

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

**Present** Councillor S. Boyce (Chair)  
Councillor J. Baldwin  
Councillor L. Cissell  
Councillor R. Richmond  
Councillor T. Scott

District Councillor R. Atterwill District Councillor R. Duffield

Eleven members of the public.

**1. Chairs Business**

A minutes silence was held for Mr. Bryan Leigh

It was proposed by Councillor Scott and seconded by Councillor Richmond that Angela Leigh should become clerk from September and Leanne Jarrett should become the Responsible Finance Officer.

Councillor Boyce asked Mrs. Leigh to leave the meeting. Following the Chairman's conversation with Norfolk Parish Training Service it is proposed that a one off payment in lieu of a death in service payment be made to the widow of Mr. Bryan Leigh (under the local government act 2011, section 2954). The matter was discussed and it was proposed that a payment £1500 be made to Mrs Leigh this was proposed by Councillor Boyce and seconded by Councillor Richmond. This was agreed by all. Mrs. Leigh returned to the meeting.

**2. Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Patricia Metcalf (The Councillors agreed to accept the apology) also there was an apology from County Councillor M. Kiddle-Morris.

**3. To receive Declaration of Pecuniary Interests.**

Councillor Robert Richmond declared an interest in item 9.1.4.

**4. Minutes of the previous meeting**

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Cissell seconded the resolution that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021 having been circulated be approved. All were in favour and the minutes were duly signed by the Chairman of the meeting.

**5. Fund raising for Beetley Play Area.**

The working party reported that £60,000 had been granted by the Lottery, there was already over £5000 in the Parish account with more to come in from the Go fund me page and £2000 from Bruce Wake Charitable Trust for the disabled roundabout. The order will be delivered, signed by the Chair, when the money is in the Parish account. It was agreed that Elle and the fund-raising team would work with Councillors Scott and Metcalf until the completion of the project.

**6. Public participation.**

**6.1 County and District Councillors reports**

There was no report from the County Councillor. Please find the written report below.

Grass Cutting: The first cut of the verges in my division should have commenced on the 7<sup>th</sup> June but was late. The rural cut has been carried out but is of such a poor standard that I am asking for it to be revisited as some junctions as well as some roads have not been cut. The width of most cuts is inadequate, and the general standard is poor. In some cases, the urban cut (inside villages) has not been carried out at all. I am on the case.

Highway Maintenance: Some extra revenue money has been allocated to my area for summer maintenance of potholes. A velocity machine (what I call the elephant) has been contracted to visit

hotspots and fill potholes, this is a very efficient machine which works fast and makes a good job of repairing the road surface.

I will be looking, over the next few months, to bring forward a few major road improvement schemes in my division using available capital funding. The sort of schemes I am looking at relate to resurfacing (not surface dressing) and junction improvements.

As related previously I have been allocated £10k to fund small highway improvements and environmental schemes such as tree planting, this is an increase from £6k last year. Last year this fund paid for the 30mph roundels in East Bilney and contributed £650 towards the cost of Beetley PCs Parish Partnership bid.

Flooding: The flooding event which took place in East Bilney on the 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> December last year has been investigated by the NCC Water Management Team and the report is due soon. Over 200 properties were flooded over those 2 days. This led the Council to for a committee, The Norfolk Strategic Flood Alliance, under the chairmanship of General Lord Dannatt to concentrate the efforts of the 36 agencies that have flood risk responsibilities. A new hotline to report flooding events has been set up as the single point of contact to report flooding events. A leaflet will be delivered to every house in Norfolk with the details. An additional £5m has been added to the budget line that supports flood investigation.

Mark Kiddle-Morris

District Councillor Richard Duffield reported that Breckland do not seem to be grass cutting along public footpath's, he also reported that he was chasing enforcement regarding the siting of a caravan at Shorthorns nursery. He understands they will be applying for planning consent but last time they took over three months.

District Councillor Roger Atterwill reported that the verges in Swanton Morley had been paid to be cut by that the Parish Council. He also reported that Breckland staff are not yet back at Elizabeth House, the building has had a refit and when they return all will be working from hot-desks. The meeting suite has been enabled to stream all council meetings on a U tube channel so the public can see and hear what the Councillors are discussing. Finally he reported on the 'Future Dereham' project where a consultant is being paid to look at enhancing Dereham Roger suggested the market square be for pedestrians only. A central bus terminus and a Northern connector road from Corners Nursery to the A47 at Tuddenham to stop rat runs through the country lanes.

## **6.2 Public participation.**

Councillor Boyce reported that he had received an email from a parishioner stating that the remedial work to alleviate the flooding which took place on Christmas Eve 2020 has still not been acted upon. The Parish Council asked the District and County Councillors to look into this and agreed to send a representative to the next Flood Prevention Strategy Group meeting, if invited.

## **7. Matters to report.**

### **7.1 Annual Insurance.**

The proposal by Councillor Richmond seconded by Councillor Boyce that the insurance is renewed with Came and Co., who have previously insured the Parish Council. All were in agreement.

