

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD FOR BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY IN THE
VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 7th March 2024. AT 7.30 P.M.**

Present

Councillor R. Richmond (Chair)
Councillor J. Billings
Councillor P. Minchin.
Councillor M. MacArthur.

In Attendance

A .Leigh. Clerk
R. Wade. RFO
1 Member of the Public.
District Councillor Roger Atterwill
County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris

1. **To Consider apologies for absence.** Councillor Baldwin, District Councillor Richard Duffield. These were accepted.
2. **To receive Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.** None received.
3. **To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 01/02/2024.** It was proposed by Councillor MacArthur that the minutes were true and accurate, it was seconded by Councillor Minchin, all were in agreement.
4. **Finance.**
 - 4.1. **Budgets as circulated.** It was proposed by Councillor Richmond and seconded by Councillor Billings that the budgets as circulated were in order, all were in agreement.
 - 4.2. **Balances and cheques for authorisation as circulated.** Malcolm MacArthur £234, Dereham Cancer Care donation £40, Clerks salary £483.12 (February), Clerks annual expenses £373.80, Ady's Wood Splitting Services Ltd., £960, NPTS Annual subscription £241.50, HMRC £151.60, RFO salary £123.80 (February), RFO Annual expenses £105.44, Mrs A. Leigh £92.60 (B.C.C. drivers, payments February), ICO subscription d/d £35, EON (January & February) d/d £24.76. It was proposed by Councillor Billings and seconded by Councillor Minchin, that these were correct, all were in agreement.
 - 4.3. **To note the letter from Barclays was signed on the 5th February 2024 to transfer the outstanding cheque of the closed Beetley Charity account to the Parish Council account until a new Beetley Charity account is opened.** This is still outstanding awaiting the return of the cheque to the RFO. It has been confirmed by Councillor Baldwin that the Beetley Fuel allotment Charity is at present still open. The RFO suggested that the cheque signatories should contact the bank and request the opening of online banking. The RFO will forward details of the current account to Councillor Baldwin and Councillor MacArthur. It was agreed that the RFO would contact Councillor Baldwin when she had returned from holiday and ask if she would be happy to spear head this.
 - 4.4. **Update on the Charity Accounts.** The Charity Commission requires confirmation of the amalgamation of the Fuel Allotment charity and the Beetley Charity. The RFO will take this forward.
 - 4.5. **To agree that the internal auditor for the Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2024/2025 (AGAR) will be Robin Gorham.** Councillor Richmond proposed and Councillor Minchin seconded that this be agreed, all were in agreement.
5. **Breckland Local Plan.** Councillor Billings has completed the survey sent from Breckland Council. There is no further update regarding the Local Plan at present.
6. **Reports from County and District Councillors. Public Participation.**
 - 6.1. **To receive reports from County and District Councillors.** County Councillor Mark Kiddle – Morris had sent his report to the Clerk, the Clerk had forwarded it onto all Councillors. District Councillor Roger Atterwill informed the meeting that the Breckland budget had been passed and the Breckland Council tax portion is increased to £4.95 for a band D property. He also informed the meeting that "The direction of Travel" had been agreed by the Overview and Scrutiny committee. The information regarding Breckland's Eco 4 Flex system which he had passed to the Parish

Council recently he had posted onto the Beetley Face book page. Several Parishioners had contacted him regarding a hard standing for a caravan having been constructed on the land at School Road Old Beetley. He had passed this onto the Breckland Council enforcement team, they have powers of entry onto the site to discuss with the land owners. UK Power network officers are to attend the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting at the end of the month to discuss the maintenance plans they have in place. Councillor Atterwill was informed that there are quad bikes racing near Old Hall Farm / Folly Lane . District Councillor Atterwill requested specific details which he would then pass onto Breckland's Safer Neighbourhood team for them to look into, he stated that this would be a slow process.

6.2. Public comments. There were no Public comments.

7. Matters for report

7.1. Breckland Mobile Food Store. No further update.

7.2. Speedwatch Beetley. The Clerk read out the report which the Beetley Speedwatch Co-ordinator had sent. There was only one Speedwatch session on the Elmham Road during February due to the very cold and wet weather conditions. Two vehicles were recorded above the limit the highest being 36 mph. It is hoped to resume more sessions in March. Councillor Richmond informed the meeting that he had attended the recent SNAP meeting which was well attended but there were no " 3 Criteria's" put into place at this meeting.

7.3. Old Beetley Flooding update. Councillor MacArthur reported that there had been an improvement regarding the flooding issue on School Road since the pigs had been moved back further up the field but it would continue to be monitored by the Parishioners. The flooding at the junction of Holt Road/Hall Road/ Sorrel lane Councillor MacArthur had requested that County Councillor Mark-Kiddle Morris takes forward with NCC Highways and that they put in writing that the ditches are the responsibility of the residents/landowners and not NCC Highways

7.4. Litter Pick request B 1145 Fakenham Road. The Clerk had received confirmation that the litter pick had taken place on the 13th February and 5 bags of litter had been collected.

8. Highways.

8.1. Clerk to give feedback on ongoing Highway problems. The Clerk informed the meeting that the request for the verge encroachment on Fakenham Road High House Road junction and the School Road junction is to be dealt with. This was requested last November and still no action had been taken. County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris will take this forward with Highways. The repair to the bridge on Fakenham Road East Bilney is still waiting repair. The pothole on Beech Road Beetley has been repaired.

