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

Present:- Rosemary Thew (Chairman), Jenny Girling (Vice Chairman), Shirley Everett, Jess Tutt, Barry Girling, Jennet Tilley, Alban Donohoe, Edward Hackford, Neil Thompson and Iain Wolfe.

Clerk:- Tracey Bayfield.

Public:- 4.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Were received and ***accepted*** from County Cllr, Marie Strong.

2. There were no **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** from members.

3. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that the following **MINUTES** are signed as a true record. FULL COUNCIL – Extraordinary Meeting – Tuesday 29th August 2017.

4. GUESTS –

4.1. **Wells Police (Safer Neighbourhood Team)** – No report received.

4.2. **Mark Ashwell; Planning Policy Manager/Senior Planning Officer,** North Norfolk District Council; advised us of the role of NNDC and their part in the process should BPC decide to produce a Neighbourhood Plan, and confirmed that if and when adopted, our Neighbourhood Plan would take precedent over the current Local Plan, and/or inform the new Local Plan.

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

4.3. Five different Neighbourhood Planning Consultants had been approached based on recommendations from other Parish & Town Councils and asked to quote for the production and associated costs of a **Neighbourhood Plan** for the parish. Two were not able to assist due to current commitments and time travelling involved, which left the Parish Council with three to choose from. They liked the idea of a fixed fee for the project as opposed to a daily rate, and therefore, it was ***proposed & agreed*** to award the project to ABZAG Ltd; Shaun Vincent and to ask him to start the process as soon as possible.

Members of the public re-joined the meeting.

5. There were no **CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS**.

6. COUNCILLOR REPORTS –

6.1. **District Councillor** - Karen Ward had written to residents of Queens Close with regard the parking on the green which has been stopped by Victory Housing and advised that her next step would be to send a questionnaire out to all residents of Queens Close, to ascertain the general parking scenario and needs of all residents in this area, which she would then take forward with Victory Housing, NNDC, NCC, Norman Lamb and BPC.

Non Material Amendments – as District Cllr, I am no longer notified of these and there is no consultation due to changes in Government legislation, however, I will be speaking to the Planning Officers about this, especially as Three Owls has come back as an Non Material Amendment, and there are significant amendments which have already be raised by The Friends of North Norfolk. I would like a new process in place, which would see that contentious sites are flagged up on the system, so that all NNDC officers are aware that there are issues which need to be taken into account.

The Acreage: CL/17/0897 (Certificate of Lawful Use) – The two buildings marked as ‘existing fixed workshops’ are permanent structures, one having been granted planning permission in 2004, reference 20042177, and the other being in existence prior to the submission of the application in 2004. These are fixed structures, so fall within the definition of buildings, unlike the containers and other mobile structures across the site. Any possible future use of these buildings, would require the submission of a formal planning application, which would need to be determined on its own merits at the time of submission. Nicola Baker has written to the agent, seeking clarification on a number of issues before this application can be determined.

The Blakeney Hotel & The Pastures – I will follow up the fact that a mediation date has not been agreed to by The Hotel, noting that The Trustees of The Pastures had been keen for this meeting to have taken place by now.

6.2. **County Councillor** - Dr. Marie Strong had emailed the following in her absence.

Congratulations to all GCSE students: I hope you all achieved the grades you needed for the next step in your lives. But if you are worried about the grades you have achieved or just need some information or talk to someone about that important step forward please try one of the following (they will all be pleased you have asked them): Speak to the careers teacher/adviser at your schools. Contact the school or college you have applied to – find out if it will still give you a place on your chosen course or another. Telephone a careers adviser on 0800 100 900 or visit the website nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk
Visit the County Council’s Help You Choose website

www.helpyouchoose.org to search for Courses and Apprenticeships also apprenticeshipsnorfolk.org

If you have nothing to go on to and need advice, call Norfolk County Council's Keeping in Touch Team. They can offer support to get into education, training or work. Call the Help You Choose Helpline 0344 800 8022 or email helpyouchoose@norfolk.gov.uk

Parking Infringements: If you have wondered why you rarely see a Traffic Enforcement Officer (Traffic Warden) I may have the answer. The officers are sent to locations based on their experience, known problem areas and **areas of complaint**. So if you have a complaint here is what to do. Send details such as time/day of week and location of what you take to be an infringement to; parking.operations@west-norfolk.gov.uk. (Photographs can help but no more than two.)

