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Minutes of a meeting of **Blakeney Parish Council** which was held on **Tuesday 5th December 2017** at 7.00pm in the Parish Office.

Present:- Rosemary Thew (Chairman), Jenny Girling (Vice-Chairman), Samantha Arlow, Shirley Everett, Barry Girling, Edward Hackford, Neil Thompson, Jenet Tilley & Iain Wolfe.

Clerk:- Tracey Bayfield.

Public:- 9.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received & ***accepted*** from; Alban Donohoe (*away*), Jess Tutt (*Blakeney Players*) & District Cllr, Karen Ward (*working away*).

2. The following **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** were received from members –

- Samantha Arlow – item no. 12.1. pecuniary interest as a trader on The Carnser.
- Edward Hackford – item no. 8.1. personal interest as knows the applicant.

3. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that the following **MINUTES** are signed as a true record - FULL COUNCIL – Wednesday 8th November 2017.

4. **GUESTS** –

- 4.1. **Wells Police (Safer Neighbourhood Team)** were not present, and no report had been received.

5. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS** – The Clerk had previously circulated by email the November update from the North Norfolk Town and Parish Forum to members, which advised that the Second Homes Council Tax Campaign will be taken forward by the National Association of Local Councils to lobby parliament, to ensure that there is a fair and equal distribution of the revenue created by Second Homes Council Tax to those communities adversely impacted by high levels of second homes. NALC are also about to start gathering information about the impact of second homes in parishes.

6. **COUNCILLOR REPORTS** –

- 6.1. **District Councillor** - Karen Ward had circulated the following report in her absence.

Judicial Review 8 Wiveton Road: On 29th November we spent the day at the High Court in London defending the Judicial Review. The applicant's case rests on the argument that the wrong form was used to make the planning application and that this makes the subsequent planning permission invalid. The judge did not make his ruling on the day and he hopes to provide a ruling before Christmas, but could not

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guarantee this. Once we have the ruling, we can advise the applicants on what they need to do next.

Queens Close Parking situation: Since undertaking the survey in September, I have been trying to find someone to assist with preliminary drawings and costings, so I know what fundraising will be needed. I do not have the skills to undertake this work personally. Unfortunately, to date no one has volunteered, so we are at an impasse. At the January Parish Council meeting, I would like to discuss any ideas you might have for progressing this situation, as I am very aware how difficult this is for some residents.

Glaven Valley Conservation Area Review: The closing date for return of proposals has passed and the team is now reviewing the submitted applications. I will provide an update at the January meeting of the next steps in this process.

Enforcement: All the matters raised at the last meeting have been discussed with the Enforcement Team and action is ongoing. In addition, we have discussed the broader issue of domestic annexes being let commercially and the use of Airbnb.

Bunds and Bollards: I have spoken to the Planners about this and you do need to check if planning permission is needed. Once you have agreed the scheme (size of bunds and type of bollards) I can get the information checked.

6.2. **County Councillor** - Dr. Marie Strong was present to give the following report.

Norfolk's Budget Consultation: Again I ask you that if you have any interest and concern regarding the services* provided by Norfolk County Council please respond to the consultation. Google Norfolk County Council and the Budget Consultation is on the first page or simply visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/budget. (If you are without a computer local library staff will assist.) Your responses do make a difference and without them I have difficulty ensuring your concerns are heard. (*NCC's responsibilities include Adult Social Services, Children's Services, Buses, Highways, Libraries, Recycling Centres, Broadband.)

Buses: I have understandably been approached by many people with concerns regarding cuts to bus routes. As well as the general consultation referred to above please complete the following consultation: <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/consultation/bussubsidy/>. (Both consultations close 2 Jan.) In addition if you would like write to me give details as to which routes are of concern to you and include why you need that route. With the vast amount of money to be cut from the budget I can make no promises but as always I will put your case forward.

Mobile Phone Connectivity: The Digital Innovation and Efficiency Committee of which I am a member has agreed to commission a survey of mobile phone and data coverage across the county. I was concerned that the main focus was on Norwich, Kings Lynn and Yarmouth together with A and B roads. Since our division's largest town is Wells and most of our divisional roads are U (unclassified) this plan did not meet with my approval. However, it has been agreed councillors can make recommendations and this I have done including many of this division's parishes. However I must wax a little cautious because whilst it is hoped the survey will encourage the mobile phone operators to make greater provision across Norfolk we do not have the same financial control as we have had with Better Broadband for Norfolk.

