

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held for Beetley and East Bilney in the Village Hall on Thursday 3rd February 2022 at 7.30 p.m.

Present **Councillor S. Boyce (Chair)**
 Councillor R. Richmond (Vice Chair)
 Councillor J. Baldwin
 Councillor L. Cissell
 Councillor M. MacArthur
 Councillor T. Scott
In Attendance **Clerk A. Leigh**
 RFO L. Jarrett

2 Parishioners

1. To consider Apologies for Absence.
District Councillors Atterwill and Duffield sent their apologies
2. To receive Declaration of Pecuniary Interests.
None.
3. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on December 2nd. 2021
The minutes were proposed by Councillor Richmond and seconded by Councillor Scott as a true and accurate record of the meeting and were duly signed by the Chairman. All were in agreement.
4. To receive a progress report on Beetley Play Area.
Elle Farnsworth reported that the construction of the new play equipment was well underway at the Barns at NGF and hopefully will commence on site construction next week. Elle also received a £50 gift voucher donated by a parishioner donated for the Pre-school duck race.
5. 5.1 Budgets as circulated
The income and expenditure spreadsheets were examined and no questions were raised. These were proposed by Councillor Richmond and seconded by Councillor Cissell and agreed by all. .
5.2 Balances and cheques for authorisation as circulated, including Data Protection Fee.
The RFO indicated that the data protection fee was an annual obligation and there were no other questions raised regarding the balances and cheques. This was proposed by Councillor Cissell and seconded by Councillor Baldwin and agreed by all.
5.3 The Pension Regulator.
The RFO explained to the Councillors that each September she has to submit a return regarding the number of employees for the previous year.
5.4 Online banking.
The Chairman explained about the requirement of Barclay bank in removing the previous Clerk from the account and setting the 3 accounts up for the new RFO.
5.5 R.F.O to update on the Community Car grant application.
The RFO has submitted the Parish Council claim to Breckland Council.
6. Public Participation
 - 6.1 To receive reports from the County and District Councillors.
None
 - 6.2 Public Comments.
Taken at agenda 8.3 flooding

7. Matters for Report.

7.1 Covid Memorial Token

Councillor MacArthur agreed to fix the plaque above the Parish Council noticeboard at the Village Hall.

7.2 Beetley Parish Council website.

The Chairman requested photographs from each Parish Councillor and a brief statement to be placed on the website.

7.3 What 3 words locations

The Chairman advised the Parish Council of the What3words locations for the following Parish sites.

Village hall - agreed.rope.necklaces

Beetley River Meadows Play Area – even.aside.vandalism

Beetley River Meadows Beach Area – passages.bandstand.charted

7.4 SNAP meeting 12/01/2022

Councillor Richmond reported on the recent SNAP meeting and the 3 Police priorities which all concern Dereham.

7.5 Countryside Access Webinar 25/01/2022

Councillor Cissell reported on the Webinar regarding the 25 year environmental policy and the use of the Countryside for walking, cycling and recreation.

8. Highways.

8.1 Re-Classification of Roads in Old Beetley.

Councillor MacArthur outlined the application made to reclassify 3 roads in Old Beetley. The Chairman requested that this item be carried over to the next meeting when more members of the public from Old Beetley could voice their views.

8.2 Clerk to give feedback on ongoing Highway problems.

The Road narrows sign in Beetley on Fakenham Road has been replaced.

The Give Way sign at the Fakenham Road end of High House Road has been re-erected.

The tree obscuring the Flashing Speed sign on approach to the School on Fakenham Road Beetley. A letter had been sent by Norfolk County Council to the property owner to cut the branches back.

8.3 East Bilney flooding.

A Parishioner who was affected by the floods in East Bilney outlined the events of Christmas Eve 2020. The Parishioner then outlined the good response from the Inland Drainage Board and the remedial work they had undertaken, however there has been no work commissioned by Norfolk County Highways. Others present recounted how the water flows down the hill and pools outside the old public house near the Beck on Fakenham Road East Bilney. At times this puddle covers the median lines on the road and is eroding and causing damage to the Trod that the Parish Council funded.

8.4 To note any new problems within the parish.

The Chairman reported that a rash of new signage had appeared along the gas pipeline route in East Bilney going towards Gressenhall.

It was reported that there is a pothole in Rawhall Lane outside of the old Woad Centre, the Chairman will photograph this and report it to Highways.

Councillor Baldwin reported damage to the White direction sign on Rawhall Lane near Middletons quarry the Chairman agreed to photograph and report to Norfolk Highways.

8.5 To receive a report from all Councillors on the footpaths.

The Chairman reported that footpaths 17 & 18 were in good order when he walked them the previous day. Councillor Richmond reported that his footpaths were fine except for a broken board on the boardwalk in East Bilney Townlands. Councillor Cissell reported that there was still dog fouling taking place along one of her footpaths going towards Fludges Lane from the Drift. Other members of the Parish confirmed this is happening along the Trod and Fakenham Road East Bilney. Councillor Scott reported his footpaths were fine. Councillor Baldwin again apologised for not having checked her footpaths and the Chairman requested that she ascertains where the fallen fingerpost is located at the junction of two of her footpaths and to report back to the next meeting. Councillor MacArthur reported that the fallen finger post on footpath 12 has disappeared. (hopefully the Country side team of Norfolk

Highways have collected it following it being reported in October 2021.) The Clerk will contact the County Councillor regarding this.

