

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD FOR BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY
BY ZOOM ON THURSDAY 1st OCTOBER 2020 AT 7.30 P.M.**

Present	Councillor J. O'Donovan	(Chair)
	Councillor S. Boyce	
	Councillor P Metcalf	(after co-option)
	Councillor H. Johnson	
	Councillor R. Richmond	

Five members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Baldwin due to work commitment and these were accepted. Apologies for absence had also been received from County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris and District Councillor Atterwill.

2. To receive Declaration of Pecuniary Interests.

There were no DPI's .

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Johnson seconded the resolution that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 3rd September 2020 having been circulated be approved. All were in favour and the minutes were duly signed by the Chairman of the meeting.

4. Parish Council.

4.1 Co-option.

Councillor O'Donovan proposed and Councillor Boyce seconded the resolution that Patricia Metcalf be co-opted onto the Parish Council. All were in favour. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed and witnessed.

4.2 Vice-Chairman.

Councillor O'Donovan proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that Councillor Boyce be appointed Vice-Chairman. All were in favour. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed and witnessed.

4.3 Councillors' Responsibilities.

4.3.1 Planning.

Councillor Boyce.

4.3.2 Grass Cutting Contract

The Clerk.

4.3.3 Monthly Safety Inspections at Beetley River Meadows and Play Areas.

Councillors Johnson and Metcalf

4.3.4 Bottle Bank.

Councillor O'Donovan.

4.3.5 Footpaths.

All Councillors are allocated specific footpaths which will be confirmed when dealing with footpaths on the agenda.

4.3.6 Inspection of Pavilion and Defibrillator.

Councillor O'Donovan.

4.3.7 Planning Advisory Committee.

Councillors O'Donovan, Boyce and Baldwin.

4.3.8 SNAP meetings and Patient Participation Group.

Councillor Richmond.

4.3.9 Councillor to check Financial Documents.

Councillor Baldwin.

4.4 Beetley buzz.

Councillor O'Donovan stated that she was not keen for this to continue. It was felt that more information can be placed on the website. It was agreed by a majority decision to discontinue producing The Beetley Buzz Councillors Metcalf and Johnson voting against stopping.

4.5 Assistant Clerk.

Councillor O'Donovan proposed and Councillor Boyce seconded the resolution that Angela Leigh be appointed Assistant Clerk-UNPAID. This would ensure a smooth transition in the future. All were in favour.

5. 1ST Beetley Scout Group.

The meeting was adjourned.

The Group Scout Leader stated that the Group is very appreciative of the support given by the Parish Council. There has been one extension and there are now Beavers, Cubs and Scouts so that 6-14 years old are catered for. The Group would now like to provide facilities for more young up to about 40.

The meeting was reconvened.

Councillor Boyce had attended a meeting with the Scout Group and stated that it is a fantastic facility. A value to the community and the extension would be non-invasive. All the Councillors were in favour in principle of the extension and will await the planning application.

6. Public participation.

6.1 County and District Councillors reports

County Councillor Kiddle-Morris had forwarded his report as below

Budget:

NCC is starting the budget setting for 2021/22 in very uncertain times for local government finance. Areas of uncertainty are; the local government funding allocations from government are unknown; the governments Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) has not yet been delivered; key reforms to government funding have been delayed (by Covid distractions) the Fair Funding Review, Business Rate Retention localisation and Adult Social Care funding. Covid pressures on NCC budget for this year amount to £75.421m against government support of £63.824m leaving an overspend this year (so far) of £11.597m. Due to the impact of Covid £17.780m of planned savings have not been realised. The Council is also working to address a forecast budget gap of £45.434m for 2021/22 prior to any Covid impacts. Many of the additional costs, lost income and undeliverable savings experienced in this financial year may have an extended impact on the 2020/21 budget. The Cabinet meeting on the 5th October will not be able fully to address the forecast budget deficit, further work will be required to identify further saving options.

Local Government:

NCC and other Norfolk local authorities have written to government to request that any Local Government Review is delayed until the effects of Covid 19 on the economy,

council services and budgets are returned to the normal. LGR is an expensive and disruptive process to undertake and, although projected to save money, is best carried out when there is stability in local government.

Waste Amnesty:

A reported last month, and as a reminder, NCC are holding free hazardous waste disposal days during September and October at the recycling centres. The following are the dates and times for the nearest ones:

Dereham 2nd, 3rd, 4th October.

Hempton 9th, 10th, 11th October. Both centres are open from 9am to 4pm.

The County Councillor is to be contacted regarding roundels on the road and not underlining so that his report is compatible with the regulations on accessibility for websites.

6.2 Public participation.

There were no matters raised by the public.

