experienced in Elizabeth Drive and Farm Walk. They have confirmed they will take forward and will undertake investigative works and update us accordingly.

The junction improvement at the A47 has almost been completed. I have been informed there are still a few pieces of work to complete and snagging that has been highlighted. These include light fittings on signposts, corrections to road markings, installation of the street furniture displaying the speed limit and general tidying of the site. I have been informed these should all be completed by the end of the month.

Michael King of Necton Farm has contacted the PC and informed us that he has discovered 3 blocked drains on Ivy Todd Road and has cleared these. Hopefully this will help reduce the run off and deposits left on the highway.

As agreed at the last meeting I have submitted comments on behalf of the PC to Breckland Council in regards to the new Local Plan they are consulting on.

Six dog fouling signs have been purchased and our caretaker will be installing these at the agreed sites in Necton. The caretaker has also added the plaques to the new benches.

Holme Hale Parish Council recently wrote to Simon Wood at Breckland Planning to receive an update on the substation being built in Necton. They forwarded his response to us and he confirmed "The main application for the substations are due around May and we continue to have regular meetings with Vattenfall in respect of the timetable. We have had no substantive talks around detail for some time. You may well be aware that Vattenfall have transferred the scheme, Vanguard and Boreas, to a new company, RWE. All the indications following the discussions we have had is that it will be the same team following this through" With this in mind I will make a diary note for May so we can continue conversations with Breckland around the time expected for the main applications.

We are experiencing issues with SSE, our street lighting energy supplier again. It would appear that they had migrated into a new system and again, our billing was switched off. After numerous calls and hours of conversations they have assured me that this is now all resolved. This have meant we will have been billed twice this month. Payments for December and January have now been collected and hopefully we should receive a timely bill this month for February's usage.

Lastly, I have received confirmation from NCC that our Parish Partnership application for the village gates has been approved and they will contribute 50% towards the cost of these. They further confirmed they would be in touch in due to discuss the installation.