8.6 The Clerk to report on the Local Highway Partnership scheme 2021/2022

As the 40 MPH has appeared on the road near to the East Bilney gateway the Parish Council has retracted its bid for the Local Highway Partnership Scheme.

8.7 Gas borehole drilling.

The Clerk reported that there will be a borehole drilling taking place on the land just outside of the former Beetley landfill site this will be observable from the Fakenham Road.

9. Planning.

Applications.

9.1.1 3PL/2021/1100/HOU Little Oaks 50 Elmham Road Beetley Non material amendment – Insertion of window to gable and roof windows to (SW) roof slope. This has already been agreed by Breckland Council see 9.2.4

9.1.2 3PL/2021/1078/F White Mill Green Lane. Amendments. From the new details it is observable that the proposed 8 lodges are now 2 storey Log cabins with a balcony on each end and parking space for 2 vehicles each. These buildings are substantially different in character to any local building and at odds with design guidance. The new amenities building with a shop/reception and other designated areas is of a very modern design and back onto the Otters Mead site and their lodges look onto this blank back wall. The Parish Council continues in its opposition to this application as it is outside of the settlement boundary, in incongruous design with local building guidelines and is entered and exited onto Holt Road at a dangerous spot on a 60 MPH Road. The Parish Councils opposition was proposed by Councillor Boyce and seconded by Councillor Scott all were in favour.

9.1.3 TRO/2022/0010/TPO Cedarville Holt Road Beetley TPO-2013 No. 8 T1 and T2 with in tree Survey. Working to the survey recommendations. T1 & T2 are protected Oak trees however the Parish Council recognises that all trees need to be managed to preserve life and longevity. This application was proposed by Councillor Richmond seconded by Councillor Scott and all were in favour.

Decisions by Breckland Council.

9.2.1 3PL/2021/1387/LB Internal and External repair and maintenance including extension and Replacement windows. Listed Building East Bilney Almshouses Fakenham Road - APPROVED

9.2.2 3PL/2021/1207/HOU Demolition of single garage and construction of new triple garage St.Fillans 40 Elmham Road - APPROVED

9.2.3 3DC/2021/0297/DOC Vale Farm Stoney Lane Beetley discharge of Conditions 8 &10 on 3PL/2020/1294/F – documentation all in place and complete to protect Bats, Birds and other wildlife.

9.2.4 3NM/2021/0102/NMA Little Oaks 50 Elmham Road Beetley Non material amendment –Insertion of windows to gable and roof windows to (SW) roof slope on 3PL/2021/1100/HOU – APPROVED

Planning Enforcement Decisions.

9.3.1 Fairhaven Caravan site Beetley. Following a report from a Parishioner a Breckland compliance Officer visited the site and assured the Parish Council that all the planning requirements were being adhered to.

Norfolk County Council

9.4.1 FUL/2021/0059 Blueberry Hill Halfpenny Lane Beetley. Now 3CM/2022/0001/CM on Breckland planning portal. Proposed new ASHP to replace the existing oil tank, enlarging the parking/turning area and change gravel drive to resin bound gravel. This application from Norfolk County Council and now Breckland Council was considered and agreed to by all Councillors following it being proposed by Councillor Scott and seconded by Councillor Cissell.

10. Beetley River Meadows.

10.1. To seek a volunteer to assist Councillor Scott with safety check at the play area. No one volunteered at present.

10.2. Grass Cutting Contract Beetley River Meadows 2022, Discussion on other grass areas. The Clerk requested that the Councillors consider renewing the grass cutting contract with F.T. Grounds Maintenance Limited. It was also outlined following an earlier meeting that day that the same company would be able to cut the wildlife meadow in compliance with Norfolk Wildlife Trusts wishes on a 3 year rotation. These items were agreed by all Councillors after being proposed by Councillor Scott and seconded by Councillor Richmond.

10.3 Pre-School Duck Race May 8th 2022

The Clerk reported that F.T Grounds Maintenance would strim the spectator areas next to the River for this event.

11. Open Spaces.

11.1 To receive a report and note any problems. Nothing to report.

11.2 To receive a report on East Bilney townlands.

The Clerk reported that the annual hedge cutting had taken place along Fakenham Road East Bilney.

12. Parish Council Matters

12.1 School Playing Field.

Councillor Scott requested the Parish Councils permission to cut to a reasonable height the Leylandii backing onto his property in the School Playing Field. This was agreed by all.

12.2 RFO Employment change

The Chairman informed the Councillors that due to recent advice the RFO would move from a freelance consultancy basis onto a contracted employee basis. This was to comply with employment legislation and tax purposes.

12.3 Inspections. Pavilion: Defibulator: Beetley River Meadows.

Councillor Scott reported that the Pavilion, Beetley River Meadows and the Defibulator were all in good order following a slight adjustment to the play area gate.

12.4 Communication with Parishioners.

Councillor Cissell and other Councillors discussed the pros and cons of communication by other media to our Parishioners. There is a great danger that some media are not mediated and therefore the Parish Council could become liable for incorrect, inflammatory and abusive remarks/comments and monitoring; editing the site would take a lot of time and energy which we do not have capacity for at the current time.

13. Correspondence.

There was one letter of thanks to the Parish Councillors.

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

Old Beetley dog bin request.

Old Beetley reclassification of roads.

15. To confirm that the next meeting of Beetley Parish Council is to be held on Thursday March 3rd 2022 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

Meeting finished at 9:50pm

Signed as true and accurate, at Beetley Parish Council meeting- Thursday 3rd March 2022

Steve Boyce
Chair