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Minutes of a '**Full Blakeney Parish Council Meeting**' which was held on **Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2014** at 7.00pm in the Parish Office.

**Present**:- Tony Faulkner (Chairman), Jenny Girling (Vice-Chairman), Glenn Aikens, Margaret Benson, Alban Donohoe, Barry Girling & Ann Wootten.

**Clerk**:- Tracey Bayfield.

**Public**:- 8.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Were received & accepted from Roger Hall (*work*), Leanne Welch (*work*) & Mary James (*away*).

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** from members – There were none.

**3.** It was ***proposed & agreed*** that the **MINUTES** of the Extra Ordinary FULL COUNCIL meeting held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2014 are signed as a true record.

**4. GUESTS –**

4.1. **Wells Police (Safer Neighbourhood Team)** – PCSO Sarah Kirby advised as follows; The new priorities for the area are; Rural and farm related crime in relation to thefts, Marine crime, with extra patrols being made along the Coast and patrols in all parishes to deter heating oil thefts. Sarah agreed to look into what can be done with regard marking marine equipment, as per a past event at the quay. Since August, there have been the following crimes; 1 theft of a bicycle from outside of the village hall and 1 possible incident of pick pocketing in the High Street. There were also 2 calls to the Police for road traffic collisions, which in both incidents involved parked cars. There has been 1 report of suspicious circumstances at the quay involving boats and 2 concerns for safety. On a positive note, 1 stolen outboard has been retrieved as it was fitted with a tracking device and we have stopped 1 oil crime.

**5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS** – With the Chairman's permission Ann Wootten, thanked her fellow Councillors & Clerk for the beautiful bouquet presented to her at the last meeting which marked her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

District Cllr, David Young (High Heath Ward) has arranged for Nicola Baker, Head of Planning at North Norfolk District Council to address a meeting on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm in Cley Village Hall. This meeting is open to everyone and it will concentrate on Planning Decisions and the rules about 'modern' designs in the Countryside/AONB/Conservation Areas.

**6. PLANNING** – *A meeting of the Planning Committee follows after this Full Council Meeting.*

**7. COUNCILLOR REPORTS –**

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### **7.1. District Councillor** - Lindsay Brettle gave the following report.

Information about Individual Electoral Registration (IER) will be circulated shortly with full details. The key difference is that instead of using a household form to register to vote, everyone will take individual responsibility for their own registration. This will also be possible to do online.

NNDC has reserved £1million for Better Broadband for Norfolk (BBfN). This fund will be released subject to the provision of full details of the programme in North Norfolk.

Details will be given of the wider range of materials for recycling that can be put in your existing green bins. This will help to minimise rubbish sent to landfill.

Natural England is developing the England Coast Path and held a drop-in session at Sheringham for our area but there will be further consultations as the plans progress.

Free legal advice is available at Merchants' Place, Cromer – queries and appointments on 01603 496623. The Citizens' Advice Bureau for the Holt and Blakeney area is now called the Mid Norfolk CAB on 01362 692546.

The AGM of the River Glaven Conservation Group was held this year at Bayfield Hall where Robin Coombe handed over the Chair to Henry Crawley. All members expressed their thanks for the outstanding work that has been achieved by Robin and the Committee to conserve the flora and wildlife of the river. The Norfolk Rivers Trust will be sponsoring this year's Glad about the Glaven to be held on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September at Holt Hall Field Studies Centre from 10 a.m. till 4 p.m. and where the River Glaven Conservation Group will also present their achievements and projects (eels!).

GreenBuild – Building a Greener Future sponsored by Flood Sense will be held on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> – 10.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. and Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September – 10.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. entrance is free and includes talks, demos and children's activities and there will be a Food Court and Farmer's Market too.

### **7.2. County Councillor** - Dr. Marie Strong.

**Better Broadband for Norfolk:** In addition to being the Chair of the NCC Broadband, Mobile 'Phone and Digital Working Group I have agreed to be the Norfolk County Council Member on the Better Broadband for Norfolk Steering Group – which meets with external bodies involved in aiming to achieve our objective, that is Better broadband for Norfolk. I thought to add a short update, particularly for the technically minded. By the end of 2015, the 'Better Broadband for Norfolk' programme seeks to achieve a minimum speed of 2 megabits per second (Mbps) for all premises and 'Superfast' Broadband (24Mbps+) for as many premises as possible. The programme contains eight phases for the implementation of fibre based Superfast Broadband. Phase 2 was completed at the end of June 2014 with over 300 hundred kilometres of fibre optic cable; over 200 new fibre cabinets,

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providing access to Superfast (24 Mbps+) broadband for over 55,000 homes and businesses. The good news for our rural areas, which includes much of the Wells Division, is that additional funding in excess of £16 million has been secured, which will allow further fibre based infrastructure to be deployed. The contract process has begun and it expected it will be signed early in 2015, following which the areas that will benefit will be known.

