

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD FOR BEETLEY & EAST BILNEY IN THE
VILLAGE HALL ON THURSDAY 5th October 2023 AT 7.30 P.M.**

Present

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

In Attendance

A. Leigh. Clerk
R. Wade. RFO
District Councillor Richard Duffield
1 Member of the Public.

1. **To Consider apologies for absence.** County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris – ill health, District Councillor Roger Atterwill. All were accepted.
2. **To receive Declarations of Pecuniary Interest.** None.
3. **To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 07/09/2023.** It was proposed by Councillor Minchin that the minutes were true and accurate, it was seconded by Councillor Baldwin. All were in agreement, Councillor Billings abstained (as not at that meeting)
4. **Finance.**
 - 4.1. **Budgets as circulated.** It was proposed by Councillor Baldwin and seconded by Councillor MacArthur that the budgets as circulated were in order, all were in agreement.
 - 4.2. **Balances and cheques for authorisation as circulated.** EON August direct debit £12.79, Mrs A. Leigh (B.C.C. drivers payments) £134.75, Clerks salary £451.92, R.F.O. salary £115.80, HMRC £141.80, Terry Scott (signs for Beetley River Meadows) £76.36, Electronic Office Solutions direct debit £17.23, NGF Play (new surface for nest swing Beetley River Meadows) £1524.60, F.T. Grounds Maintenance (September grass cut) £309.35, British Legion Poppy Appeal (Poppy Wreath and donation) £40.00.
 - 4.3. **Barclays bank account update** The R.F.O. had prepared a letter to be sent to Barclays bank for the address of the account to be changed to her home address. Councillor MacArthur proposed and Councillor Minchin seconded that this was in order. All were in agreement. Councillor Richmond and Councillor Baldwin signed the letter.
 - 4.4. **Charity Commission / Charity accounts update.** The RFO reported that the CCLA had received the new mandate with the two charities amalgamated on it and she is now the main point of contact. Her address is also now the correspondence address.
 - 4.5. **Update on the amalgamation of the Beetley Fuel Allotment Charity and the Beetley Charity.** There was a short discussion on this and it was proposed by Councillor Minchin and seconded by Councillor MacArthur that the amalgamation should take place. All were in agreement. The R.F.O is to take this forward.
5. **Reports from County and District Councillors. Public Participation.**
 - 5.1. **To receive reports from County and District Councillors.** There had been no report received from County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris. District Councillor Richard Duffield informed the meeting that Breckland Council are holding several Road Shows about the Breckland Local Plan. Councillor Billings will attend the 17th October show which is between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Tuesday 17th October at Dereham Market Place Dereham and will report back at the November meeting. District Councillor Duffield felt that the interest rate is now having an effect on house building which will possibly affect the work force in being out of work.
 - 5.2. **Public comments.** There were no public comments received.
6. **Matters for report.**
 - 6.1. **Breckland Mobile Food Store.** No further information had been received.
 - 6.2. **Speedwatch Beetley.** The Clerk had received a report from the Beetley Speedwatch Co-ordinator stating that two sessions in September had been held covering Fakenham Road and Elmham Road. Thirteen vehicles were recorded at the limit and above with some ten

percent of vehicles on Elmham Road recorded the highest speed as 45 mph on Fakenham Road and 39 mph on Elmham Road. The Safety Camera team had been in the Parish

6.3. Councillor J. Billings-Councillor induction course 7&14 September. Councillor Billings reported he had attended the 7th September part of the course but was unable to attend the 14th September part but had been emailed the information. He felt the training was very informative. He has a print out on "Material Planning Considerations" which he will circulate to all Councillors. It was agreed that 3 of the Parish Council noticeboards will display the monthly agenda. Beech Road Beetley, Church Road Old Beetley and East Bilney at the junction of Fakenham Road and Hall Road. The Clerk will email them to Councillor Billings who will place the agenda on the Beetley and East Bilney noticeboards and to Councillor MacArthur will place the agenda on the Old Beetley noticeboard. This will commence with the November agenda.

6.4. Pre-School update. The Clerk reported that she had contacted County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris to enquire if he had received any further update regarding the Pre-School being able to re-locate to the Gressenhall Museum site. He had not heard anymore but would chase the request. District Councillor Atterwill had informed the Clerk that Breckland Council did not own any land in Beetley Parish so would not be able to assist the Pre-School in their relocation.

7. Highways.

7.1. Clerk to give feedback on ongoing Highway problems. The Clerk informed the meeting that she had been in contact with County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris concerning the following outstanding issues. The extension of Yellow lines Elmham Road Beetley, a Parishioner had requested these and a response is still awaited from the Highway Engineer. Verge cutting in Old Beetley requested by Councillor MacArthur, the previous information received was that this would be cut at the end of September, it is still outstanding. Signage to East Bilney Lakes café fixed to N.C.C. Highway posts, one still remains after been given assurance all would be removed. Verge cutting on Sorrell Lane Old Beetley, a Parishioner had requested this and no response to date had been received. The overgrown footpath on Fakenham Road Beetley, this was requested to be cut back and after being informed by Highways that the whole length would be too costly to clear the Clerk had responded with a specific area which was the worse part, still no response or action to this request had been received.

