

BICKER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

held on Thursday, 13th May 2026 at 7pm In the Gedney Room, Bicker Village Hall

Present:

Cllr Bateson - Chair
Cllr Carrott
Cllr Kelly
Cllr Mountain
Cllr Stevenson
Clerk – Alison Delaney

Cllr Bateson opened the meeting at 7pm and thanked everyone for attending.

One resident was present. They explained that they were here on behalf of Bicker Fen Action Group (BFAG) to update Councillors:

- Google maps puts Bicker as Bicker Bar. Major issue for couriers not finding us. Has asked Cllr Cantwell to change and will need authorisation from the LA.
- BFAG looking at 30 mph speed limit on Ing Drove, Cowbridge Drove, Fore Lane and Back Lane. Traffic not managed within routing and speeds.
- Bridge at Back Lane and Cemetery Road, in need of permanent safety barriers. Current ones not fit for purpose and showing signs of structural failure.
- No progress with the repair of Back Lane. Have discussed with County Councillor Lock and Highways.
- AGR expected to connect with Bicker Fen substation in July 26.
- Extension to Bicker Fen Substation arising from Beacon Fen. Notification of change document includes traffic not passing through “Bicker village”. Please use wording of “Traffic will not pass through Bicker village and the contiguous rural community beyond the Bicker village settlement boundary - to the North, via Cemetery Road and Gauntlet Road to Fore Lane, Back Lane, North Drove, Longhedge Drove and - to the West via Rookery Road to Ing Drove and Cowbridge Road.”
- National Energy System Operator (NESO) – they control all connections to the national grid. In contact with PACE about a solar farm and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). Challenged them to come forward with a date but they have declined. Three BESS already approved on Bicker Fen. These may not transpire. Important that residents and public know what the true nature of the connections is as they may now be non-viable. Informed MP Richard Tice’s office that we would like a FOI request from NESO. Identifying to our MP the lack of engagement of our MP in the House of Commons.

Councillors confirmed they were looking into reducing the speed on the A52 but Highways will only consider if there are accidents. The resident said BFAG consider there has been a change of use to industrial heavy vehicles. Opened a poll last night. 100% of the BFAG committee want it to be 30. Councillors considered everyone in the village and parish need to be in agreement, not just those who live beyond the village. Councillors considered that BFAG could seek to involve everyone in the parish. The resident confirmed their plan was to get an indication from the neighbours on the fen and if there was support, we would take it to the wider community. Will put something up in the Post Office.

Agreed that the resident would send their information to the Clerk for them to send it to Councillors in case they had any questions, which the Clerk could relay back to the resident.

Cllr Bateson thanked the resident for attending the meeting and sharing the information with Councillors.

The Annual Parish Meeting ended at 7.15pm.

Signed:

Name:

Date: