

Page 35 (2018/19)

Minutes of a meeting of **Blakeney Parish Council** which was held on **Tuesday 3rd July 2018** in the Parish Office, commencing at 7.00pm.

Present:- Rosemary Thew (Chairman), Jenny Girling (Vice-Chairman), Edward Hackford, Shirley Everett, Neil Thompson & Nigel Sutcliffe, also District Cllr, Karen Ward.

Clerk:- Tracey Bayfield

Public:-1

1. Apologies for Absence – were received & accepted from; Jess Tutt (*away*), Samantha Arlow (*unwell*), Alban Donohoe (*work*), & Barry Girling (*work*). Also, County Cllr, Dr. Marie Strong and PC Jason Pegden.

The Chairman also took the opportunity to **welcome** our newest member, Nigel Sutcliffe, having signed his declaration of acceptance of office.

2. Declaration of Interest – Nigel Sutcliffe, declared a pecuniary interest in item no. 8.1. as the applicant.

3. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that the **Minutes** of the Full Council meeting dated Tuesday 5th June 2018 are signed as a true record.

4. Wells Police (Safer Neighbourhood Team) – no general report received.

5. There were no **Chairman's Announcements**.

6. COUNCILLOR REPORTS –

6.1. **County Councillor** - Dr. Marie Strong had submitted the following report in her absence.

Question ref School Buses - Questions have been raised with me as to whether adults have been making use of School buses and I have obtained the following answer from NCC's Travel and Transport section:

Thank you for the information, it's not uncommon for us to provide transport on registered services that are open to the public. This happens in Norfolk and across the country.

Home to school transport can be provided in this way under current school transport policy, and also goes some way to supporting the bus network. If the policy was to change and students were all required to travel on closed contracts, the subsidised local bus budget (which has shrunk from 8m to 3m over the past 10 years) would need further funding to support the network or we would see commercial services withdrawn as a result.

Page 36 (2018/19)

I can understand the concern of some parents but students have been transported on public services for quite some time and even more so in urban areas. Generally this is more of an option for high school students not primary.

Wells Recycling Centre - I know many people from Blakeney use Wells Recycling Centre some of whom have picked up concerns to which I have obtained a detailed response copied below from our Head of Waste. I would add that I have continued to work with this officer in respect of a possible 'Reuse Shop' – this is where useful products left at the Recycling Centre are checked for safety etc and can then be offered for sale. You may have come across these shops at some of the larger centres and they have proved very welcome by users.

My thanks for passing on concerns to me. I can confirm that the throughput at Wells Recycling Centre has dropped in the last two months, down by an average of around 18 tonnes a month compared to the same period last year, so the information about there being a drop off is correct. This is a pattern we have seen recently across the network of sites we provide and was expected as a part of the effect of the policy change, although it is clear that in April the weather also had an effect. We know this because the tonnage of garden waste was down this April by around 6.5 tonnes compared to April last year at the Wells site and that is a pattern we have seen across the network and has been seen in Suffolk too.

To address the concern the County Council understands how much these services are valued and appreciated by householders, and to underline that point the County Council has stated that these recent changes were in clear preference to closing sites or reducing hours further at any sites. It is also worth pointing out that in these recent changes we have ensured that Wells can now accept larger volumes of construction and demolition waste – so where previously local residents would have had to visit Hempton to pay for disposal of larger volumes they are now able to use the site at Wells which will hopefully provide a more convenient and competitive alternative option for residents in the Wells area. I hope you can relay that development on to others who may not be aware of this improvement, as well as extending the reassurance that the site still accepts all household items for free – things such as fridges, sofas, electrical items, furniture, recyclables and garden waste etc – more information is on this link if that is useful:

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/rubbish-recycling-and-planning/rubbish-and-recycling/types-of-waste-we-accept>

In terms of bin changes on site I've now looked in to the detail of this issue on the 2nd and 3rd of June and whilst it is a situation we try to avoid on these occasions it was a case of need. This was because the bins provided earlier were full, meaning that they needed to be replaced to allow the service to continue in the way we aim to provide it, and the only way to do this safely for customers is to clear the site for a short period. That said I have raised this as an operational issue and the transport arrangements will be planned to try and avoid the most popular site times where at all possible, for example avoiding the times just after a site is open or close to closing time. I can't promise that will always be the case, for instance sometimes regulations that control driver hours may sometimes need an action has to be taken

Page 37 (2018/19)

at a particular time and can't be delayed, but at least you know it is a situation we will actively seek to avoid.

- ***Agreed*** that we raise our concerns with our County Cllr, over the size of the Coasthopper buses, which are trying to wind their way along our narrow and busy coastal roads. We understand that it is now too big to get off the road at Morston, and where it meets other large vehicles at places like Stiffkey, and on the bends by the river at Stiffkey etc, there is very much a danger to those on the bus and other road users. The buses simply too large and thus make it unsafe for the roads on which they are travelling. Why have they gone for bigger buses?

6.2. **District Councillor** – Karen Ward gave the following update.