7.2. To note any new problems within the Parish. No new problems raised.

7.3. To receive a report from all Councillors on the footpaths. The Clerk informed the meeting that the tree roots on the pathway at the end of the School playing field had been shaved down. Whilst this was being carried out several residents commented that it was a great improvement. Councillor Minchin reported that footpaths 17 and 18 were ok. Councillor MacArthur stated all satisfactory other than footpaths 11 and 13, missing Way marker and the landowner had not cut the footpath in the correct alignment. These issues are currently been dealt with by the Highways Countryside Officer. Councillor Billings reported that CRB1 was ok FP3 had no visible Way marker the Clerk would inform the Highways Country side Officer. FP4 had a gate which was overgrown with brambles and that he would cut them back when he next walks the path. Councillor Richmond reported that FP5,FP6,FP7 were satisfactory.

7.4. Parish Partnership Scheme bids -2024/2025.SAM 2 update. The Clerk informed the meeting that the Parish Councils enquiry for Speed bumps to be placed on Elmham Road would not be possible. The Councillors agreed that the cost of a SAM2 sign outweighed the return it would give. The Highways engineer suggested 2 Slow signs to be painted on Elmham Road one each side of the road near to the School. The clerk was waiting an estimate for these, it will be discussed further at the November meeting when agreement for any bid needs to be made to meet the timescale for the bids to be submitted.

8. Minerals and Waste submission plan-update. County Councillor Mark Kiddle-Morris had informed the Clerk that the next scheduled meeting of the committee to discuss the quarry application is 24th November 2023. He would keep the Clerk updated .

9. Planning.

Applications.

9.1. No applications had been received.

Decisions by Breckland Council.

9.2. 3PL/2023/0683/HOU 6 Fakenham Road Beetley. Single storey side extension and the raising of the roof at the rear (flat roof). **APPROVED.**

9.3. TRE/2023/0206/TPO 5 Birch Avenue Beetley. T1&T2 Oak-reduce to a radius of not less than 7m over garage and garden (Tree work App TPO) **APPROVED.**

Appeal to the Planning Inspectorate.

9.4. APP/F2605/W/23/3326947- 3PL/2023/0367/F Land off Elmham Road Beetley. Erection of 10 no. Holiday Cabins with associated facilities. The Clerk had forward the Parish Councils objection to the Planning Inspectorate.

Appeal decision by the Planning inspectorate.

9.5. APP/F2605/W/22/3304562-3PL/2022/0256/O Harebells School Road Beetley. **DISMISSED.**

10. Beetley River Meadows.

10.1. Monthly play equipment inspections. Councillor Minchin reported the fencing on the Basketball/Football area was still awaiting repair. The Clerk had chased the Contractor regarding this.

10.2. RoSPA 2023 report update. It had been confirmed by NGF that the new surfacing for the Bird Nest swing was guaranteed for 5 years, but not against discolouration. Councillor Billings stated that there were several pieces of chippings of the surfacing outside of the play area, possibly where the contractor had emptied the chippings prior to being laid. There was not enough to report this to the contractor. As previously discussed the repair to the fencing and gates is still outstanding. The Clerk will chase again.

10.3. No BBQ's/Open Fires signage update. Councillor Billings had fixed the signs to all of the entrances to the Meadows and placed the one for the "Beach" area and the one for the Picnic Bench area onto posts.

11. Open spaces.

11.1. To receive a report and note any problems. Councillor Minchin raised the issue of a recent bonfire which had been held in a Parishioners garden It was very pungent and had created a lot of dark smoke. Issues such as this should be reported to Breckland Council's Environmental Services as anti-social behaviour.

12. Parish Council matters.

12.1. Inspections:- Pavilion : Defibrillator. Councillor MacArthur reported that the lock on the Pavilion is working ok .He had reported at the last meeting the stop cock would not turn and required a replacement. The Clerk would place an order onto Duffield Builders to carry out this work. The Water Meter had now been located and photographs are to be taken so it can be found when vegetation has covered it. Councillor MacArthur will place a sign inside the Pavilion asking all keyholders to contact the Clerk as the lock may be being changed. The defibrillator is in order.

12.2. Beech Tree "The Patch" Old Beetley. Councillor MacArthur had discussed the removal of the Beech tree with Ady's Woodcutting Services. It was agreed he would contact Ady again later in the month when the leaves had fallen.

13. Matters for next meeting (not for discussion). Parish Partnership bid. A dog control order for Beetley River Meadows.

14. To confirm the next meeting of Beetley Parish Council will be held on Thursday 2nd November 2023 at 7.30 p.m. in Beetley Village Hall High House Road Beetley.

The meeting closed at 20.48.

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

Date signed.....