

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD FOR BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY BY ZOOM ON THURSDAY 3rd DECEMBER 2020 AT 7.30 P.M.

Present Councillor S. Boyce (Chair)
Councillor J. Baldwin
Councillor P Metcalf
Councillor H. Johnson
Councillor R. Richmond

County Councillor M. Kiddle Morris
District Councillor R. Duffield

Three members of the public.

1. Apologies for Absence.

There were no apologies for absence.

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 5th. November 2020 having been circulated be approved. All were in favour and the minutes were duly signed by the Chairman of the meeting.

4. Fund raising for Beetley Play Area.

The Chairman reported that there will be a Santa trail on the 12th December. The money raised from the Halloween trail has been banked and is shown as a separate item on the Monthly cheque list and balances sheet.

5. Public participation.

5.1 County and District Councillors reports

County Councillor Kiddle-Morris stated he will forward reports to the Clerk which will have the links on to the Government and Public Health England websites. The reason for being in tier two is that Lincolnshire borders with Norfolk and it is in tier 3. The catchment area for the Q.E. Hospital includes parts of Lincolnshire and there is the worry that there will be an influx of cases. Norfolk also has an ageing population which is growing and there are lots of people who need shielding. Public Health England was reluctant to share information with Norfolk County Council but this has now been resolved. In the budget consultation there is a proposal to reduce the grass cutting in rural areas from 2 cuts to 1 which will affect Beetley. The best way forward is for the Parish Council to send in comments stating that this is not acceptable and will possibly cause accidents due to visibility being reduced from overgrown vegetation.

District Councillor Duffield stated that Breckland Council is helping local businesses with grants and is promoting to shop local and the leader was in Swaffham today. There is a further planning application for The Boat House East Bilney which was refused originally and the applicant has asked to have it called in for the planning committee to decide if the planning officer is likely to refuse the application. The Parish Council may wish it also to be called into committee if the planning officer is likely to approve it.

Councillor Richmond asked the County Councillor if he had any answer on the flashing lights on Fakenham Road the County Councillor will contact the Highways department and let the clerk know. Councillor Metcalf asked if the Norse site had been considered for the Pre- School. The County Councillor stated that the Pre School had contacted NPS but it is still being used and no decision has been made about the future of this site.

5.2 Public participation.

There were no matters raised by the public.

6. Matters to report.

6.1 Casual Vacancy

The Clerk reported that Breckland had contacted him and the period during which electors might request an election has lapsed. The Parish Council can now fill the vacancy by co-option and there are now two vacancies which can be filled. The Chairman requested that all Councillors attempt to persuade parishioners to join the Parish Council.

6.2 Norfolk County Council Budget Consultation.

The Clerk stated that there had been major problems in the past with reduced verge cutting and felt that the risk of possible accidents outweighed the savings proposed. The Clerk will respond to the consultation.

6.3 Website.

The Chairman informed the Councillors that the new website is ready for them to look at and any comments would be welcome. The Assistant Clerk will forward the link to them shortly and hopefully it will be approved at the next Parish Council meeting in February.

7. Highways.

7.1 Report on Highway matters.

The Clerk stated that he had received several phone calls about dog fouling on Wood Drive which is happening every day. He advised them to contact the Dog Warden and inform him of the time of day this is taking place and he would no doubt visit the site. The blocked drains in School Road Old Beetley had been reported a year ago and supposedly the problem had been resolved. Unfortunately, the drains are blocked again, and this has been reported. The flooding on Elmham Road had been resolved. There has been a water leak in East Bilney at the junction of River Lane and Fakenham Road which has now been repaired.

7.2 New problems.

Councillor Johnson reported that the footway from the bus shelter to the bridge on the B1146 which had been cleared now has the soil, which had been removed, spreading back over the footway. Councillor Baldwin informed the meeting that the chevrons and repeater posts on the bend 100 metres North of Church Road East Bilney need replacing. Both of these matters will be reported.

7.3 Footpaths.

7.3.1 Report from all Councillors.

Councillor Baldwin had still not walked her footpaths. Councillor Richmond stated that his footpaths were fine. Councillor Johnson stated that there was a tree across footpath 18 but this is the responsibility of Norfolk County Council and Norfolk Wildlife Trust. Councillor Metcalf stated that her footpaths were satisfactory. There are still 3 footpaths which need walking in Old Beetley.

7.4 Local Highway Partnership Scheme.

The Clerk informed the meeting that the cost of gateways with additional speed signage would cost the Parish Council £4000 the overall cost being £8000. For plain white with no signage the cost would be £1500 to the Parish. The County Councillor confirmed that the roundels would be paid for out of his personal budget but could not say when the work will be carried out. After a lengthy discussion it was proposed by Councillor Richmond and seconded by Councillor Metcalf that the White gateways at a cost of £1500 to the Parish be bid for. This was passed by a majority decision, Councillor Johnson objected.

8. Planning.

8.1 Applications.

8.1.1 3PL/2020/1088/HOU & 3PL/2020/1089/LB Martyr's Cottage, Church Road East Bilney – Removal of current kitchen window. –Make opening in current wall between kitchen & wet room.

It was queried as to if the windows would match the existing and the Clerk would check this so that if necessary this could be a condition of any approval. Councillor Baldwin proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that no objection be raised. All were in favour.

8.1.2 3PL/2020/1252/HOU-Vale Farm Stoney Lane-demolition of single storey out buildings and construction of two storey rear extension with single storey link.

The application is for a minimal change to the front view of the house but is a substantial enlargement to the house albeit still within the foot print of the out buildings and the house. Councillor Metcalf proposed and Councillor Johnson seconded the resolution that no objection be raised. All were in favour.