8.2. To note any new problems within the Parish. None reported.

8.3. To receive a report from all Councillors on the footpaths. Councillor Richmond stated that all footpaths are very muddy due to the heavy rainfalls, but his are ok. Councillor Minchin had not been able to walk his due to his health at present. Councillor MacArthur reported that at the junction of footpaths 11 and 13 new waymakers had been installed but the old the waymarker post which had rotted was laying on the ground County Councillor Mark Kiddle – Morris made a note of this and will take it forward, all of the other footpaths were satisfactory. Councillor Billings stated all his were ok other than the 2 planks of wood which are over the stream on footpath CRP1 are now virtually under the water.

8.4. Parish Partnership Scheme update. N.C.C. Highways will inform the Clerk in the next 2 weeks if the bid has been accepted.

9. Planning.

Applications.

9.1. 3PL/2024/0105/HOU Peacock Farm Annexe Peacock Lane Beetley. Proposed front and rear extensions to residential annexe. It was proposed by Councillor Richmond and seconded by Councillor Billings that no objection is raised. All were in agreement.

9.2. 3NM/2024/0009/HOU 6 Fakenham Road Beetley. Amendments to pp 3PL/2023/0683/HOU Moving of first floor window in bedroom 3. Cantilevered open porch area rather than corner post within existing footprint. (Non Mat Minor Amend). It was proposed by Councillor Minchin and seconded by Councillor Billings that no objection is raised. All were in agreement.

Decisions by Breckland Council.

9.3 3PL/2023/1132/HOU 16 Elmham Road Beetley. Proposed loft extension including Juliet balcony and raising of roof, removal of chimney and installation of flue. Removal of existing conservatory, construction of new two storey side extension and associated alterations. Proposed dormer windows to front elevation. **APPROVED.**

9.4. 3CM/2024/0001/CM : FUL/2023/0029 Land to the South of Field Lane East Bilney. Extension to Quarry with installation of a ground conveyor with culvert to accommodate the Conveyor. **APPROVED.**

9.5. 3CM/2024/0002/CM East Bilney Quarry, Rawhall Lane East Bilney. 4HH: Variation of Conditions 1,2,3 and 4 of planning permission C/3/2010/3028/ to extend the period of time for the completion of operations and to adopt revised bunding for the Quarry extension and revised bunding for the Quarry extension and revised restoration phasing for the original Quarry (Application under s. 73 to allow the continued operations without compliance with conditions Nos. 1,2, & 20 of planning permission Ref. C/3/*2014/3019 to allow a further 11 years to complete operations and restoration) **Middleton Aggregates Ltd., APPROVED.**

Decisions by Norfolk County Council.

9.6. 3CM/2024/0003/CM : FUL/2023/0031 East Bilney Quarry, Rawhall Lane East Bilney. Installation of ground conveyor with culvert to accommodate the conveyor to allow the continued operation of the conveyor (Application under s.73 to allow the continued operation of the conveyor without complying with condition Nos. 1,2,3,7,9,10,11,12,13,23,24 and 25 of Planning Permission Ref C/3/2014/3018 for further 11 years including the use of the conveyor culvert, use of the access from Field Lane, and restoration) **Middleton Aggregates Ltd., APPROVED.**

9.7. FUL/2022/0021 New sand and gravel quarry on agricultural land South of Rawhall Lane Beetley. Longwater Gravel Company Ltd.,- Mr Simon Smith. **APPROVED.**

10. Beetley River Meadows.

10.1. Monthly Play Equipment inspections. Councillor Billings reported that he had carried out the February inspection and there were two pieces of equipment needing a minor repair which he he could do. The Beetley River Meadows sign on Beech Road requires a new backboard as it is rotting. Councillor Billings will deal with this. The inspection sheets were passed to the Clerk to file.

10.2. Beetley and District Pre-School Duck Race. The Clerk had informed the Pre-School that the Council was in agreement for the Annual Duck Race to take place. The Clerk informed them of an incident with a BBQ last year and that signs had been placed at all entrances stating no open fires or BBQ's are allowed. The Pre-School have always had a gas BBQ at the Duck Race which generates a good income therefore they requested that this could be used again this year. There are always fire extinguishers present and they offered to carry out a fire risk assessment. There was a short discussion held and it was agreed that they could use the BBQ and a fire risk assessment is carried out prior to the event. The Clerk will inform the Pre-School of this decision.

11. Parish Council matters.

11.1. Inspections :- Pavilion, Defibrillator. Councillor MacArthur reported that the Pavilion had been inspected and a new stop cock fitted, he would purchase some insulation for the pipes which had inadequate insulation. He also reported that the Defibrillator had been checked and was in good working order.

11.2. Biodiversity duty update. Councillor MacArthur is progressing a Policy.

11.3. Breckland Local Validation List (LVL). The Clerk had forwarded the details on this to all Councillors. It was agreed not to respond to this.

12. Matters for next meeting (not for discussion). No matters were identified.

13. To confirm the next meeting of Beetley Parish Council will be held on Thursday 4th April 2024 at 7.30 p.m. in Beetley Village Hall High House Road Beetley.

The meeting closed at 20.42.

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

Date signed.....