And what is an infringement? For more information and a good read try the Norfolk Parking Partnership, Civil Parking Enforcement Guidance Manual on the NCC website: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/-/media/norfolk/downloads/roads-and-transport/roads/civil-parking-enforcement.pdf?la=en>. (Whilst the police remain responsible for obstruction on kerbs there are some occasions when the enforcement officers can act.)

7. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION - if required. (*Maximum of 15 minutes.*)

8. PLANNING –

- 8.1. Application no. **PF/17/1365** – *Proposal; Erection of single storey rear extensions and outbuilding at, **14 Morston Road, Blakeney**. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we have no objection.*
- 8.2. Application no. **PF/17/1414** – *Proposal; Erection of single-storey rear extension at, **Close-by, Queens Close, Blakeney**. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we have no objection.*

PF = Full Planning Permission

PM = Planning Permission – Reserved Matters

LA = Alteration to Listed Building

9. FINANCE

- 9.1. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that **Accounts** totalling £11,367.69 are paid.
- 9.2. **Clerk/RFO Report** – provided members with the up to date cashbook figures and car park income.

9.3. Members noted receipt of the external auditors report from 'Mazars', which advised of a satisfactory completion of the **Audit/Annual Return** for year ended 31st March 2017.

9.4. Members were extremely grateful to have received a very generous **donation** of £10,000 from Mrs G Watson, (former Blakeney resident) towards a community project, and were asked to give some thought as to what it should be spent on.

9.5. LHL Property Auditors has written to advise that unfortunately their efforts to reclaim **Historic Business Rates** on our behalf, were unsuccessful. The Clerk had looked into this earlier in the year, and felt that there would not be a successful outcome, hence this was not really a surprise, however it had cost BPC nothing for them to look into our scenario.

9.6. Having considered the different options in terms of providers and recycling credits available, it was ***proposed & agreed*** that we keep our **Textile Recycling Bin** which is for 'Scope' and register it with NCC as opposed to having one administered by North Norfolk District Council which would bring a slightly higher income to the parish.

9.7. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we do not provide a **Community Events Noticeboard** down at the quayside as we feel that there are enough outlets for events to be advertised in the village.

9.8. A request to site an additional **Dog Bin** at the top of The Pastures had been received. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that as there are already 2 such bins on The Pastures, this really should be enough and we do not wish to add a third.

10. TRANSPORT ITEMS & REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

10.1. Norfolk County Council; 2018/19 **Parish Partnership Scheme** which aims to deliver local highway improvements. Based on our research earlier in the year, it was ***proposed & agreed*** that we submit an application for each of the following;

- i) SAM 2 – (Speed Awareness Message) for use in Back Lane, Wiveton Road & New Road.
- ii) Flashing 20mph Speed Sign – A retrospective application for outside Blakeney Primary School, on Wiveton Road.

10.2. Members were in receipt of the minutes of the **Blakeney Channel Coastal Community Team** meeting which was held on 16th August 2017 and ***agreed*** in principle that they would be happy to support the idea of piling at the quay corner on The Carnser. (The Clerk advised

that this conversation had started with The National Trust some years back, and had stalled despite, being chased.)

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

12. **CORRESPONDENCE**

12.1. Letter received from **St. Nicholas Church**, thanking the Parish Council and the community for helping to raise over £4,500 via the Flower Festival and associated events.

12.2. Norfolk Association of Local Councils executive member, Peter Wilkinson, is now Chairman of the National ALC **Sustainable Communities Advisory Board** which is able to ask the government to remove legislative or other barriers. Parish & Town Councils are encouraged to raise priority issues with him. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we ask him to consider the following topics for further discussion;

- Parish & Town Councils – Being able to build affordable housing for local people, if it is viable and has the support of the community.
- Abolish Business Rates for Local Authorities including Parish & Town Councils on Public Toilets.
- Abolish Business Rates for Local Authorities including Parish & Town Councils on Car Parks.
- Review Council Tax on Second Homes. Remove any reductions and make the fee payable 100% of the total charge, OR make the fee 100% plus an additional percentage and make sure that the second homes council tax comes back to the villages or towns it is collected from.
- Bring in legislation to either stop or slow down the purchase of Second Homes in places where the percentage of Second Homes is say over 20% and yet affordable homes for local people are in desperate need.
- Revalue medium sized Business Rates.
- Marine Management Organisation (MMO) – Their licence fees is very counter productive to the Community and possible projects and should be removed.

Meeting closed at 9.08pm.

Chairman _____