

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD FOR BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY IN THE
VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 5th MAY 2022 AT 7.30 P.M.**

Present Councillor S. Boyce (Chair initially)
Councillor L. Cissell (New Chair)
Councillor R. Richmond
Councillor T. Scott

In attendance: Clerk A. Leigh, RFO L. Jarrett
District Councillor R. Atterwill
3 members of the public

Prior to the meeting commencing The current Chair asked for permission of the Parish Councillors to re co-opt Laura Cissell back onto the Parish Council (Laura had resigned 2 days earlier and there is no procedure for rescinding a resignation other than to re-elect.. A vacancy already existed . This proposal was proposed by Councillor Richmond and Seconded by Councillor Scott, all were in agreement. The Chair welcomed Councillor Cissell back onto the Parish Council, the acceptance of office was signed.

1. Election of Chair and the signing of Office.

Councillor Boyce previously indicated his wish to stand down from chair it was proposed by Councillor Scott and seconded by Councillor Richmond that Councillor Cissell became the new chair it was agreed by all. The acceptance of office was signed.

2. Election of Vice-Chair and signing of Office.

It was proposed by Councillor Richmond and seconded by Councillor Cissell that Councillor Boyce is Vice Chair and agreed by all. The acceptance of Office was signed.

3. To consider apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Councillor MacArthur (holiday) and Councillor Baldwin (work commitment). County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris These were accepted.

4. To receive declarations of Pecuniary Interests.

None.

5. To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7th April 2022.

Proposed by Councillor Richmond and seconded by Councillor Scott all were in favour.

6. Budgets as circulated.

6.1. Balances and cheques for authorisation.

These were circulated prior to the meeting by the RFO and were proposed by Councillor Boyce and seconded by Councillor Richmond all were in favour.

7. To Confirm the Councillors responsibilities for:-

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| 7.1. Planning. | Councillor Boyce |
| 7.2. Deputy Planning | To be decided. |
| 7.3. Beetley River Meadows Grass Cutting and safety inspections at Play area. | Councillor Scott |
| 7.4. Bottle bank | To be decided |
| 7.5. Footpaths | To be decided |
| 7.6. Community Car Co-ordinator Leigh | Angela |
| 7.7. Inspection of Sports Pavilion | Councillor Scott |
| 7.8. Defibrillator Inspection | To be decided |
| 7.9. Website | Councillor Boyce |
| | Patricia Williams |

8. To Confirm the Deputy Community Car Co-ordinator

9. To confirm the internal auditor 2022/2023

The RFO reported that the internal auditor, Robin Goreham had done a good job at short notice for the Parish Council this year and recommends him for next year also. This was proposed by Councillor Boyce and seconded by Councillor Scott all were in favour.

10. To confirm the signatories for the Barclays bank account.

Following the length of time for changing signatories it was decided by all that the three signatories remain as Councillor Boyce, Councillor Richmond and Councillor Baldwin. All were in agreement.

11. Public Participation.

11.1. To receive a report from County and District Councillors.

Councillor Atterwill reported that Breckland Council were happy if the Parish Council wishes to raise the mileage rate for Community Car drivers however, Councillor Boyce asked this be checked with the Inland Revenue. Councillor Atterwill also reported that Breckland Council are going to review the Community Car Scheme. Finally, he reported that there was to be a review of local bus services in the future. Councillor Boyce asked him to consider a bus route from Beetley Parish villages to Fakenham as the Parish is at the North end of Breckland and near to Fakenham which has excellent bus connections to the Coast.

11.2. Public Comments.

None.

12. Matters for Report.

12.1. To receive a report from the SNAP meeting.

Councillor Richmond reported he had attended the meeting and was pleased that speeding in rural areas and villages was to be the number one priority for the Police for the next quarter.

12.2. Report from Councillor Cissell on the Mindful Towns training.

Councillor Cissell attended this 2 day course and received certification as a mental health first aider and agreed to this being put on the Parish Website for Parishioners to contact her if they need help and she will signpost them to other agencies.