Coastal Flooding: I was pleased that the newly appointed Police Superintendent Chris Harvey along with Inspector Ed Brown, Sgt Toby Gosden accompanied by our own Officer Jason Pegden, made the effort to come to Wells and talk to me not only as county councillor but also to us both as co-ordinators of the flood scheme. We touched on police responsibilities under the new format of policing – and yes, as previously promised, I touched on police responsibility for obstruction on pavements. The officers then studied in detail the flood plan after which we walked around all our defences and finally viewed the Wardens' 'Control Room'* at times of flooding and explained how communication between the various agencies takes place. (*This is presently at the Sackhouse and the new manager Simon Daykin has kindly confirmed the arrangement). The officers expressed keen interest as to how volunteer flood wardens warn and inform residents at risk which allows police officers to be tasked elsewhere. Many of you will remember how people put their lives at risk in order to have a close view of the raging waves pounding the sea defences. Superintendent Harvey had viewed some of the footage of the event and has several ideas as to how our wardens can convey to the public that they are acting under the authority of the police.

Concerned about someone? Whilst we all hope to have a happy Christmas we equally know that for some it is a sad time so I hope you will understand my referring to NCC's launch of a series of resources to help support individuals considering ending their life. The "I am (really not) OK" 'Safety Plan Diary' and 'Keeping Safe' guides are based on advice and experiences of survivors of suicide and their families and offer practical help for individuals and professionals, as well as friends and relatives who may be concerned about somebody they know. Download at www.norfolk.gov.uk/iamokay for information on how to recognise the signs that somebody may be at risk of taking their own life as well as some useful prompts to encourage individuals to open up and talk about their feelings.

7. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION –

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- *Three people spoke to say that they would very much like Gray's travelling funfair to continue to visit Blakeney.*
- *With regard the item later on the agenda, public events, could the Parish Council consider something to recognise local volunteers.*

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

- 8.1. Application no. **PF/17/1772** – *Proposal; Change of use of ancillary annexe to a mixed use as a self-contained annexe or holiday accommodation (Retrospective) at, **Cottontail Cottage, Back Lane, Blakeney.** It was ***proposed & agreed*** (other than 2 abstentions, one being Cllr Edward Hackford, having earlier declared a personal interest) that our previous comments still stand. That is that we object to this retrospective application. The original condition imposed upon this property as planning application no. **PF/14/1114**, was for the conversion of the car port to a detached ancillary annexe. Blakeney Parish Council had no objection to it being used as an ancillary accommodation only, and therefore continues to uphold the same decision, in line with recent similar decisions. We therefore ask that NNDC stands by its previous decision also, and ensure that this remains as ancillary accommodation.*
- 8.2. It was ***agreed*** that the Parish Council representation on the **Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group** will be Rosemary Thew, Iain Wolfe, Alban Donohoe & Jenny Girling. The Clerk advised that the following members of the public had also very kindly put themselves forward; Don Glaister, Helen Horabin, Robbie Strang & Peter O'Hare. NNDC have also confirmed that they have approved the parished area of Blakeney as our official Neighbourhood Plan Area.
- 8.3. It was ***agreed*** that we accept the draft **Terms of Reference** for the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group as prepared by ABZAG.
- 8.4. Parish Councillors are to start to give thought to and list the **aims and/or objectives** the Parish Councillors have for the Neighbourhood Plan. Initial points mentioned were; i) Reduce the number of Second Homes in the parish, ii) Ensure affordable housing for Local People, iii) Retain some sort of control over planning in the village, iv) Preserve the character of the village. *All encouraged to give further thought and to feed back.*
- 8.5. It was ***agreed*** that the **Launch Event** will be on Saturday 27th January 2018. Clerk will sort a venue and liaise with ABZAG. Advertise this is the next edition of the GVN.