### **7.2 Recycling Payments.**

The Clerk reported that the Parish had received £282.60 from the textile bank at the Village Hall and £552.19 from the glass bank at Beetley New Inn. The Chairman encouraged all parishioners to use these banks as they are a valuable source of income to the Parish Council. It was proposed by Councillor Richmond and seconded by Councillor Scott that the £282.60 from the textile bank be donated to the Village Hall this was agreed by all.

## **8. Highways.**

### **8.1 Report on Highway matters.**

The potholes on Church Road, Fludges Lane and Fakenham Road have all been reported to Norfolk County Council Highways but to date no work has taken place. The Chairman reported that he had reported a fallen tree on Fakenham Road Beetley and this was quickly cleared by the Highways

department. The water leak on Fakenham Road East Bilney near to Phoenix House appears to be getting worse this has been reported to Highways and Anglian Water.

## **8.2 New problems.**

Nothing to report.

## **8.3 Report on footpaths.**

Councillor Cissell reported that a tree survey was conducted on FP4 and as a consequence two Oak trees had been taken down. Councillor Scott reported that FP12 Field Lane to Church Farm was overgrown the Clerk will contact the land owner. Councillor Boyce reported that the information board at the entrance to Beetley River Meadow had rotted off and has now been passed to the person who assists the Parish Council with repairs this will be reinstated when repaired.

## **8.4 Local Highway Partnership Scheme.**

The Chairman brought the drawings of the proposed gateways for East Bilney to the attention of the Councillors. It was proposed by Councillor Cissell and seconded by Councillor Baldwin that these be accepted and was agreed by all. Councillor Richmond asked if we could talk to County Councillor Mark Kiddle Morris if we could have 40 mph roundels in East Bilney.

# **9. Planning.**

## **9.1 Applications.**

### **9.1.1 3DC/2021/0131/DOC Cedarville Holt Road discharge of condition 3,4,5**

From the documentation supplied the Councillors agreed that the developer had thoughtfully considered the Parish Councils objections. This was proposed by Councillor Richmond and seconded by Councillor Scott and all were in agreement that no objection be raised.

### **9.1.2 3PL/2021/0731/F. Lakeside East Bilney removal of agricultural occupancy restriction.**

The Chairman explained what an occupancy restriction was and the three reasons for which it could be removed. Several parishioners spoke against the removal and it was proposed by Councillor Cissell and seconded by Councillor Scott that this removal be objected to, all were in favour.

### **9.1.3 3PL/2021/0730/O Freestone Coaches Green Lane Beetley outline planning application for two dwellings.**

The Parish Council has always objected to any development outside of the settlement boundary. Therefore the Parish Council objects to this application. Proposed by Councillor Richmond and seconded by Councillor Baldwin all were in favour to the objection. Councillor Richmond left the meeting.

### **9.1.4 3PL/2021/0680/F Beck Farm East Bilney conversion of Farm buildings to three dwellings and demolition of redundant farm buildings to create four dwellings.**

The Parish Council considered carefully the documentation supplied by the developer and generally liked the use of traditional farm buildings in the creation of this development. However as with the previous application this falls outside of the settlement boundary and therefore the Parish Council objects to this development. This objection was proposed by Councillor Boyce and seconded by Councillor Scott all were in favour.

Councillor Richmond returned to the meeting.

### **9.1.5 3PL/20210007/CM Bluberry Hill Beetley change of use from a C3 dwelling to a C2 Care Home.**

This is a County matter on which the Parish Council makes no comment.

### **9.1.6, 9.1.7 & 9.1.8 Tree cutting applications .**

All the three applications were considered and the Parish Council is of the opinion that trees need to be managed and maintained. Therefore the Parish Council has no objection to these applications.

These applications were considered separately. No objection was proposed for 9.1.6 by Councillor Richmond and seconded by Councillor Cissell. 9.1.7 likewise had no objection proposed by Councillor Boyce and seconded by Councillor Baldwin 9.1.8 no objection was proposed by Councillor Cissell and seconded by Councillor Baldwin. All were in agreement with all three applications.

## **9.2 Decisions.**

The following decision was noted.

### **9.2.1. 3PL/2021/0779/LU Shamrock 29 Elmham Road loft conversion**

**Approved.**

### **9.2.2 3PL/2021/0719/HOU 37 Elmham Road proposed single storey extension to rear and garage extension.**

**Approved.**

## **10. Beetley River Meadows.**

### **10.1 Report on the Area.**

Councillor Scott reported that there has been some damage to benches and tables both in the play area and the 'Beach' this is mindless vandalism. There has also been an increase in the amount of litter, bottles and general rubbish in and around the play area. The Parish Council is aware that this behaviour is undertaken by a few mindless people. If any Parishioner sees such antisocial behaviour taking place then please make a note of descriptions, date and time etc., and report to the Clerk or any Parish Councillor. PLEASE DO NOT CONFRONT THE OFFENDERS YOURSELF. This information will also be placed on the Parish website. The Chairman also agreed to contact Beetley school about this matter.

## **11. Open Spaces.**

Nothing to report.

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

## **13. Correspondence for Circulation.**

There was no correspondence to be circulated.

## **14. Matters for next meeting (not for discussion).**

14.1 Longwater Gravel to be invited to the next meeting.

## **15. Date of next meeting**

This was confirmed as Thursday September 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 21.25