12.3. Update on the installation of the Old Beetley dog bin.

The Clerk reported that Councillor MacArthur with the help of a Parishioner had erected the dog bin in Old Beetley at the agreed location.

12.4. Councillor Boyce Reported that between meetings he had been approached by Brisley and Gateley parishes to join them in their celebrations of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations and he agreed in the knowledge that there was nothing at present had been scheduled for Beetley Parish. Thursday 2nd June at the Brisley Bell a bonfire free tickets available on eventbrite. Friday 3rd Brisley Common display of old cars and tractors, games and celebrations and a cricket match all free. Food will be available from 13.00 to 20.00 at the Cricket club. Sunday 5th June at Brisley Village Hall "The Big Lunch" 12.30 to 15.30 – Bring a Chair and Food to Share but again sign up at eventbrite so numbers can be planned.

13. Beetley Parish Council Website.

Councillor MacArthur had been approached by Parishioners regarding difficulties in getting to the Parish Council website. Councillor Boyce explained they should have no difficulty if the correct website address is used. Which is www.beetleypc.wixsite.com/beetleypc This is advertised on all the Parish notice boards and each month in The Linkup magazine. Sadly because we had an old website which NALC will not remove people do get directed there if they do a Google search. The longer the website exists and more people use it the higher up the hierarchy the website will be listed. If the Parish Council wanted it could pay for a private website at a cost of £100 per annum however, in the current financial climate it is not necessary.

14. Highways

14.1. Report on Highway Matters from the Clerk.

The Clerk reported that she had been in contact with County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris regarding several matters outstanding including the flashing 20 mph sign on Fakenham Road near the School car park being obscured by the overhanging tree. It has been reported to the Clerk that letters have been sent to the tree/property owner from Norfolk County Council Highways. (these matters take some time to resolve).

14.2. New Highway problems within the Parish.

Councillor Richmond reported pot holes in Fludges Lane and was asked to report these directly onto the Norfolk Highways site. He agreed to do this as he knew the exact location of the pot hole. He will report back to the Clerk to confirm.

14.3. To Receive reports on footpaths.

Councillor Boyce reported that footpaths 18 & 19 were all fine, although a little wet. Councillor Richmond reported that his paths were all ok.. Councillor MacArthur reported that paths 11 & 13 were ok but that footpath 12 was still missing the signpost. Councillor Scott reported that footpaths 14 & 15 were OK and his grandson reported that there were no trolls, however Councillor Boyce reported that Fairies or Pixies were now living in the Bilney Townland woods as evidenced by a door at the bottom of a tree.

15. Planning Applications.

15.1.1 3PL/2022/0382/EU. Lakeside East Bilney the lawful development of the loft of the double garage into a safe contained flat. This is an existing property that the new owner is declaring and wishing to make lawful. Although this is outside of the settlement boundary it has existed for at least 12 years and therefore. It was proposed that an objection is made on the grounds that it is outside of the settlement boundary but acknowledge that it has been lived in for a period of years. Proposed by Councillor Boyce and seconded by Councillor Richmond all were in agreement.

15.1.2. 3DC/2022/0095/DOC. Little Oaks 15 Elmham Road Beetley discharge of condition 5. Councillor Boyce explained that condition 5 was regarding the new driveway between 2 large Oaks whereby it was agreed that a driveway could be installed as long as there was no digging or damage to the roots. This discharge requests that the contractor be allowed to dig to a depth of 300 mm (approx. 1 foot). The Breckland Tree Officer has objected and as a Parish Council it is proposed that no dig means no dig!. This was proposed by Councillor Boyce and seconded by Councillor Richmond all were in agreement.

15.1.3. 3PL/2022/0405/HOU. Laburnum House Fakenham Road East Bilney addition of a non-fenestrated Dormer to side elevation. Councillor Boyce explained that this was a non-windowed dormer and that the rooflights were to remain in place in the roof of the dormer. This dwelling is a new dwelling and is outside of the settlement boundary and it is a shame that such considerations were not made at the initial planning stage. The objection to this was proposed by Councillor Boyce and seconded by Councillor Richmond all were in agreement.

