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Minutes of a meeting of **Blakeney Parish Council** which was held on **Tuesday 3rd March 2020** in the Parish Office, commencing at 7.00pm.

Present:- Rosemary Thew (Chairman), Jenny Girling, Samantha Arlow, Jane Armstrong, Shirley Everett, Barry Girling, Edward Hackford, Nigel Sutcliffe, & Iain Wolfe.

Clerk:- Tracey Bayfield

Public:- 5

1. **Apologies for Absence** were received & ***accepted*** from; Alban Donohoe & Jess Tutt. Also District Cllr, Karen Ward.
2. There were no **Declarations of Interest** from members.
3. It was ***resolved*** that the **Minutes** of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 4th February 2020 are signed as a true record.
4. **Guests** – PC Jason Pegden from the **Wells Police (Safer Neighbourhood Team)** was present and reported as follows; The following incidents have been reported since the last meeting – 1 x malicious online behaviour and 1 x blackmail, a couple of outboard thefts from Wells. There are an ever increasing number of scams taking place including phone and online, all persons are asked to be alert and report all scams. The next public open engagement sessions at Wells police station are on 26th March, 15th April and 11th May between 10am and 12 noon, all welcome, no appointment necessary. A lettings company had also advised that oil had been stolen from a property in Back Lane.

5. CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS

- North Norfolk Parish & Town Forum – email circulated following the recent meeting between parishes and NNDC.
- David Long and Clive Warnes have been appointed as the Car Park Attendants by the Personnel Committee for the 2020 season.

6. COUNCILLOR REPORTS –

Cllr Iain Wolfe arrived at this point.

6.1. **County Councillor** - Dr. Marie Strong presented the 3 various versions of the County Boundary proposals with regard the review. (*See item no. 12.1.*) The County Councils preferred option which draws a boundary line between Blakeney and Cley. The NNDC recommendation, which includes Blakeney with Cley and villages up to, but not beyond Weybourne. The Norfolk Liberal Party, preferred option which includes Blakeney with all the coastal villages up to and beyond Sheringham.

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Resolved to make the decision for item no. 12.1. at this point. It is however, recorded below in published agenda order.

6.2. **District Councillor** – Karen Ward had forwarded the following report in her absence.

Parish Casework –

1. We have finally resolved the issue of the lights on the loos on the Quay - they are now only on when needed.
2. The Nest - Environmental Health investigated the light pollution complaints and unfortunately the light was not strong enough for them to have any powers to enforce. They have however spoken to the owners again and asked them to remind their customers to switch off external lights.
3. Hayward Close - following an inspection by Victory, two properties have been served notices to improve the appearance of the frontage and to clear items.
4. Blakeney Garage - enforcement action is ongoing in relation to aspects of the lighting scheme which do not meet with Highways guidance.

District –

1. Second Homes Non-payment of Business Rates - together with other District Councils with high levels of second homes, we have submitted a formal request to the Minister of Housing, Communities and Local Government to revise the current legislation which allows owners of second homes to avoid paying tax locally by registering their home for business rates and then claiming small business rate relief.
2. Airbnb - we have set up a task force to look into the issues related to the number of properties within North Norfolk which are advertised on Airbnb. We have had various complaints including lack of provision for commercial waste collection; non-payment of business rates and lack of planning permission for holiday letting. We need to investigate the scale of the issue.
3. Due to the number of applications for off shore wind farms which are coming through our District, we are actively lobbying Central Government to properly investigate an offshore ring main. The disruption to North Norfolk over the next decade will be significant if the current practice continues. Central Government needs to better co-ordinate the allocation of offshore wind farm licences.
4. Following damage to Splash leisure centre during the recent storms, we are pleased that the structural engineers have found a solution to enable us to keep the existing pool open safely while the construction on the new facility continues. Repair work is ongoing.

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5. Corona virus - no reported cases in Norfolk. Preparations are in progress to respond if cases are notified. The Norfolk Resilience Forum is meeting weekly and will send updates if the situation changes.

