

# MINUTES OF THE BEETLEY ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD FOR BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY IN THE VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 1<sup>st</sup>. JUNE 2023 AT 7.30 P.M.

## Present

Councillor J. Baldwin  
Councillor M. MacArthur (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor P. Minchin  
Councillor R. Richmond ( Chair )  
A. Leigh. Clerk  
R. Wade. R.F.O.

## In Attendance

County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris  
District Councillor R. Duffield.  
3 Members of the Public.

**A presentation by Silverly Properties Ltd., regarding their plans for the Land to the North of Fakenham Road was given prior to the commencement of the Parish Council meeting. 3 Members of the public were present.**

- 1. To appoint a Chair following Councillor Richmond's decision to stand down.** Councillor Richmond explained that he would not now stand down and will continue being the Chair.
- 2. To appoint a Vice Chair (deferred from the May Annual Parish meeting).** Councillor MacArthur stated he was willing to take on this role it was proposed by Councillor Baldwin and seconded by Councillor Minchin that Councillor MacArthur is the Vice Chair.
- 3. To receive apologies for absence.** District Councillor R. Atterwill – illness the apology was accepted.
- 4. To receive Declaration of Pecuniary Interests.** None.
- 5. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023.** It was proposed by Councillor Baldwin and seconded by Councillor Richmond that the minutes were true and accurate. All were in agreement.
- 6. Finance.**  
**6.1. Budgets as circulated.** It was proposed by Councillor Minchin and seconded by Councillor Baldwin that the budgets as circulated were in order, all were in agreement.  
**6.2. Balances and cheques for authorisation as circulated.** Clerks salary £390.65. R.F.O. salary L. Jarrett £129.20. HMRC £130.00 A. Leigh (C.Car drivers payments).£201.75. NPTS website annual maintenance £215. Interlogic £504.00. F.T.Grounds Maintenance (April) £309.25. John Services £297.40. C.A.N. (Annual membership) £20.00. A.Leigh (batteries) £4.75. L. Jarrett (Annual mileage) £24.74. F.T. Grounds Maintenance (May) £309.35. Proposed by Councillor Richmond and seconded by Councillor Minchin all were in agreement.
- 7. Reports from District Councillors. Public participation.**  
**7.1. To receive reports from the County Councillor and District Councillors.** County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris reported that there was a new leader of N.C.C. The cutting of grass verges in the Parish should be completed during the next week. If there are any junctions which need cutting during this season to contact him and he will instruct Highways to cut them. The Minerals and Waste submission plan may be going to the June meeting, he will advise the clerk when a date is given.
- 7.2. Public comments.** A member of the public raised the issue that he was concerned that the character of the Village may change having listened to the presentation given by Silverly Properties. District Councillor Duffield informed the meeting that Breckland Council Planning look more kindly at denser applications rather than those of 5/6 houses and in particular those which are stated as affordable. Another member of the public raised the issue again about Common Drift which is in Gressenhall .A Public Rights of Way – User Evidence Form was passed round the Parish Councillors for information. This is a Norfolk County Council form which the lady was going to ask residents to complete and then forward onto N.C.C. The Parish Council

thanked the lady for the information but agreed it was now a residents issue and for them to take forward.

**8. Matters for report.**

**8.1. Breckland Mobile Food Store.** The food bus is now back on the road but routes are being changed due to certain villages only having low numbers who use the bus. District Councillor Duffield said that the Parish Council would be informed of any changes for Beetley.

**8.2. Speedwatch Beetley.** George Hayes the co-ordinator for the Beetley Speedwatch team stated that there had been two sessions in May , 6 vehicles were exceeding the speed limit. there are 2 new members in the team.

**8.3. Boardwalk East Bilney Townlands.** The Clerk and Councillor Richmond had visited the site with one Contractor who will supply a quotation for the repair/replacement of the rotted 3 Boardwalks. The Clerk had also attended the site with another Contractor who also would supply a quotation for the work which was needed to make the boardwalks safe.

**9. Highways.**

**9.1. Clerk to give feedback on ongoing Highway problems.** The Clerk had sent an email to County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris listing the outstanding issues. Mark Kiddle-Morris informed the meeting that the direction signage to East Bilney fishing lakes café were not on Highway land therefore no action would be taken. The obscured flashing speed sign on Fakenham Road Beetley, a second letter had be sent from N.C,C, to ask the owner of the tree to cut it back. The illegal crossing on Elmham Road. N.C.C. Highways are dealing with the developer who installed the crossing which is a section 278, the legal team may now become involved. Footpath 11 which has the sign missing. The field has now had a footpath cut across it but it does not come out where the sign should be. Councillor MacArthur will send the name of the owner of the field to Mark Kiddle – Morris for Highways to contact him. The flooding at Sorrel Lane- Holt Road junction. The Highway Inspector has looked into this and Highways have jetted the drain, the problem is a land drainage issue which is not N.C.C. but a residents drain. The Highway Inspector will monitor this. Fakenham Road East Bilney broken road surface. This has now been Surfaced Dressed and hopefully the repairs had been carried out prior to the Surface Dressing process being done. The Clerk will monitor the road.

**9.2 To note any new problems within the Parish.** A member of the public raised an issue that 30 mph sign is obscured by an overgrown hedge also the 30 mph flashing sign was also obscured on Fakenham Road Beetley.

A Parishioner offered to cut back the hedge near the 30 mph sign but the flashing sign was only an advisory sign.

