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Minutes of a meeting of **Blakeney Parish Council** which was held on **Tuesday 4th October 2016** commencing at **7.00pm in the Parish Office.**

Present:- Rosemary Thew (Chairman), Jenny Girling (Vice-Chairman), Samantha Arlow, Margaret Benson, Alban Donohoe, Barry Girling, Edward Hackford, Roger Hall, Neil Thompson & Iain Wolfe.

Clerk:- Tracey Bayfield.

Public:- 12.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – All members present.
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – None at this point.
3. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that the **MINUTES** of the FULL COUNCIL meeting held on Tuesday 6th September 2016 are signed as a true record.
4. **GUESTS** – **Wells Police (Safer Neighbourhood Team)** were unable to attend. There had been 2 calls into the Police since the last meeting which had required Police attendance, and no crimes had been recorded for the area.
5. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS** – The Chairman congratulated Karen Ward as our newly elected District Councillor and welcomed her to the meeting, and thanked the outgoing District Councillor, Andrew Wells for the hard work and dedication he had given to the Parish Council and the local community.
6. **COUNCILLOR REPORTS** –
 - 6.1. **District Councillor** - **Karen Ward** gave the following report.
 - Steve Blatch (Corporate Director at NNDC) has now met with Emma Stannard of **The Blakeney Hotel**, and Blakeney Parish Council will be agreeing a meeting date with Steve and colleagues very soon.
 - I met with Steve Blatch with regards to planning process issues relating to the Pastures, The Acreage, 39 New Road and Stratton Long Marine and as a consequence I am now seeking more detailed clarification with regard to **'Article 4'** designation and **Planning Enforcement** within the current Local Plan.
 - Following this I met with Iain Withington (Policy Team Leader) and Chris Brown (Project Support Officer) in Mark Ashwell's team (Planning Policy Manager) and questioned them over concerns with regard **Policy CT1 – Open Space Designations** within Core Strategy Document, of the NNDC Local Development Framework and I will be taking this up further.
 - Robert Alton Planning Enforcement Officer visited **'The Acreage', Coast Road**, site known as Wiveton Antiques on 28th September. There are a

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number of potential breaches of planning, health and safety and valuation for rates so Rob will need to co-ordinate a response from across other Departments. I will be going to the NNDC offices on Thursday 6th October to get an update from Rob as to the range of issues to be resolved and exploring the implications. I will report back to the BPC in writing if anything needs to be discussed before the next PC meeting in November. (Some BPC members indicated that they would hope that this could be solved diplomatically.)

- Steve Blatch confirmed that Colin Reuben (Planning Officer) had met the agent of the owners of '**Bliss**', **Morston Road**, about the development of the land they now own opposite them on the north side of Morston Road. It was confirmed verbally that development under PPS7 would not be allowed. I will be following this up directly with Colin and I will ask for this to be confirmed in writing.
- The Diocese would need to talk to NNDC about **Burial Ground Availability** in the new Local Plan if they felt this necessary.
- The newly appointed **Monitoring Officer at NNDC** is Emma Duncan.
- **Stratton Long Marine** site application will be referred to Development Committee and Jo Medlar (Team Leader Development Management) has asked for the Committee to do a site visit. This will take place on November 10th 2016. I will notify Blakeney PC Chair and Clerk as soon as the timetable for the site visits is available.

6.2. **County Councillor** - **Dr. Marie Strong** gave the following report.

- **Obstruction of Pavements:** I am pleased that following my contact with Norfolk Constabulary Traffic Management Officer we now have confirmation that vehicles causing unnecessary or wilful obstruction is a matter dealt with by the police. The police inspector for North Norfolk has stated that he will ensure that all police officers dealing within his remit will be informed of why and when action should be taken regarding obstruction. I will seek more information when I have met with the inspector as to how this will be taken forward.
- **Recycling Centre:** Hazardous Waste Amnesty: Extremely popular to the extent that there were lengthy queues and some people turned back home. I have asked if an extension is possible for another year, or another recycling centre added to the list.
- **Cherry Tree Corner (junction B1105 and A148):** To let those of you having difficulty going getting past Cherry Tree Corner know that I will present Maggie Ward's petition at the next meeting of the EDT Committee (County Hall Friday 14 October) asking for steps to be taken to improve the traffic flow.

It will take a long time and much money to resolve but this is the start of the journey.