**Mobile 'Phones:** You may have read about the Vodafone programme, which will be of particular interest to our smaller parishes. Whilst I have shared the information with the parish councils, residents may also wish to know about the scheme, so here goes:. The Vodafone rural open sure signal programme is intended to give rural communities across the UK, with little or no mobile coverage, the opportunity to apply to have Vodafone 3G mobile coverage in their area. Details can be found on [www.vodafone.co.uk/rural](http://www.vodafone.co.uk/rural). Vodafone intend to pilot localised booster technology, similar to Sure Signal boxes which are already available for use in homes, strengthening a mobile signal by using existing fixed line broadband connections and a mobile booster device. However I need to emphasise that there is a maximum of 100 places available right across the United Kingdom. Additionally there are a number of other important criteria which a community would need to meet, including having access to at least 4 Mbps fixed line broadband. As Chair of the Broadband, Mobile 'Phone Working Group I invited Vodafone representatives to meet with the Group and they have agreed. We will be able to discuss in detail the programme, after which it is intended to circulate to our parish councils a 'pro-forma' which if they complete will guide them in deciding whether to apply for what is fundamentally a competition. The closing date for applications to Vodafone is 14 October 2014 so there will be time for consideration as to applying.

*Adjourned for the **OPEN PUBLIC SESSION** at 7.30pm & reconvened at 7.31pm.*

## **8. FINANCE.**

8.1. It was **proposed & agreed** that **Accounts** to date totalling £7,961.02 are paid.

8.2. **Clerk/RFO Report** was given to members and included Carnser figures to date and the bank balances held. In addition members had received a copy of the External Audit report, for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014, which had been signed of successfully.

8.3. Members considered information with regard a proposed purchase of a piece of **Visual Art/History** for Blakeney 'the Snitterley piece' at a cost of £3,705.00. It was **proposed & agreed** that an article is placed in the GVN asking for financial support from the public and other local organisations, and to state that BPC are also happy to offer support to this.

8.4. The Chairman and other members attended a recent meeting which discussed any suggested and realistic proposals for the **Coastal Community**

**Fund** which we could apply for. However, it was concluded that most ideas were too costly for this fund and that individual property owners were starting to consider their own schemes for protecting their property. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we will not be submitting an application for any of this funding.

8.5. The Chairman shared further information including cost on the replacement of upright timbers along the Quay as per the proposed work of the **Blakeney Harbour Boatman's Association** due to the fact that further timbers have broken. To replace all, would cost in the region of £3,700. It would seem that the BHBA now wish to take no action, however, it was ***proposed & agreed*** that we remind them that we have allocated £1,000 towards this project, and that they may like to also consider approaching Norfolk County Council, NNDC Big Society, Sheringham Shoal and the boat owners, etc for additional funding.

8.6. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we instruct T.T. Jones Electrical Ltd to undertake **PAT Testing** the Parish Councils stock of **Street Lights**.

8.7. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we instruct T.T. Jones Electrical to undertake **PAT Testing** on the items in the **Parish Office**.

8.8. Further to the decision taken on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2013, with regard the **Footpath Surface** by notice board on The Pastures, it was ***proposed & agreed*** that we leave it as it is and see how it fairs this winter.

## **9. TRANSPORT ITEMS & REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES**

9.1. **Seasonal Parking** in the village, any realistic solutions? The Clerk had provided the members with as much information on various locations as possible. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we approach NCC to ask if the field known as the 'Former School Field' could be used for short term parking during the summer months, subject to the necessary planning permissions.

9.2. Members noted that we have been successful in obtaining 1 **Vehicle Activated Sign** (VAS) under the recent Norfolk County Council, Parish Partnership Funding Scheme. This is for Langham Road and will be installed in the near future.

## **10. COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS – There were none.**

## **11. CORRESPONDENCE**

11.1. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that as the land owner of the land which the **Tennis Courts** stand on, we would be prepared to make a grant application on behalf of the Blakeney Sports Club as per the conditions of the fund and that the members of our own Recreation Committee meet with them as per their request to consider future management points.

11.2. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we undertake all necessary enquiries to bid for the **Vodafone Open Sure Signal** scheme which may be able to cover more areas of the village. The Clerk to be the named champion for this project.

11.3. A third party request to trade from the **Village Hall Car Park** had been received on behalf of 'Chakula'. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we do not permit this for a number of reasons.

11.4. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we adopt the **Press Release Policy** as was presented to us, but with the additional wording; An individual Councillor can give his own opinions, so long as it is made extremely clear that it is his personal view and not that of Blakeney Parish Council.

11.5. **Blakeney Neighbourhood Housing Society** wrote to advise that they thank the Parish Council for the offer with regard placing a storage unit on Coronation Car Park, however the proposed fee of £1,000 means that they feel that they cannot take up the offer as it represents other maintenance and refurbishment works which are greatly needed. This was noted.

11.6. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that "That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, (individual applications) it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw."

Two applications had been received for the current **Parish Councillor Vacancy** from Rosemary Thew and Edward Hackford. This vacancy can now be filled via co-option procedures. It was ***proposed & agreed*** (other than 1 against) that we hold a signed ballot. With 4 votes in favour of Rosemary Thew, she was duly co-opted.

Meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_