**9.3. To receive a report from all Councillors on the footpaths** Councillor MacArthur reported that all ok other than footpath 11 which had been cut but was in the incorrect place, which had been discussed under Highways. Councillor Baldwin stated footpaths 14 and 15 were ok but she had not walked footpath CRF16. Councillor Richmond reported 5/6/7 were satisfactory.

**10. Minerals and Waste submission plan-update.** The Longwater Gravel application could possibly go to the NCC planning meeting at the end of June. County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris will keep the Clerk updated.

**11. Planning.**

**Applications.**

**11.1. 3PL/2023/0424/HOU 17 Ashely Road Beetley.** Erection of 2 metre high fence to enclose garden areas. Councillor Richmond proposed, Councillor MacArthur seconded that no objection be raised. All were in agreement.

**11.2. 3PL/2023/0055/NMA North End Farm 7 Elmham Road Beetley.** Amendment to planning application 3PL/2020/1243/F re-configuration on Plat 3 ground floor to extend living room and reduce Integral garage to single bay (Non Mat Minor Amend). Councillor Baldwin proposed and Councillor Minchin seconded that there was no objection. All were in agreement.

**11.3. 3PL/2023/0542/HOU. The Lymes 9 Fakenham Road Beetley.** Single storey rear extension to garage/store. Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Minchin seconded that no objection be raised. All were in agreement.

## **Decisions by Breckland Council.**

**11.4. East Bilney Lakes East Bilney 3PL/2023/0270/F.** Change of use of existing fishing shed to include café with internal seating, replacement of toilets new covered area for freezers ,ramp, siting of a mobile burger van concealed behind timber cladding and external seating areas. **APPROVED.**

**11.5. White Mill Green Lane Beetley. 3PL/2021/1078/F** Change of use of site for 8 no. holiday lodges, reception building, hardstanding's/roadways ,play areas, tennis and badminton courts. **REFUSED.**

**11.6. Woodwells 52 Elmham Road Beetley. 3PL/2023/0340/HOU.** Installation of ground array solar PV with battery storage system. Proposed 2 x rows high with 11 modules to each row. **APPROVED.**

**11.7. Land off Elmham Road Beetley. 3PL/2023/0367/F.** Erection of 10 no. holiday cabins with associated facilities. **REFUSED.**

## **12. Beetley River Meadows.**

**12.1. Monthly play equipment inspections.** Councillor Minchin had carried out the May inspection and all was ok. The Clerk reported there was a new sign erected by NWT near the “beach area” which should have been on their land. NWT will remove it.

**12.2. Annual Play equipment RoSPA 2023/2024 inspection.** The Clerk reported that this would be carried out during June but no date is given. The report will be sent to the Clerk.

**12.3. National Lottery funding documentation.** It was agreed that when Councillor Minchin is carrying out the inspection of the Play area he will note any comments received from those using the equipment and retain for any future information required by the National Lottery funding group.

## **13. Open Spaces.**

**13.1. To receive a report and note any problems.** The Contractor responsible for maintaining Beetley Common was strimming part of it and was asked by a dog walker what he was doing as there was an official warden. The Contractor informed the dog walker that he worked for Beetley Parish Council and knew nothing about a warden. The Councillors discussed this issue and felt the dog walker could have been referring to a warden who looks after the fishing lakes which were adjacent to where he was strimming. The Parish Council does not have a warden for Beetley Common.

## **14. Parish Council Matters.**

**14.1. Inspections :- Pavilion : Defibrillator.** Councillor MacArthur agreed to continue to inspect the Pavilion on a monthly basis. Councillor MacArthur reported that he had checked the Defibrillator and all was in order, he will complete the online check.

**14.2. Annual Insurance - update.** The Clerk had exchanged several emails with the insurance company and had finally managed to get them to agree that the insurance was fixed for 3 years commencing last year and the cover should remain the same and the cost. An invoice will be sent and when received the Clerk will pass onto the RFO.

**14.3. Parish Council website – update.** The Clerk had forwarded an update of the current Councillors.

**14.4. To confirm the Councillors responsibilities for :- Planning: Beetley River Meadows and play area monthly inspections : Bottle bank : Footpaths : Monthly inspection of the Sports Pavilion: Defibrillator monthly inspection.** It was agreed not to have one particular Councillor responsible for the Planning information. The Clerk would circulate the planning applications to all and Councillors would view on the Breckland planning portal and if necessary go and look at the site. Councillor Richmond would have the overall responsibility for the footpaths but each Councillor would have their own to walk and report on. The allocation of footpaths will be an agenda item for the July meeting as at present there are some which are not walked or reported on. These had previously been inspected by two ex- Councillors. Bottle bank, Councillor Baldwin will monitor this. As previously agreed Councillor MacArthur will carry out monthly inspections of the Sports Pavilion and the Defibrillator.

**14.5. To review the Parish Councils Risk Assessment and Management policy.** The Policy was discussed and it was agreed that it was adequate and will be reviewed annually. the Clerk will update the review date on the policy and get it updated on the website.

- 15. Matters for the next meeting ( not for discussion).** Allocation of Footpath checks/reports.
- 16. To Confirm the next meeting of Beetley Parish Council will be held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July at 7.30 p.m. in Beetley Village Hall High House Road Beetley.**

**The meeting closed at 21.00**

**Signed as a true and accurate record.....**

**Date signed.....**