

SKEYTON PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD AT SKEYTON VILLAGE HALL ON MONDAY 11th MAY 2026. 7.30pm

Present: Chairman Cllr: S. Bunting, Cllr: M. Hicks, Cllr: I. Stevenson, Cllr: M. Scott, District Councillor S. Penfold and Mrs. Diane Fields Parish Clerk.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr: H. Randell, Cllr: A. Morton and Vice-Chairman Cllr: G. Berry.

2. Minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting dated 12th May 2025 were signed as a true and accurate record on 8th September 2025.

3. Chairman's Report.

12 Months have gone by since my last report and events within our own country and around the world have impacted even us here in Skeyton. As a parish council things have been relatively quiet but rules and regulations seem to be ever increasing.

We had an expensive invoice for the upkeep of the defibrillator of £620 which shocked Diane but after she inquired about it, it was explained that we could buy the pad's as needed, shelf life is two year's or if we have to replace them if the defibrillator got used, the battery's need replacing every four year's.

We had a planning enforcement case at Field View Barn but despite the parish council and private individuals from the village opposing changes from the passed plans district council agreed to the changes which was quite disappointing.

We at long last got some new chevron signs on the corner at Whitwell Hall Farm.

Ian brought to the council's attention that septic tank plants could possibly be installed for free within the village, Diane inquired at the time but the company involved had filled quota and advised to get back in touch earlier next year which Diane has done.

We gave £125 to Skeyton church to help with the upkeep of the church yard and £100 also to the Village Hall.

Bottle bank profit of £125 was given to North Norfolk Food Bank.

We had some residents concerned regarding noisy fighter jets practicing over North Norfolk which we still get at certain times.

Skeyton Council precept hadn't been increased for four years and with ever increasing cost and now having the responsibility of the defibrillator it was agreed to increase it a small percentage.

Visibility at the junction of Felmingham and North Walsham Road was reported to Highways but little seems to have come of it with visibility still difficult for high vehicles.

We've had various potholes around the village, most have been dealt with after reporting, grups, some not cleaned out with others seriously over dug causing collapse of the highway, a flooding problem on Cross Road has been resolved for the time being but we've not had significant rainfall since and overgrown hedges on Burgh Road, Aylsham end although not in our village but reported by Diane eventually got a serious haircut.

The Causeway (Felmingham Road down to the Church - Aylsham Road) is deteriorating more and now not recognised by Highways.

Mike Hicks refilled the grit bins ready for the onslaught of winter which never materialised although some grit was used, thanks to Mike for that. Butterfly zones were discussed at our meeting in November where their positioning and cost to the County Council were raised, days later they were cut but it was discovered later that the clippings had been dumped on various private property's.

A couple of sharp emails from the land owners concerned to Norfolk County Council and the matter was very quickly resolved.

Diane reported that our laptop was struggling at times and cannot be updated to windows 11, Diane tried to get a grant from NALC and Awards for All but to no avail.

Councillor S Penfold had some money that could possibly fund it but after Diane and her husband had spent considerable time in setting up a Crowdfunder and looking at various models of new laptops funding was not available which was very disappointing.

We had more planning at Tanglewood and Little Tree Cottage which was a bit confusing but on clarification all made sense and we had no objections.

The largest planning application probably ever within the village was at Beech Farm where 10 residential properties were applied for coming from the conversion of agricultural buildings.

Although parish council had no objections councillor George Berry pointed out that at 10 properties affordable housing would come into the equation. Clerk's wages, agreed to be raised too April 26 rise but from February meeting.

I'd like to thank Diane for all her work and commitment to Skeyton Parish Council.

4. Any other business

District Councillor S. Penfold apologised that the original funding for a new laptop did not work out but went on to explain that the North Norfolk Sustainable Communities Fund had been re-opened and each Councillor had been given £5,000 to share between five Parishes and he hoped to give Skeyton Parish Council £500.00 for a new Lap top. The Council thanked Saul with his diligence in this matter.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm

Chairman

Date