National –

Following my work with the RSA Food, Farming & Countryside Commission over the last two years, I have been asked to continue to represent North Norfolk in the next phase of work. In February I attended a workshop on the next phase of work on a Land Use Framework, where we reviewed the learning from Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, who are well ahead of England in this work. I have requested that North Norfolk be considered as one of the English pilot areas given the range of pressures we face here locally. I will circulate the report from the workshop as soon as it is available.

7. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION – 1 member of the public spoke.

- *Concerns over the ever increasing light pollution from properties along Morston Road.*

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

- 8.1. Application no. **PF/20/0139** – Proposal; Ground floor bay window extension and associated alterations at, **The Old Brew House, 119a High Street, Blakeney.** **Resolved – No objection.**
- 8.2. Application no. **PF/20/0155** – Proposal; Replacement ground floor window in south elevation & **LA/20/0156** – Proposal; Internal and external works associated with replacement ground floor window on south elevation at, **Melrose House, 107 High Street, Blakeney.** **Resolved – No objection.**
- 8.3. Application no. **PF/20/0153** – Amended plans – Proposal; Demolition of lean to and erection of two storey front and side extension, single storey rear extension, single storey link to garage, installation of dormer windows and erection of detached outbuilding at, **Poppyland, Back Lane, Blakeney.** **Resolved – No objection.**
- 8.4. Application no. **PF/20/0210** – Proposal; Single storey rear extension within existing walled courtyard at, **Quay Cottage, The Quay, Blakeney.** **Resolved – No objection.**
- 8.5. Application no. **CL/20/0292** – Proposal; Certificate of lawfulness for existing use of the site for the stationing of 6 x static caravans (all year round occupancy) at, **Caravan Site, Galley Hill House, Langham Road, Blakeney.** **Resolved – Noted.**

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- 8.6. Application no. **PF/20/0293** – Proposal; Variation of condition 3 of planning permission PF/19/0768 to remove the restriction that 2 of the 6 caravans should be touring caravans at, **Grimes Caravan site, Langham Road, Blakeney**. **Resolved – No comment.**
- 8.7. Application no. **PF/20/0323** – Proposal; Construction of single storey rear extension; construction of two dormer windows on rear second storey elevation (one extending existing second floor dormer) at, **58 Morston Road, Blakeney**. **Resolved – No objection.**
- 8.8. Application no. **PF/20/0345** – Proposal; Erection of lean-to pergola in rear garden (retrospective) at, **Woodpecker Cottage, 4 Wiveton Road, Blakeney**. **Resolved – No objection.**

9. FINANCE

- 9.1. **Resolved** that the **Accounts** totalling £10,524.51 are approved.
- 9.2. **Clerk/RFO Report** – Members were in receipt of the cashbook figures to date.

Members were also advised that **NORSE** have just confirmed that their **Grounds Maintenance Contract** with Blakeney Parish Council would be ceasing on 31st March 2019. They had undertaken a business review and will be closing 5 of the operational sites around the county, keeping only Norwich. The Clerk confirmed that steps were already in hand to obtain quotes from alternative contractors for this work, with the aim of bringing them to the April meeting.

- 9.3. **Resolved** that the cost of the annual **Tradesmen Permit** for Coronation Car Park for 20/21 will be £25 for up to 6 months and £40 for up to 12 months, all permits will expire on the 31st March in any one year as current.
- 9.4. **Resolved** to purchase a replacement **Noticeboard** for The Pastures from Greenbarnes in black recycled material, with white lettering, simple style, 12 x A4 display, Perspex window, cork pin-board as per the information supplied. This expenditure to be made from a generous donation by a previous resident.
- 9.5. **Resolved** to accept the quote from T T Jones to change the switching regime of the outdoor **Parish Office Light** (on front of building) to a control sensor, ie. a movement activated switching, dusk to dawn.
- 9.6. **Resolved** to purchase the 'View' **Defibrillator** (with associated cabinet) for outside of Parish Office and as previously agreed and this expenditure shall be made from a generous donation by a previous resident.

