

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT BEETLEY VILLAGE HALL ON
THURSDAY 6th FEBRUARY 2020 AT 7.30 P.M.**

Present

Councillor J O'Donovan (Chair)
Councillor M Rose
Councillor J Baldwin
Councillor H Johnson
Councillor A Leigh
Councillor J Mayhew
Councillor R Richmond

County Councillor M Kiddle Morris
District Councillor R Atterwill
District Councillor R Duffield

3 members of the public.

1. Apologies for absence.

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.

Councillor Richmond declared a DPI in Agenda Items 7.1.1 and 7.1.2 having put buildings into the Local Development Framework.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Rose seconded the resolution that the minutes of the meeting held on 5 December 2019 having been circulated be approved. All were in favour and the minutes were duly signed by the Chairman of the meeting.

4. Public Participation.

4.1 County and District Councillors Reports.

The County Councillor reported that the budget would be set on 17 February and the proposal is for a 2% increase on £96 for Adult Social Care and a 1.99% increase for the remainder. Even with the increased funding it would not be possible to reverse cuts planned. No information has been forwarded from the Government on Business Rate Retention and the Council is pressing for a fairer funding formula but this will not be known until after the budget in March when the budget will have been set. The electoral review have been extended to March as there had been an objection to the housing figures submitted. The mobile libraries are to remain and it has been found possible to keep these by using less vehicles and only stopping at points where the libraries are visited. The 47 libraries are all to remain open and Norfolk has the biggest lending library in the country and the libraries can be used for more than just lending books as there is free Wi-Fi, improved access out of hours by using the app and as hubs which can be used 24/7.

Norfolk County Council is to build 4 new Special Needs schools one of which will be in Fakenham. The first will open in 2022 and will be for 5-16-year-old children.

The District Councillors reported that there has been no planning application for Shorthorns Nursery. The Council Tax will raise by just under £5 for a Band D property and Breckland Council has set aside £60000 for automatic number plate recognition for the police to obtain the necessary equipment in the Breckland area. There is a new waste contract and Breckland Council will purchase new lorries for the contractor. A new homeless strategy is being instigated by Breckland Council to combat rough sleeping and the homeless. At

present there is only a shelter in Thetford and funds have been set aside for transport to Thetford. It is necessary to identify a provision for Dereham. The MP had eventually responded regarding the cuts in funding to Swanton Morley surgery only to confirm that the funding had been cut. The Local Government Association is carrying out a housing survey.

4.2 Public Participation.

There were no matters raised by the public.

5. Matters to Report.

5.1 Beetley Pre-School.

The Clerk informed the members that the Pre-School had confirmed that it was in discussion with the County Councillor and whether the Norse site at Gressenhall especially if Norse move from the site could be used. At present the County Council wishes to retain the site so it will not be able to be used although the County Councillor confirmed he is still discussing this with Children's Services. The current mobile leaks and it is not possible to keep it warm

5.2 SNAP Meeting.

Councillor Richmond reported that the three priorities for the next three months are cycling on pavements in Dereham, anti-social vehicle use in towns and drug misuse in Dereham, The District Councillor reported that there had been a problem with drug dealing in Swanton Morley and the police had been contacted and initially stated that it finishes investigating at 2330 but after further pressure the police agreed to visit between 0001 and 0400.

5.3 Pavilion.

It was agreed to have the pavilion cleaned as last year but Norse don not clean roofs so the Clerk will try other sources.

5.4 Action against Climate Change.

The Scout Group had obtained 420 saplings and offered the Parish Council half of these It was agreed to accept the offer and to consider where these are to be planted. The Clerk will enquire if the Scout Group will plant the trees on Parish Land as a Community Project. Councillor Richmond stated that in the future there may be a scheme whereby the Parish Council could be paid by an organisation who wished to become carbon neutral and can use the Parish Council land to achieve this.

5.5 Duck Race.

The Pre-School had requested to hold a duck race again this year on 26 April and it was agreed unanimously to grant permission and to have viewing areas cut.

5.6 Patient Participation Group.

Councillor Richmond reported that the meeting scheduled for the previous evening for Swanton Morley had been cancelled.

