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Minutes of a '**Full Blakeney Parish Council Meeting**' which was held on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2015**, commencing at 7.45pm.

**Present**:- Tony Faulkner (Chairman), Jenny Girling (Vice-Chairman), Glenn Aikens, Margaret Benson, Alban Donohoe, Barry Girling, Edward Hackford and Rosemary Thew.

**Clerk**:- Tracey Bayfield.

**Public**:- 1.

The Chairman officially welcomed Mr Edward Hackford to the Parish Council.

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – Were received and ***accepted*** from; Roger Hall (*away*), Leanne Welch (*unwell*) & Ann Wootten (*unwell*). Also from County Cllr Dr. Marie Strong (*unwell*).

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

**3. *To receive & confirm the* MINUTES.**

3.1. FULL COUNCIL – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that these minutes are signed as a true record.

3.2. FINANCE COMMITTEE – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2014. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that these minutes are signed as a true record.

**4. GUESTS –**

4.1. **Wells Police (Safer Neighbourhood Team)** – PC Jason Pegden advised that there had been one theft since the last meeting.

**5. CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS** – A member had seen a plea in the pages of the most recent edition of the 'Norfolk Link' (NfkAlc) that they were looking for Parish Councils to host an area meeting. It was agreed that we could offer to do this via the Village Hall, the Clerk to look into this further and report back.

**6. PLANNING** – *This meeting was held prior to this Full Council meeting this evening.*

**7. COUNCILLOR REPORTS –**

7.1. **District Councillor** - Lindsay Brettle touched upon forthcoming elections and future structures at NNDC, as well as the recent Town & Parish Council Forums that have been held.

7.2. **County Councillor** - Dr. Marie Strong had sent a written report in her absence, which covered possible closure of the B1105 Wells to Fakenham Road during the Hopkins Homes development work plus;

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**Vodafone Sure Signal Programme** - When the first tranche of thirty successful communities across the United Kingdom included four Norfolk parishes, Hillington, High Kelling, Upper Sheringham and Blakeney, it was already worth all the effort taken informing all our Norfolk communities about the programme and Vodafone's requirements. Vodafone have announced a further thirty communities and this time seven, Croxton, Horning, Loddon, Salhouse, Saxthorpe, Reepham and Martham, are from Norfolk. I hope to see more Norfolk parishes in subsequent tranches.

**Mobile 'Phones** - Delighted as I am for all our successful communities what we want of course are good signals across the county and despite recent publicity there is not an easy answer to the problem but members on the NCC Broadband, Mobile 'Phone & Digital Working group, which I chair, will not be discouraged in the task. As one of the first steps I am pleased to say that representatives from the major providers EE (the company that runs EE, Orange and T-Mobile in the UK), O2, Three and Vodafone have now met with us and shared their plans.

Therefore when I first heard the announcement from the Culture Secretary DCMS I was surprised at the thought of a further £5 billion investment to improve mobile infrastructure by 2017. However accessing the details of the investment it became apparent that the investment was consistent with information given to us during our meetings with the providers and not in addition. ([The investment includes the Sure Signal Programme awarded to Blakeney and the parishes named above.](#)) So whilst our meetings with providers suggest that improvement will be noticeable we look forward to seeing the plans and actual effect on the ground for Norfolk and expect to remain in regular communication with the providers as their plans develop.

In talking with providers we will continue to emphasise how Norfolk leads in science, agriculture and tourism and therefore has an ever growing need for good mobile communications. Additionally we will continue to emphasise how poor signals across our rural areas and along our coastline adversely and dangerously affect communication in times of emergencies.

*ADJOURNMENT for OPEN PUBLIC SESSION was not required.*

## **8. FINANCE.**

8.1. It was **proposed & agreed** that the **Accounts** to date totalling £5,867.27 are paid.

8.2. The **Clerk/RFO Report** provided the members with the up to date balances held and income figures from Coronation Car Park and the Carnser Car Park.

8.3. Members noted the update from Mary Dolan, Head of Blakeney Primary School, who has said to put any application with regard the proposed **Parish Partnership Funding** for the 20mph signs near the school on hold for this year so that she can undertake some formal research and approach the Local

Education Authority and the Diocese. Hence the Clerk will proceed with a grant application for timbers along the quayside.

8.4. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we install an air freshener unit in the Parish Council owned **Public Toilet** as requested by the cleaning operative and that we accept the quote of £100 + Vat for the year, per unit.

8.5. It was ***proposed & agreed*** (other than one abstention) to install a second parking post in **Coronation Car Park** near to the entrance of Coronation Lane. (*Glenn Aikens declared a personal interest as a near neighbour.*)

Given the condition of the Lane, it was also ***proposed & agreed*** that the Clerk write and politely ask the new owners of 'Far House' if they are considering resurfacing the area of the Lane near their property for which we understand they are responsible or partly responsible.

8.6. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we decline the request from Norfolk Constabulary asking the Parish Council to consider a **Match Funded PCSO** partnership scheme.

8.7. On behalf of the Finance Committee, the Chairman presented the recommendations with regard the budget and proposed **2015/16 Precept** figure to the Full Council. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we set and ask NNDC for a Precept of £33,000 plus the NNDC grant of £1,390 for 2015/16.

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

9.1. Members noted the minutes from the meeting of the **Wash & Nth Nfk Coast Advisory Group** which met on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

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

## **11. CORRESPONDENCE**

11.1. Members were in receipt of a questionnaire with regard current and future need for the provision and management of **Indoor Sports & Recreational Facilities** within the NNDC area. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that it is completed taking into account all of the current indoor activities that we are aware of as discussed and give mention to our outdoor activities also, which require funding, as we do not have a dedicated indoor sports centre in the village.

11.2. In response to the official consultation document on the proposed changes to **Blakeney Post Office** it was ***proposed & agreed*** that we reply saying how delighted we are that Blakeney shall be keeping its Post Office, a facility which is greatly appreciated by the local community, given the array of services it provides.

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Meeting closed at 8.49pm.

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_