7. Matters to report.

7.1 Elmham Surgery,

The Assistant Clerk reported that a message had been received from Elmham Surgery explaining the problems of Covid on the working practices within the surgery, home visits, prescriptions, telephone consultations and home delivery service.

7.2 Boundary Commission.

It was agreed unanimously not to send a response to the consultation on wards.

7.3 Letter from parishioners Solicitor.

The Parish Council had received a letter from a solicitor acting on behalf of a parishioner regarding the proposed new building for the pre-school. The Parish Council's solicitor had been contacted and a reply had been sent from the solicitor. A further request had been received from the parishioner's solicitor for details of a transfer. The Parish Council has no knowledge of these transfers and this had been communicated to the parishioner's solicitor and confirming that the Parish Council is not supporting the planning application. No further communication had been received but this had cost the Parish Council £550.00.

7.4 Letter from a parishioner regarding School Road.

A letter had been received informing the Parish Council of problems on School Road. Firstly soiled sawdust had been tipped on the verge opposite Mulberry and the road outside the Travellers site is covered in soil from chickens which run over the road and destroy the verges, Finally the parcel of land at the corner of Halfpenny Lane is being used for tipping of rubbish,

The e-mail had been circulated to all Councillors and when they had driven along School Road there was no mess. The road will continue to be monitored. As the tipping is on private land there is nothing that Breckland Council can do.

7.5 Website.

Councillor Boyce informed the other members that he and the Assistant Clerk had received the training on the new web site. It is a steep learning curve at present and there are several more hours to go populating the site. The templates set up by the trainer have made it easier to populate. Councillor Boyce showed the other members pages from the new website and stated that the two of them are working hard to get it right.

7.6 UK Power Networks.

The Clerk had received an e-mail from a resident who had no power for 28 hours the previous Saturday the third power cut in the last two months. The engineers who were repairing the fault came from Wales and stated that the tree lines around the

power lines were in a terrible state. The Clerk had contacted UK Power Networks and hope that the trees will be trimmed.

7.7 Scam.

The Clerk had been contacted by a resident who had had a flyer through her letter box about an app that is for neighbours. This had been supposedly sent from her neighbour but the neighbour knew nothing about the flyer. The Clerk advised the resident to contact the police and trading standards which she did and the neighbour contacted the Information Commissioner regarding a breach of data regulations. A resident at the meeting had also received a flyer but this was not for the same road.

7.8 Defibrillator.

Councillor O'Donovan reported that she is still awaiting the delivery of new pads. She will speak to CHT again.

8. Highways.

8.1 Report on Highway matters.

A resident had reported that planks had broken on the footbridge on Folly Lane. The Clerk reported this to Norfolk County Council, had thanked the resident for informing him of the problem and that it is not the responsibility of the Parish Council. The footway on Fakenham Road from the bus shelter to Hoe Roughs still needs clearing and this was reported again. A response had been received from Norfolk County Council which stated that it was going to resolve the problem. Councillor Richmond enquired about a litter pick through the village and the Clerk apologised as he had forgotten to contact Breckland Council.

8.2 New problems.

Councillor O'Donovan requested that the land owner clear round the VAS sign on Fakenham Road and he agreed to do this. All the members felt that the maintenance carried out was good but it was not done often enough.

8.3 Footpaths.

8.3.1 Report from all Councillors.

FP15 is overgrown and FP18 which has a tree across the path. Norfolk County Council will be contacted.

8.3.2 Councillors Footpaths.

This was agreed as follows:-

<u>CRB1</u>	Councillor Boyce
<u>FP2</u>	Councillor Boyce
<u>FP3</u>	Councillor Boyce
<u>FP4</u>	Councillor Boyce
<u>FP5</u>	Councillor Boyce
<u>FP6</u>	Councillor Richmond
<u>FP7</u>	Councillor Richmond
<u>FP8</u>	Councillor Richmond
<u>FP9</u>	Councillor Baldwin
<u>FP10</u>	Councillor Baldwin
<u>FP11</u>	Councillor O'Donovan
<u>FP12</u>	Councillor O'Donovan
<u>FP13</u>	Councillor O'Donovan
<u>FP14</u>	Councillor Metcalf
<u>FP15</u>	Councillor Metcalf
<u>CRF16</u>	Councillor Baldwin
<u>FP17</u>	Councillor Johnson
<u>FP18</u>	Councillor Johnson

9. Planning.

9.1 Applications.

9.1.1 3PL/2020/1004/F- Blueberry Hill Halfpenny Lane – Timber frame single storey building for therapeutic treatment – Revised Design.

Councillor Boyce explained the amendments that there are now two doors to enable social distancing and a treatment room has been split into two.