- 9.7. Having inspected the current old speed bump in the village hall car park, it has been agreed that it is not in good enough condition to be lifted, moved and re-laid. It was therefore **resolved** that a **New Speed Ramp** is purchased as per the quote received from Start Traffic and that we authorise the Clerk to instruct the contractor that submits the best price, to remove the old one and make good the area and install the new one as soon as possible.

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

- 10.1. **Personnel Committee** – Met last month and appointed the 2 car park attendants as mentioned earlier.
- 10.2. The **Finance Committee** had held a very productive and positive meeting with Mr J Gray, 'Gray's Funfair'. The only outstanding item was regarding the number of caravans needing to be on site. Mr Gray, had stated that he could operate with just one on site, and thus it was **resolved** that we grant permission for one caravan to be on site for the duration of the visit and we note that all other matters have now been resolved by both parties, other than the issuing of any licence, which The National Trust may feel is necessary. This to be between Mr Gray and The N/T, and not involve BPC.
- 10.3. **Blakeney Channel Coastal Community Team** – Thank BPC for the grant from the Community Fund. Have advertised their public meeting which is due to take place on the 15th April, all welcome, but have asked for attendance to be registered in advance.
- 10.4. The **Blakeney Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group** are due to meet next on Monday 16th March (5.45pm in the Parish Office, all welcome), when they will consider the entire draft of the plan along with the full public consultation response document.
- 10.5. **Blakeney Village Hall Trust** – New Treasurer and Bookings Secretary have been appointed and will join us very soon. Thanks to outgoing members and to all who help run this so well. An accident insurance claim is currently being handled by solicitors and barrister on behalf of the hall for something which happened at a third party event.
- 10.6. **Resolved** to accept the new request as received in writing from the **Blakeney Scout Group Executive** to proceed with the new lease, but for a period of 2 years rather than 5, (with the option to renew if the group could be resurrected within that timescale) and that the lease is to be between Blakeney Scouts Executive Committee and the Parish council and not the Scout Association in London and to now instruct

our Solicitor who had advised that these amendments were acceptable.

10.7. No takers for following BPC **Committee vacancies**, open to all members of BPC and thus they will left now until the AGM.

- Dinghy Park Management x 1
- Bonfire & Fireworks x 1

11. **COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS** – There were no questions.

12. **CORRESPONDENCE**

12.1. ***Resolved*** that given the presentation by our County Cllr on **Division Boundaries for Norfolk**, which is being reviewed by The Local Government Boundary Commission for England, that our preferred choice is the proposal as put forward by the Norfolk Liberal Democrats, our second choice would the proposal as put forward by NNDC and the proposal by NCC would be our last choice. We have a strong desire to remain primarily within a coastal grouping.

12.2. ***Resolved*** to undertake **Whole Council Training** delivered by NPTS - refresher/new councillor and the topics chosen are; roles & responsibilities, financial management, risk assessment and insurance, planning (development control), data protection and code of conduct. (6 items chosen out of a list of 10.)

For information only; NNDC Planning Decisions or Updates, or any Planning Inspectorate Appeals since our last meeting; available on NNDC website.

- **PF/19/1992** – Formation of new access to Langham Road to serve relocated caravans approved under planning permission ref. no. PF/19/0768 at, Galley Hill House, Langham Road, Blakeney – **This application has been withdrawn.**
- **PF/19/1785** – Erection of one and a half storey detached dwelling (part retrospective) at, 8 Langham Road, Blakeney – **Refused.**
- **PF/19/2207** – Construction of replacement detached garage/shed; alterations to/refurbishment of existing dwelling; and construction of single storey extension to northern elevation of dwelling following the demolition of 2 x timber sheds, detached garage, conservatory and low garden walls at, Bramley Cottage, Coronation Lane, Blakeney – **Granted.**
- **PF/19/2170** – Demolition of conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension and alterations to a detached studio building within the rear curtilage at, 16 Morston Road, Blakeney – **Granted.**

Meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Chairman _____