There were a couple of matters arising from last month;

- Clarification on the use of the cinema at Blakeney garage - use as a private space for showing car related films and not intended for public viewings.
- The total amount collected in Council Tax from second homes in Blakeney Parish in 17/18 was £322,039.47. This amount is made up of four different elements: County Council; Police & Crime Commissioner; NNDC and Parish. Each layer of local government receives its share. As you know Blakeney Parish Council receives the Parish precept element.
- There appears to be some confusion about the funding of NNDCs Big Society Fund. This is a separate issue to the sharing of Council tax funds in general, as explained above. NCC has historically returned a portion of the it's share of second homes Council Tax to NNDC (although this is the last year this will happen) and NNDC has chosen to use this money to fund the Big Society grants.
- In other news, a new service called Social Prescribing has been launched at NNDC with funding from central government. Specialist case workers have been employed to work with vulnerable residents who need practical help with day to day living. This is targeted at residents who may have needs which do not require interventions from statutory bodies like adult social care, but who nonetheless need support to live healthy and productive lives. Details on how to access this support are available on NNDC website if you know any local residents who might benefit.

7. **OPEN PUBLIC SESSION** – Not required.

8. **PLANNING** – PF = Full Planning Permission, PM = Planning Permission – Reserved Matters, LA = Alteration to Listed Building.

Page 38 (2018/19)

- 8.1. Application no. **PF/18/1066** – *Proposal; Erection of detached timber outbuilding at, **Dallinga, 71 Morston Road, Blakeney***. Members had ***no objection***.
- 8.2. Members were in receipt of information regarding the North Norfolk Local Plan: **Protecting our Green Space** – There were many errors within this document, some of which have already been conveyed to NNDC and others will be submitted to Mark Ashwell and Iain Withington. Of particular note; the map used is way out of date. The field on Morston Road opposite 'Bliss' on the A149 is not appropriate for development and we feel that the reasoned justification summary is poorly worded. There are so many inconsistencies with regards description of the same piece of land and size. Members found the number of errors to be rather concerning.

9. FINANCE

- 9.1. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that the **Accounts** for the month of June are paid.
- 9.2. The **Clerk/RFO Report** advised of the current Carnser and Coronation Car Park figures and the cashbook figures to date.
- 9.3. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we challenge the negative response to our **Big Society Fund Application** as administered by NNDC as we were extremely disappointed. The Chairman will take this up as well as our District Cllr.

10. TRANSPORT/TRAFFIC RELATED ITEMS & REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

- 10.1. The following **Highway Maintenance Issues** will be raised with the Streetscene (Highway Inspector) asking to be addressed;
 - Potholes – Langham Road by Docs, keeps recurring – Bottom of Back Lane by The Manor Hotel, keeps recurring.
 - Standing Water – Hopefully now addressed, but we would ask that they continue to monitor Saxlingham Road, just off the junction of the A149.
 - Side out carriageway or footway – Continue to monitor the footpath along New Road, which adjoins the boundary hedge to the Playing Field. Also to clear the side of the footpath in Westgate Street, from the A149.
 - Damaged/dirty signs – Signage at the brow of the hill on Morston Road was recently reported, and we would ask if they

could replace the damaged village sign as you enter Blakeney from Langham.

Other items they will consider are; mud on road, and hedge, tree and vegetation encroachments, which affect important highway signage, but at the expense of the property owner.

- 10.2. Neil gave a verbal update/report from our representatives on the **Blakeney Channel Coastal Community Team**.
- 10.3. In addition to having the minutes of the 18th June meeting, Rosemary gave an update on last night's meeting of the **Blakeney Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group** on progress and outcomes in the preparation of said plan. The next public consultation event takes place on 28th July.
- 10.4. Jenny reported that the **Blakeney Village Hall Trust** had met and that the minutes had not yet been circulated. The Clerk asked for copies of the minutes to hold on file.

11. **COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS** – There were none.

12. **CORRESPONDENCE**

12.1. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that the following be approached and asked if they would be happy to assist as per with the deployment of the **Rising Bollards** based on Police/Local intelligence.

Keyholders: All Parish Councillors, Carnser Car Park Attendants, Trevor Leach, Simon Strong, Red House Land, Red Lodge & North Granary homeowners & Red House Land Trustees.

Deployment: All Parish Councillors, Carnser Car Park Attendants, Trevor Leach, Simon Strong, Red House Land Trustees, Red House Land, Red Lodge & North Granary homeowners, Spar Shop, Blakeney Garage, The Kings Arms Public House, Steven Hall, Graham Lubbock, Roy Preston and Tony Faulkner, Roland Goodison & Ed Ewing.

12.2. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that our policy for issuing **Residents Permits** remains unchanged ie; 1) Must be on the electoral roll for Blakeney & 2) Must own only one property, which is a Blakeney property. This is ascertained by way of the NNDC Council Tax form which must be provided upon request by The Clerk. For Coronation Car Park, the criteria includes that the property must be in the High Street, and have no parking of its own.

Page 40 (2018/19)

12.3. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we look to host a free **First Aid Training** event in the village, and will book a suitable venue. This course for community groups is given by the East Anglian Air Ambulance team.

12.4. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we obtain a quote for installing A3 size concrete pads with a metal ring to secure one of the **Trading Sites** in the event of bad weather and tides, this being the one which cannot simply hook up and pull away quickly.

NNDC Planning Decisions Taken & Updates aswell as any Planning Inspectorate Appeals if any are listed below.

- **Application withdrawn no. PF/18/0648 – Proposal;** Demolition of existing dwelling and outbuildings and erection of 7 no. two storey dwellings (2 x 2 bed, 1 x 3 bed, 4 x 4 bed and 1 single storey dwelling (2 bed) associated car parking and modification of existing access at, **Kimberley, New Road, Blakeney.**

Meeting closed at 8.16pm.

Chairman _____