Councillor Leigh had attended the North Elmham Group and reported that the early morning appointments are for blood test and the evening appointments are for a telephone appointment with a doctor. Medicines are being stockpiled but the shortages are becoming worse and the lack of available medicine changes daily. The Dispensary will advise where it is possible to obtain medicines as some pharmacies have access to other suppliers. There are 4 receptionists on at any one time with one being in the front and three in the office to the rear. The mental health system is in crisis in Norfolk and Suffolk and 2 cases per day are referred but there is a long wait unless the situation is critical when this can be referred to a special team which will investigate quickly. The computer system is to be updated to Windows 10 and there is a new Operations Manager.

5.7 Breckland Town and Parish Forum 12 February.

Councillors O'Donovan, Leigh and Richmond will attend.

5.8 Village Hall.

There is to be no increase in the booking fee for this year.

5.9 Alms Houses East Bilney

The Clerk reported that there appears to be agreement between all parties that these be sold and the Charity Commission has drawn up a new scheme.

6. Highways and Transport.

6.1 Report on Highways Matters.

The Clerk reported that there had been an increase in dog fouling in the parish especially on Ashley Road, Beech Road and Elmham Road. The Clerk had placed an item in the Beetley Buzz highlighting this and requesting that dog owners clear up after their dogs. The Clerk had also suggested to the parishioners who had claimed that the Dog Warden be contacted. The flooding on School Road from a blocked gully, the marker posts in East Bilney, a tree overhanging the B1146 in East Bilney had been reported and these are all being investigated. The potholes on School Road had been resolved. Councillor O'Donovan asked the County Council why it has been possible for Hoe to obtain a 40 mph limit along B1110 and Beetley cannot get an extension to the 30 mph limit on B1146. The County Councillor will try and ascertain why this was granted.

6.2 New problems.

The meeting was adjourned.

A parishioner raised concerns that Church Road Old Beetley is now being shown all the way through to Folly Lane and this is being used by HGVs to access the B1146 to Fakenham which is totally unsuitable. The parishioner also raised the matter of the poor verge cutting the previous year and suggested that a 45degree cut be used to protect the habitat at the base of the hedges.

The meeting was re-convened.

The County Councillor informed the meeting that he had been contacted by the Clerk regarding the problem with Church Road and had asked highways to investigate how to get this removed. He will also talk to the Cabinet member and Director of Highway about the verge cutting. Councillor Mayhew will advise the Clerk on which properties on Oakland Drive have the hedges overhanging the footway. He also stated that there are a lot of HGVs using Fakenham Road early in the morning but he was informed that this is permissible. The 60mph limit on Elmham Road is still in force but the new order for a 30 mph limit is being processed by Norfolk County Council.

6.3 Footpaths.

These are all a little damp. The permissive path from Beetley River Meadows had been cleared of the trees. The hedges alongside FP15 are now overgrowing the path.

6.4 Blocking of Footpath 6.

The Clerk and the County Councillor had contacted the Countryside Access Officer but no reply had been received.

7. Planning.

7.1 Applications.

7.1.1 3PL/2019/0855/O-Land to the North East of Fakenham Road- Erection of three self-build detached dwellings with garaging and means of access-change to self-build dwellings.

Councillor Richmond withdrew from the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

A parishioner stated that it is not adjacent to the settlement boundary and queried who would be responsible for the roads. The applicant stated that he did not own all the land and that he was still requesting support from the Parish Council.

The meeting was re-convened.

Councillor Rose stated that this is outside the settlement boundary and therefore this should be objected. Councillor Baldwin felt that this was suitable site for development.

Councillor Leigh proposed and Councillor Mayhew seconded the resolution that an objection be raised. This was passed by a majority decision with Councillor O'Donovan voting against the resolution.

7.1.2 3PI/2019/1597/F-Plot adjacent Redroofs 73 Fakenham Road-erection of one dwelling and detached garage (resubmission).

Councillor Johnson proposed and Councillor Mayhew seconded the resolution that an objection be raised for the same reasons as previously. This was passed by a majority decision with Councillor O'Donovan voting against the resolution.

Councillor Richmond re-joined the meeting.

7.2 Decisions.

7.2.1 3PL/2019/1297/O-Land at Green Lane- residential development.

O Refused.

7.2.2 3PL/2019/1293/HOU-Weavers School Road- 2 storey extension to rear of property, double garage, replace existing flat roofs with pitched roofs.

N/O Approved.

7.2.3 3PL/2019/1383/VAR-45 Beechcroft Elmham Road-amendment to condition 2, approved plan on 3PL/2018/0608/HOU-installation of velux windows on the side roof of the garage.

N/O Approved.