Councillor Boyce proposed and councillor Metcalf seconded the resolution that no objection be raised. All were in favour.

9.1.2 3PL/2020/0797/F – Land at Cedarville Holt Road – Replacement dwelling with detached garage/store/office building (Revised design of previous approval 3PL/2014/0120/Reduction in height of proposed dwelling and amended siting.)

Councillor Boyce stated that the amendments are to just reduce the height and move the siting of the dwelling slightly.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Boyce seconded the resolution that no objection be raised. All were in favour.

9.2 Decisions.

The following decisions and the reasons for the decision were noted.

9.2.1 3PL/2020/0646/F – Boat House Church Road East Bilney – One and a half storey house with garage and one bungalow with garage.

O REFUSED

9.2.2 3PL/2019/0855/O Land to the North East of Fakenham Road Erection of 3 self-build detached dwellings with garaging including means of access-Appeal reference APP/f2605/W/20/3253475

O DISMISSED

9.2.3 3PL/2020/0407/F 16A Fakenham Road – Conversion and Extension of existing outbuilding to residential unit and re-use of Existing vehicular access onto Fakenham Road.

N/O APPROVED

9.2.4 3CM/2020/0006/CM-Land at Rawhall Lane-Screening and Scoping Options proposed new Quarry.

O WITHDRAWN

9.3 To consider a response to the Planning White Paper.

Councillor Boyce explained that the proposals are to ensure that affordable houses are built, more housing and planning in principle can be granted. The white paper plans a more rigorous approach to S106. The problem is that the paper seems to take away anything to do with localism. It was agreed to make no comment.

9.4 To note that weekly planning lists are being received.

The Parish Council are now receiving weekly planning lists. This follows a meeting with Leader of Breckland Council about two years ago,

10. Beetley River Meadows .

10.1 Fund raising for Beetley River Meadows Play Area.

The meeting was adjourned.

Lengthy discussion was held with representatives of the fund raising group. The group stated that there is some confusion and that the group just wants to raise money. The group also wishes to use the Parish Council Public Liability and it was agreed that the Clerk would contact the Brokers for clarification. Councillor Boyce stated that the play area needs to be improved and if the volunteers raise money why can it not go in the crowd funding account. The representative stated that there is no person willing to take

on an account and can the Parish Council keep the money ring fenced in its account. The Clerk said this was possible. It was agreed that a report be given at each Parish Council meeting. It was agreed that a banner could be placed on the fence of the play area.

The meeting was re-convened.

Councillor O'Donovan expressed concerns regarding the fund raising and the group was advised to contact Sovereign Play as well as it had already installed some equipment. The Clerk will inform the fund raising group regarding public liability as soon as a reply is received.

10.2 Report on the Area.

There were no problems reported.

11. Open Spaces.

11.1 Report.

Councillor Richmond informed the meeting that the Town Lands are clear of obstructions so these can be walked easily. No more trimming is needed. The 200 trees from the Scouts will be arriving in November and a site for them is needed.

12. Finance

12.1 Budget.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Boyce seconded the resolution that the budget which had been circulated be approved. All were in favour.

12.2 Balances and cheques for authorisation.

Councillor Boyce proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that the balances and cheques for authorisation which had been circulated be approved. All were in favour.

Balances :-

Barclays Community Account

Balance at 28 08 20	13876.76
Plus	<u>0.00</u>
	13876.76
Less unrepresented cheques authorised 02 04 20-1464.00	
Unrepresented cheques authorised 09 08 20-378.57	
Unrepresented cheques authorised 03 09 20-1280.35	<u>3122.92</u>
Balance at 10 09 20	10753.84
Float for Community Car co-ordinator	<u>250.00</u>
Balance at 10 09 20	11003.84

Amount available for Section 137: 1213 x £8.12 = £9534.18

Spend to Date: 18.00

Cheques for authorisation:

283	B J Leigh	Monthly Contract September 557.55 less PAYE 111.60	445.95
284	HMRC	PAYE September	111.60

285	Mrs A Leigh	Drivers Payments Community Car-September	36.65
280	Ady's Wood Splitting Services Ltd	Maintenance Beetley River Meadows	150.00
281	R.W. Duffield Ltd	Maintenance at Beetley Play Area Re RoSPA report	1008.00
282	SLCC	Local Council Administration Handbook	123.80
286	Norwich Office Supplies	Photocopy paper	27.60
287	F.T. Grounds Maintenance	Grass cutting July & August	720.14

13. Matters for next meeting (not for discussion).

13.1 Planting of trees.

13.2 Parish Partnership

14. Date of next meeting

This was confirmed as Thursday November 5th 2020 via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 21.55.