8.1.3 3PL/2020/1253/HOU-71 Fakenham Road-Erection of single storey side extensions and detached garage to rear.

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

8.1.4 3PL/2020/1243/F North End Farm 7 Elmham Road -Conversion of existing barn to dwelling, construction of 2 no. new dwellings, extension to existing car lodge, and new double garage and access to existing house.

There had been several objections raised on the portal from Parishioners. A Parishioner raised the issue that this is back garden development. Councillor Richmond proposed no objection be raised, there was no seconder. Councillor Johnson proposed and Councillor Metcalf seconded the resolution that an objection be raised to the application as it is back garden development and over development of the site. This was passed by a majority decision, Councillor Richmond voted against the resolution.

8.1.5 3PL/2020/1119/F-Beetley & Hoe Norfolk Wildlife Trust Hoe Rough - A pedestrian & cattle bridge crossing the river White Water (tributary of the River Wensum).

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

8.2 Decisions.

The following decisions were noted.

8.2.1 3PL/2020/0215/F- White Mill Green Lane – Change of use of site for 16no holiday lodges, reception building, hardstanding's/roadways, play area, tennis & badminton courts. O Withdrawn

8.2.2 3PL/2020/1067/VAR-Domus Faba Bittering Street-variation of condition 2 on 3PL/2017/1096/HOU-to change the roof line from an apex style roof with barn hips at either end to a straight apex roof so that it matches the property and to move the double doors so that they are accessible from the current driveway. N/O Approved.

8.3. Appeals.

8.3.1 App/F2605/W/20/3259472- Plot adjacent Redroofs 73 Fakenham Road – Erection of one dwelling and detached garage.

A response will be sent to the planning inspectorate to reiterate the comments made previously.

9. Beetley River Meadows.

9.1 Report on the Area.

Councillor Johnson stated there had been some vandalism at the beach part of the Meadows. The table had been moved away from the benches and he and some other parishioners put it back into place. Councillor Johnson suggest that some earth anchors could be purchased and fitted to hold it into position. He will obtain these and fit them. He also reported that there was a tree fallen into the river and the Assistant Clerk suggested that Ady's Woodsplitting Service is contacted so he can meet Councillor Johnson on site and decide what needs to be done. Councillor Metcalf will prune some of the small branches which are overhanging the paths.

10. Open Spaces.

10.1 Report.

The Clerk informed the meeting that the hedge along Fakenham Road at East Bilney Townlands will be cut in January/February.

10.2 Tree Planting.

The Clerk had emailed the Scout leader to ask when the Scouts would be able to meet again

due to the Covid restrictions. No response had been received to date.

11. Finance

11.1 Budget.

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

11.2 Balances and cheques for authorisation.

Councillor Baldwin proposed and Councillor Johnson 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 30 09 20	10745.39
Plus Precept-8375.00	
Vat Refund – 1521.09	<u>9896.09</u>
	20641.48
Less cheques authorised 01 10 20- 2623.74	
D/Debit E-on 06 10 20 - 4.25	
D/Debit Anglian Water- 28.68	<u>2656.64</u>
Balance at 31 10 20	17984.84
Less unrepresented cheques authorised 05 11 20	<u>1450.80</u>
Balance at 05 11 20	16534.04
Float for Community Car co-ordinator	<u>250.00</u>
Balance at 05 11 20	16784.04
Play Area funds	<u>706.00</u>
Balance at 05 11 20	17490.04

Amount available for Section 137: 1213 x £8.32 = £10092.16

Spend to Date: 18.00

Cheques for authorisation:

294	B J Leigh	Monthly Contract November 572.85 plus back pay 01 04 20-31 10 20-107.10 less PAYE -182.00	497.95
295	HMRC	PAYE November	182.00
296	Mrs A Leigh	Drivers Payments Community Car-November	21.10
297	E.O.S.	Photo copy charges	62.50
298	F.T.Grounds Maintenance	Grass cutting October.	360.07
299	Steve Jackman	New Website Training and set up	160.00
300	Mrs A Leigh	Cards & Gifts Volunteers	9.00
301	B J Leigh	Zoom Meeting 03 12 20	14.39

11.3 Precept 2021/22

The Clerk and the Assistant Clerk had prepared the proposal for the precept which had been circulated and suggested a 3% increase. This is approximately £500 and will take the precept to £17250 and on a band D property the increase would be .94pence per annum. Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Johnson seconded the resolution that the precept be set at £17250.00. All were in favour.

11.4 Society of Local Council Clerks.

Councillor Baldwin proposed and Councillor Richmond seconded the resolution that the membership to the SLCC be renewed for 2021 at a cost of £130. All were in favour.

12. Regulatory Documents.

12.1 To Approve the following Documents.

Councillor Johnson proposed and Councillor Metcalf seconded the resolution that the Privacy statement and the Freedom of Information Scheme be adopted. All were in favour.

12.2 Review of Documents.

Councillor Johnson proposed and Councillor Baldwin seconded the resolution that the following documents which have been reviewed are adopted: -

Financial Regulations, Standing Orders, GDPR Policy, Data Protection committee terms of reference, Risk Management. All were in favour.

13. Councillors responsibilities.

13.1 Planning Advisory Group.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Baldwin seconded the resolution that Councillor Metcalf becomes the third member of the Planning Advisory Group. All were in favour.

14. Correspondence for Circulation.

The following correspondence will be circulated.

14.1 Clerks & Councils Direct November 2020

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

15.1 Cloud Data Storage.

15.2 Digital Mapping.

16. Date of next meeting

This was confirmed as Thursday February 4th 2021 at 7.30 pm via Zoom.

The meeting closed at 21.30.