15.1.4. 3PL/2022/0397/VAR. Peacock Farm Peacock Lane , Beetley. Removal of condition 9 to allow the building to be used as permanent dwelling independent of the main barn. Councillor Boyce indicated that the removal of condition 9 made the holiday unit into a permanent separate dwelling and showed on the plans that a large tree would also be lost. Councillor Boyce proposed that there is an objection to the removal of condition 9 and hope that Breckland Council notices that the plans, if passed, include the removal of a large tree. This was seconded by Councillor Richmond and all were in favour.

15.1.5. 3DC/2022/0075/DOC The Shrublands Gressenhall Road Beetley discharge of conditions 3 and 12 on 3PL/2020/1392/F. Councillor Boyce explained that condition 3 meant that the Contractors, prior to building, should submit full drawings to include all the building materials and finishes. These have been supplied and the buildings look very good and appropriate for their setting. Condition 12 relates to environmental surveys and Breckland Environmental department does not seem to be happy with the Contractors surveys as supplied. There were previously 2 oil tanks on site 1 for domestic heating oil and 1 for red diesel for the farm machinery. Although the Contractors environmental surveys show there was no spillage/seepage or residual oil on the ground Breckland do not feel this is the case. Breckland Council also has hearsay knowledge that there may be asbestos buried on the site and again this does not show in the environmental survey. Councillor Boyce proposes that condition 3 has been met however, objects to condition 12's removal, therefore proposes that the Parish Council objects to this application. This was seconded by Councillor Richmond and all were in favour.

15.2. Enforcement matters. Councillor Boyce outlined that there had been complaints regarding the large shutter/balcony in The Warehouse (East Bilney Barns). He has taken this matter to Breckland Council enforcement team and they are looking into the complaint.

15.3. Breckland Local Plan . Call for sites. The Parish Council has received notification that Breckland Council is looking for potential development/housing sites within its boundaries. Parish Councils have been asked for proposed sites. This seems to be a backwards way of creating a development plan for the area.

16. Beetley River Meadows.

16.1. To receive a report on the area.

Councillor Scott reported that all was well, bins are being emptied and the equipment has been checked by the installers and they have provided him with a new tool. He also reported how successful the opening ceremony was and so well attended with such good weather. He reports that the play area is in great use and often has little helpers at his safety checks.

16.2. To note the date of the RoSPA safety inspection.

The Clerk informed the Councillors that the RoSPA inspection was scheduled for June 2022.

16.3. Pre-School Duck Race May 8th. The Clerk has informed the grass cutters to prepare the River Bank as per usual.

17. Open Spaces.

17.1. To Receive a report and note any problems. The Clerk reported that she had been informed that there was a tree down at Beetley Common and Ady's Woodcutting services will deal with it.

17.2. To Receive a report on East Bilney Townlands. Councillor Boyce requested permission to remove the old plastic tree protectors from the trees which were planted several years ago. This was agreed by all.

18. Parish Council matters.

18.1. To agree for Councillor Cissell to attend NPTS planning training. This matter was not discussed as it was no longer required and would be discussed when a deputy planning officer was appointed.

18.2. To agree a contract of employment for the RFO as previously circulated. This was proposed by Councillor Richmond and agreed by all.

19. Correspondence. The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from a Parishioner regarding parking of vehicles on the trod causing pedestrians to have to walk on the road way on Fakenham Road East Bilney. This letter was also shared with the Community Police unit.

20. Matters for the next meeting. Equal Opportunity Policy, AGAR end of year finances, Give Way sign Old Beetley, Footpath allocation and Councillors roles.

21. To confirm that the next meeting of Beetley Parish Council will be held on Thursday 9th June 2022 at 7.30 pm in Beetley Village hall. (N.B. change of date due to the Jubilee).

Meeting closed at 21.10.

Signed as a true and accurate record by the Chair on 9th June 2022.