- **Memory Walk:** The Memory Walk for carers and people with dementia took place at Holkham on Sunday 18 September '16. This was the first walk members of the Wells Dementia Friendly Community Group had organised. 84 people took part, mainly taking the long walk, and nothing but smiling faces at the end all proclaimed it to be a success. Lovely weather, lovely surroundings, lovely people and I recommend you diary next year's walk, provisionally set for Sunday September 17 and join us at Holkham.
- **Syrian Refugees:** Following discussions with the Home Office and Norwich City Council (the housing lead) NCC and partners are working collectively on the first Syrian refugee families arriving in the County from the end of January 2017 onwards. The scheme gives priority to survivors of torture and violence, women and children at risk and those in medical need. Families are selected from refugee camps around Syria. The scheme does not accept people who have journeyed to Europe. Many local residents, faith groups and voluntary organisations have offered their help to resettle refugee families and over the weeks and months ahead, we will be working with these individuals and groups to ensure their generous offers are used to best effect.
- **Cockthorpe Mobile 'Telephone Mast:** People from across the division have reported problems with reception when in the vicinity of this mast and whilst I gather that Vodafone and 02 have continued to transmit from the Cockthorpe mast there have been ongoing problems regarding EE and Three. I have been able to provide some assistance to the Corporate Affairs Manager for Ericsson UK Ltd and whilst he assured me a solution had been completed I am now reassured having received an email from a Cockthorpe resident to say all was in order including 4G.
- **Devolution for Norfolk and Suffolk:** Since the last edition of the Quay (Wells newsletter) the Devolution saga has moved along in what has become its own inimitable style. Shortly after the final debate was scheduled for Thursday 3 November it was cancelled since we were informed that the requirements of the Secretary of State for laying the required Order in parliament had changed. In the meantime a surprise statement has been made that since North Norfolk voted not to proceed to consultation residents of North Norfolk, along with residents where their councils said no to consultation, will not be allowed to vote for mayor. This means that undoubtedly a mayor for Norfolk and Suffolk would come from Suffolk. The date for Norfolk County Councillors to vote yes or no to devolution is now set for Monday 21 November commencing at 10.00 am (members of the public welcome). In the hope of having my concerns addressed prior to that vote I will be attending a session with Andy Wood Independent, Chair of the East Anglia Devolution Leaders Group.

7. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION –

- Concerns over the way ‘**Fleur Developments**’ have made changes to the approved plans, undertaken the works and then applied for retrospective planning permission, feel that such actions hinders the community.
- Bewildered by the way in which **North Norfolk District Council** has handled the 39 New Road, retrospective planning application, especially the actions of the Planning Officers involved who have manipulated and edited the advice. More so, given that recently The Planning Inspectorate dismissed an appeal on this land to build a house, and **cited Policy CT1 – Open Space Designations** within Core Strategy Document, of the NNDC Local Development Framework and its importance to this site. The decision by NNDC seems to have been taken based on the fact that NNDC would not take action to enforce. We live in an area which is heavily protected, but NNDC does not seem to adhere to this. This leaves many of us with no confidence in the Planning system at NNDC.
- Jamie Bird (Development Director) at ‘Fleur Developments’, had prepared a 3 page summary of amendments to the planning approval at **Greencroft, Morston Road** following a site meeting which Blakeney Parish Council has asked for ahead of this meeting and which Rosemary Thew attended. He worked through this for the benefit of the public present. Members of BPC had received copies in advance.

8. PLANNING – The following Planning Applications were considered:-

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

- i) Application No. **PF/16/1168** – *Proposal; Variation of condition 2,7, 12, 13 & 14 of planning permission 15/1219 to allow for revised site layout (including positioning of dwellings, pedestrian access, plot boundaries, car parking), reduction in land levels and design and fenestration alterations including re-positioning of flue on Plot 5 (part retrospective) at, **Greencroft House, 22 Morston Road, Blakeney**. It was ***proposed & agreed*** (with 6 in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention) to accept these changes, whilst at the same time, stating how very concerned we are about the way in which this has been done by the Developer and the retrospective element once again.*
- ii) Application No. **LA/16/1214** – *Proposal; Installation of replacement windows at, **102 High Street, Blakeney**. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we support this application.*
- iii) Application No. **PF/16/1267** – *Proposal; Erection of single storey front and rear extension at, **Stallgates, 2 Langham Road, Blakeney**. (Edward Hackford declared a personal interest due to knowing the applicant, and abstained from voting.) It was ***proposed & agreed*** (other than 1 abstention) that we have no objection to this application.*