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8.6. Members were encouraged to identify **Key Local Stakeholders** and start to compile a list; BVHT, BNHS, Glaven Caring Centre, St. Nicholas Church, etc, there are of course many more. A draft list will be compiled and circulated ahead of the next meeting. All to feed in please.

9. FINANCE

9.1. It was ***agreed*** that **Accounts** totalling £10,835.30 are to be approved and paid.

9.2. The **Clerk/RFO Report** advised on the balances held and up to date car park incomes, noting that the Carnser Car Park income was nearly £5k down compared with this period last year.

9.3. It was ***agreed*** to proceed with the quote for works identified via our **2017 Tree Survey** at a cost of around £1,950.00.

9.4. Further to last month's discussion, members were in receipt of a quote from 'Rhino Security' for the supply & installation of **Telescopic Bollards** on various parts of parish land. To have 19 supplied and installed the cost is £12,151 plus VAT. Noting that Inspector Ed Brown, would be happy to come and talk to us about being a vulnerable location and offer practical crime prevention advice, we will wait to hear from him. It was ***agreed*** other than 1 abstention, to proceed with the telescopic bollards as per the list, and to apply for Parish Partnership Funding.

9.5. It was ***agreed*** that we are happy to renew the **Scout Hut Lease**, and subject to a discussion with the Scout Group Executive Committee we would be happy to enter into another 30 year maintaining lease. We will see if we can do this via a legal letter, and confirm the local arrangements.

10. TRANSPORT ITEMS & REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

10.1. No written reports received.

11. **COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS** – None received.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

Cllr Samantha Arlow, left the meeting and returned after the following item.

12.1. It was ***proposed*** that we no longer grant permission for the funfair to visit as many feel that it does nothing to enhance the village, ***an amended proposal*** was put; that we retain the funfair, but the rent must be increased, as it has remained the same for over 10 years. ***A third proposal*** was put and was ***agreed*** (other than 1 against) that in advance of the **Travelling Funfair** visiting in 2018 we arrange a meeting with Jonathan Gray. We would like

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them to bring a much wider selection of rides and attractions, resembling the fair from years ago, and the rent will also be discussed, as will a formal agreement and paperwork to be provided in advance of their visit.

12.2. It was **agreed** that we introduce simple **Licence Arrangements** between the Parish Council and other groups who wish to site anything of Parish Council land. This would include storage units, such as that of the Regatta Committee and the proposed one for the Scout Group.

12.3. Local Councils are being encouraged to give some thought as to whether or not they would want to open a **Book of Condolence** in the event of the death of the Monarch. It was **agreed** that Blakeney Parish Council would want to offer this to the community.

12.4. Which **Public Events** in 2018 would the Parish Council wish to undertake, noting that we have already committed to 'Battles Over – A Nations Tribute' on Sunday 11th November 2018.

Agreed - Bonfire & Fireworks event – Dates in order of preference; Saturday 20th October, Sunday 21st October both on The Carnser and to get permission from insurance company for an alternative site if possible.

Royal Wedding Event – **Agreed** that BPC would not organise anything for this event, given that we did not organise anything for the marriage of Prince William. The local community may of course arrange events.

Agreed - Summer Community Event – something on The Pastures. All to look into and bring back ideas and costings. Open air cinema, stalls, rides, BBQ, or slow cooked food festival etc, all floated.

Agreed – Volunteer Award Scheme – Would be nice to incorporate this into the Summer Community Event if possible. All to submit items for a draft working scheme document.

NNDC Planning Decisions Taken & Updates aswell as any Planning Inspectorate Appeals if any are listed below.

LA/17/1564 & PF/17/1563 – Proposal; Internal & external alterations to facilitate addition of two new dormer windows and extension to balcony at; **Manor Hotel, Blakeney** – Consent Given.

PF/17/1544 – Proposal; Erection of front and rear extensions, alterations to roof including raising height and insertion of dormer windows and roof lights to provide first floor accommodation at; **17 Morston Road, Blakeney** – Consent given.

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PF/17/1461 – *Two storey rear extension; single storey side extension to link dwelling to outbuilding to be converted to habitable accommodation; associated external alterations at;*
Old Calthorpe Arms, 142 High Street, Blakeney – Consent given.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Chairman _____