7.2.4 3PL/2019/1305/HOU-8 Spinney Close-roof conversion with dormer windows to existing garage roof to provide living accommodation.

N/O Approved.

7.2.5 3PL/2019/1360/HOU-Chrisfield 11 Elmham Road-proposed single storey front extension and associated alterations.

N/O Approved.

7.2.6 FUL/2019/0051-Union House Norfolk Rural Life Museum, Litcham Road, Gressenhall- Installation of 8.5m high activity tower (10.1m to top of the flagpole) with slides and rope bridges and replacement, installation and repositioning of new and existing play equipment and associated ancillary works.

N/O Approved.

7.3 Enforcement

7.3.1 Droning Noise.

Nothing further had transpired.

7.3.2 Shorthorns Nursery.

The Clerk had e-mailed Breckland Council regarding a planning application but had not received a reply.

7.4 Planning Committee.

7.4.1 3PL/2019/0855/O-Land to the North East of Fakenham Road- Erection of three self-build detached dwellings with garaging and means of access-change to self-build dwellings.

No one would be attending to speak.

7.4.2 3PL/2019/1062/O-Land adjacent Whitemill off Green Lane-outline application for the erection of 3no. dwellings with all matters reserved except access.

No one would be attending to speak.

8. Beetley River Meadows.

8.1 Report.

The Clerk reported that Norse may be closing the Gressenhall depot so it was agreed to obtain other prices as the date given for possible changes is April which may be too late to obtain a contractor.

8.2 Multi Play Unit.

Councillor Baldwin had not circulated the quotations until 2 days before the meeting so a decision was deferred again. It was agreed to apply for a grant from Breckland Council for the goalposts/basketball hoops.

9. Open Spaces.

9.1 Report.

Confirmation had been received from the solicitors that all registration was now complete with the exception of Fludges Meadow which it had been decided not to proceed with. The solicitors for the Charity had confirmed that Norfolk County Council feel that the path through the wood would be a good addition to the network. There had been a complaint regarding the use of large vehicles across the Common to gain access to land owned by another landowner. The Clerk had contacted the landowner concerned but had not received an answer. If no answer is forthcoming then the solicitor is to be asked to write to the landowner

9.2 Beetley Common

The Clerk had toured the Common with the contractor and no maintenance is needed at present.

9.3 NWT Report on Beetley Common.

This is to be circulated ready for a discussion on the suggested maintenance.

10. Finance.

10.1 Budgets.

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

10.2 Balances and Cheques for Authorisation.

Councillor Rose 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 31 10 19	23626.46
Plus Eastern Power Networks Wayleave-79.06	
The Beetley Charity-108.00	<u>187.06</u>
	23813.52
Less Cheques authorised 07 11 19-2686.26	
E-on D/Debit-11.00	
Anglian Water D/debit-1.89	
Cheques authorised 05 12 19-1664.62	
E-on D/Debit-7.60	<u>4371.37</u>
Balance at 31 12 19	19442.15

Less	unpresented cheques authorised 05 12 19	<u>350.00</u>
Balance at		19092.15
Float for Community Car co-ordinator		<u>250.00</u>
Balance at		19342.15

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

Spend to Date: 30.00

Cheques for authorisation:

224	Mrs A Leigh	Drivers Payments Community Car-December	95.75
225	B J Leigh	Monthly Contract January 557.55 less PAYE 106.20	451.35
226	HMRC	PAYE January	106.20
227	Mrs A Leigh	Drivers Payments Community Car-January	94.05
228	Glasdon UK Limited	New Litter Bin	397.62
229	Electronic Office Solutions	Monthly Charges	56.17
230	Information Commissioner	Data Protection	40.00
231	Beetley Village Hall	Hire of Hall	36.00
232	Spire Solicitors LLP	Land Registry Fee and Search Charge	44.00
233	Beetley & East Bilney Parochial Church Council	Donation-replacement cheque	150.00

11. Correspondence received for circulation.

The following correspondence would be circulated.

- 11.1 **NWT Report on Beetley Common.**
- 11.2 **Clerks and Councils Direct January 2020.**
- 11.3 **Card from Resident.**

12. Matters for the Next Meeting.

There were no matters raised for the next meeting.

14. Date of the next Parish Council Meeting.

This was confirmed as Thursday 5 March 2020 at 7.30p.m. to be held at Beetley and East Bilney Village Hall.

The meeting closed at 2138 hours.