- iv) Application No. **PF/16/1245** – *Proposal; Demolition of existing house & erection of dwelling at, **Larkfields, 144 Morston Road, Blakeney**. It was ***proposed & agreed*** (other than 2 abstentions) that we have no objection to this application.*
- v) Application No. **PF/16/1254** – *Proposal; Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of replacement dwelling at, **Three Owls Farm, Saxlingham Road, Blakeney**. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that our previous objections still stand. (*Will be requited on the reply to NNDC.*)*
- vi) Application No. **PF/16/1144** – *Proposal; Erection of 3 dwellings (1 x detached single-storey & 2 x one and a half storey) at, **Memorial Cottages, New Road, Blakeney**. It was ***proposed & agreed*** (other than 1 abstention) that we support this application.*
- vii) Application No. **LA/16/1285 & PF/16/1284** – *Proposal; Internal and external alterations to facilitate the erection of part two storey and part single storey rear extensions together with brick and flint boundary wall at, **Morgan Cottage, 97 High Street, Blakeney**. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we have no objection to this application.*
- viii) It was ***proposed & agreed*** to support '**Campaign to Protect Rural England**', (CPRE Norfolk) in opposing damaging new housing targets, aimed at ensuring that no new sites are allocated for house building in revised Local Plans to 2036 until all existing allocations in current core strategies have been developed.
- ix) In light of the decision taken by NNDC Development Committee in respect of *Retrospective* Application No. **PF/16/0825** – *Proposal; Retention of earth bank at, **39 New Road, Blakeney** which was approved, it was ***proposed & agreed*** that we write to DCLG and others, with our concerns over the way in which NNDC formally handled this application, in that the decision stems from the fact that NNDC would not dare take enforcement action, and hence the recommendation from the Planning Officer was to grant permission, hence we feel that a precedent has now been set.*

9. FINANCE

- 9.1. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that **Accounts** totalling £10,771.98 are paid.
- 9.2. The **Clerk/RFO Report** had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting, and gave the figures for both Coronation & Carnser Car Parks and Cashbook figures to date.

The Clerk also advised that the **Can Banks** are due to be removed from the recycling facility in the village hall car park by the end of October 2016 due to

pressures and requirements which would be much change and costly expenditure to the current operator. If an alternative approved waste operative is found, then the community will be advised, until then, such items are to go in the green household waste bins.

9.3. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we replace the **Dog Waste Bin** on the quayside by the Public Toilets, which one of a similar size made, but made from plastic as opposed to metal.

9.4. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we accept the revised quote for the additional repairs to the **Village Hall Car Park** and the rounded wooden posts, from Simon Strong as per the email dated 26th September 2016.

9.5. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that would we support and reiterate the response from the National Association of Local Councils with regard the **Precept Consultation** in that parish capping and costly referendums will damage communities, as per their article dated 14th September 2016.

10. TRANSPORT ITEMS & REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

10.1. **Village Hall Committee** representative Rosemary Thew had circulated a report from the 27th September meeting, which included the AGM. The Chairman and Treasurer both indicated their desire to stand down within the 2016/17 year. All in all the hall continues to be well managed and in a fairly healthy financial position. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we write to the individual committee members and thank each of them for all that they do, in order to keep this wonderful community asset going.

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

12. CORRESPONDENCE

12.1. One of our past members and her husband (Glenn & Kevin Aikens) had very kindly offered to donate a tree for planting on the recently refurbished **Recreation Area/Playing Field**. Having considered all the pros and cons of this, much based on previous experience of having trees donated, it was ***proposed & agreed*** that we thank them for this generous offer, however feel that we cannot accept it, and ask them if they would like to consider donating a bench instead.

12.2. The following was ***proposed & agreed***. “That in view of the confidential/special nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.”

Co-option to the Parish Council. Applications have been received from Shirley Everett & Don Glaister, both of whom were present and spoke to the members of the Parish Council before withdrawing from the meeting.

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It was ***proposed & agreed*** (with 7 in favour and 3 against) that a signed ballot be held. The result was; 5 votes in favour of Shirley Everett & 5 votes in favour of Don Glaister. The Chairman had to use the casting vote, which went in favour of Shirley Everett and hence she was duly co-opted.

Meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Chairman _____