

Minutes of a '**Full Blakeney Parish Council Meeting**' which was held on **Tuesday 4th March 2014** at 7.00pm.

Present:- Tony Faulkner (Chairman), Jenny Girling (Vice-Chairman), Glenn Aikens, Margaret Benson, Barry Girling, Roger Hall, Mary James, Louise Leonard, Leanne Welch and Ann Wootten.

Clerk:- Tracey Bayfield.

Public:- 1.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Were received & ***accepted*** from Alban Donohoe (*work*)

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

3. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that the **MINUTES** of the FULL COUNCIL Meeting held on Tuesday 4th February 2014 are signed as a true record.

4. GUESTS –

- 4.1. Report read on behalf of **Wells Police (Safer Neighbourhood Team)** – Since the last Parish Council meeting there have been 9 calls to the Police; 1 was a burglary and 1 was a theft from a motor vehicle. A reminder not to leave valuables in cars, as we are still experiencing thefts from vehicles in car parks. Morston have experienced thefts of marine equipment over the past month and we are urging owners to buy our outboard covers.

5. CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 5.1. A reminder that the **Annual Parish Meeting** is on Thursday 20th March at 7pm in the Village Hall. Everyone welcome.

- 5.2. **Blakeney to Cley Sea Defence Bank** – Work will commence on 10th March and will be completed before Easter (20th April) and when completed will enable safe access on foot between Blakeney and Cley.

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

7. COUNCILLOR REPORTS –

- 7.1. **District Councillor** - Lindsay Brettle.

NNDC have agreed a no increase budget for 2014/15, this included the District's element of the Council Tax and the Reserves Fund. The recent weather problems confirm the necessity of such reserves even with government assistance.

The Community Drop-in 'After the Tidal Surge' held by the Environment Agency at Blakeney was very well supported. The Agency is now assessing options for the best way forward and confirms that local views will form an important and vital part of this assessment.

The Appeal against the decision of NNDC to refuse permission to erect a wind turbine at Bodham has been quashed by the High Court. The proposal was to be sited near Cromer Ridge, one of the highest points in north Norfolk, which has a number of listed buildings in the area. The Council argued successfully that the inspector's decision in favour of the turbine 'flies in the face of the will of the local community'.

Individual Electoral Registration (IER) comes into effect soon and NNDC is supporting the Hate Free Norfolk Campaign and will also be joining in with the Commonwealth Flag flying.

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

Congratulations to Blakeney Parish Council for successfully applying to the latest NCC scheme for a Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS). NCC today announced £206,500 support for 68 local initiatives that will deliver small highway improvements through partnership working with Town and Parish Councils in 2014/15.

Better Broadband for Norfolk - If you have not noticed the green broadband cabinets, start looking out for them. Because when fibre, meaning better broadband, comes to an area a larger green cabinet will sit alongside the existing cabinet. That is the time to ring your provider and ask them about accessing better broadband. And whilst some areas may be proving difficult to get fibre to I was delighted to learn that we have been allocated another £5.59 million, for which we need to find match funding, but if successful it will allow more fibre to get to the harder to reach areas.

Norfolk County Council Budget - Whilst some of you listened to the live broadcast of the Council discussing the budget, Monday 17 February, I am not sure if any of you survived from 10.00 a.m. to gone 4.00 p.m. However before too long the complete meeting will be available on line. Whilst debate as to the budget will continue, because it was set we were able to write to the Department for Education and confirm we would put in place all that we had been asked to do by the Department and that we had set aside the money to do so. This was a very important step for the future of our schools.

Icelandic Banks - Some readers will recall the long-standing saga of NCC money invested, along with many other authorities, in the Icelandic Banks. I hope you will be as pleased as I am that we have negotiated the return of a total of £29m of the £32.5 invested. We have apparently retrieved far more than some investors.

Coastal Flood Defences - I am pleased to report that NCC has agreed to reinstate the National Trail from Blakeney sluice to Cley sluice which was badly damaged in the December flood. It is hoped the work will be completed no later than the end of March. Whilst I say reinstate it cannot at present be in the exact same form since as you will have read there are other major and complex damage which have to be considered. I am participating in a number of meetings with the Environment Agency and other bodies to keep informed of developments.

Victory Housing - Blakeney Parish Council are to be congratulated on organising a meeting with the Chief Executive of Victory Housing which was well attended by members of parishes from this division, and indeed other divisions, all of whom will be reporting back at their Parish Council meetings.

*Adjourned at 7.28pm for the **OPEN PUBLIC SESSION** and reconvened at 7.30pm.*

8. FINANCE.

8.1. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that **Accounts** totalling £8913.42 are paid.

8.2. **Clerk/RFO Report** – The Clerk updated the meeting with regard the balances held, advised that David Wright had accepted the role of Internal Auditor and that correspondence regarding the Co-Operative bank was shared with members, who ***proposed & agreed*** to continue their current account banking arrangements with the Co-Operative.

8.3. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we site a **Litter Bin** by the bus shelter on the north side of the A149, near to The Pastures, something like the 90ltr Copperfield bin including lock and liner as seen.

9. TRANSPORT ITEMS & REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

9.1. Given the number of requests to park various 'items' overnight and/or long term in the **Village Hall Car Park** it was ***proposed & agreed*** (7 in favour, 2 against and 1 abstention) that we erect a sign which reads, 'Overnight parking of cars only.'

9.2. Members noted information with regard the **Community Transport Scheme** meeting which is being held on 2nd April, 2.30pm to 5.30pm at the Victory Housing Offices in North Walsham.

9.3. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we monitor the Pay & Display section of **Coronation Car Park** in the same way that the resident's side has been successfully managed over the last few years, using the 'Flashpark' fine scheme for those found not to be compliant.

9.4. As reported earlier the **Environment Agency** drop in held on the 13th February was a great success, with well over 200 attending. We were updated earlier with regard work to bring the footpath into use ahead of the Easter period and we await the answer to the long term solution. A member of the Environment Agency will be attending our Annual Parish Meeting on the 20th March.

9.5. Willie Weston attended the recent meeting of the **Wash & Nth Nfk Coast** Advisory Group, held on Thursday 27th February. He advised that the main thing we needed to be aware of was that the Marine Conservation Zone Reference Areas will be raised again and that we should not become complacent. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we

check that our banners are up to date and arrange to have them erected again as soon as possible.

9.6. The **Recreation Committee** had recently met and considered proposals and plans from those who they originally shortlisted. They were each asked to provide us with a quote and a plan of their schemes, 3 were for the full play project including the BMX track and 2 were asked to quote for just the BMX track. They agreed that subject to the agreement of the Full Council to appoint Monster@Caloo to provide and install the play equipment and to allocate the provision of the BMX track to D.T. Leisure and to apply for planning permission as soon as possible, and ensure that all other compliances were met. This ***proposal was agreed*** by the Full Council.

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

11. **CORRESPONDENCE** – No items.

Meeting closed at 8.00pm.

Chairman _____