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Minutes of a meeting of **Blakeney Parish Council** which was held on **Tuesday 6th December 2016** commencing at **7.00pm in the Parish Office.**

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

Clerk:- Tracey Bayfield

Public:- 5.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – Were received & ***accepted*** from: Roger Hall (work) and also District Cllr, Karen Ward & County Cllr Dr. Marie Strong.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Shirley Everett, declared a pecuniary interest in item no. 13.2., as the application site is directly opposite her home.

3. It was ***proposed & agreed*** by the relevant members that the following **MINUTES** are signed as a true record.

3.1. FULL COUNCIL – Tuesday 1st November 2016.

3.2. MEMORIAL COTTAGES TRUSTEES – 25th April 2016.

4. GUESTS –

4.1. **Wells Police (Safer Neighbourhood Team)** report read in their absence.

Since the last Parish Council meeting on 1st November, there has been 2 calls to the Police from the parish. 1 x Public Order and 1 x Theft of outboards over the weekend just gone. We also had a report of a male acting in suspicious circumstances, going door to door selling fish. Reports of this nature are followed up, to ensure that door to door traders are trading appropriately and that no crimes are being committed.

5. CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS – None.

6. COUNCILLOR REPORTS –

6.1. **District Councillor** - Karen Wards report was read in her absence.

Planning - A busy month on the planning front. Three Owls came to Development Committee and the application was refused. Meetings are ongoing with The Blakeney Hotel and NNDC to seek a way forward for the land on The Pastures. I have met residents of the Pastures and I am also meeting the owners of Bliss to discuss their application for change of use of the field in Morston Road.

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An enforcement request was made in relation to a wall at the rear of the Greencroft site and again I am pleased to say that the Combined Enforcement Team visited the site within 48 hours of notification to assess the work. The work was deemed to be in line with the agreed plans. I have subsequently had another call with regards to this wall, so propose to make a site visit later this week.

Finally, I have meetings on Thursday 8th with several NNDC officers to progress a range of planning and enforcement issues agreed in recent weeks. I will provide updates to the Chair and Clerk as soon as I have any news.

Funding - The Norfolk Coast Sustainable Development Fund is now calling for bids. If you have projects which might be suitable please contact Kate Dougan. The deadline for bids is 24th February 2014.

The NNDC Big Society Awards recognise outstanding contribution to community life. Nominations will be opening later this week, so if BPC would like anyone recognised at these awards, please look out for news on the nomination process on NNDC website.

Consultations - Rob Young, who heads the Economic Development team has two consultations open which might be of interest to BPC: Post Office Network consultation (deadline 21st December) and Road Crossing Patrols (deadline 8th Jan 17). Given that Blakeney has both a PO and a school, it might be worth checking the proposals do not impact the community adversely.

6.2. **County Councillor** - Dr. Marie Strong's report was read in her absence.

Devolution came to an abrupt end for Norfolk days before the county was to vote. We heard that West Norfolk had said no and then a rumour emerged that devolution was over for Norfolk. (Despite many questions to the government it was never made clear what combination of boroughs, districts, city and county would equate to a yes or no.) On the Friday before we were to vote there was still no definite word and I envisaged chaos would ensue if we were to hold a 'full voting council' without knowing if our votes would count. I spoke with the Managing Director and asked for a call to be made to the Secretary of State's office asking for a yes or no. Late in the day a no came through – although it seemed a weak no. However it was sufficient for a decision to be made to cancel the Monday meeting. A firmer no came later the following week.

I would add that not only in retrospect but throughout the process I have felt the government's devolution proposal for Norfolk and Suffolk was a parson's egg, partly bad partly good. People I spoke with appreciated the idea of devolved powers but a mayor and cabinet were seen as an additional layer between them and government – and at a cost. The proposal of funding to invest in houses and road improvements was welcomed but concern was expressed that funding over a 30 year period might not be secure. If another devolution proposal is to follow I would like to think it would be tailored for Norfolk not Whitehall.

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Certainly although without substance there have been suggestion that a Devolution II would emerge – with a wide range of combinations being proposed. I would add that within hours of Devo I being stopped the question of Unitary came back on the scene and a motion seeking an investigation into unitary for Norfolk will be before the council on 12 December.

Stamp out Loneliness: Whilst I know the people in Blakeney and neighbouring parishes are amongst the most caring you can find anywhere we estimate there are 38,000 lonely people in Norfolk aged 65+ and research shows being lonely can increase your risk of premature death by 30%. Communities, businesses, organisations and residents in Norfolk are being urged to come together and make a pledge to show their support for “In Good Company” - a new campaign being launched early next year. To make a personal pledge, find out more about events, activities, and volunteering activities designed to help combat loneliness in your area visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/ingoodcompany or call 0344 800 8020. I am touched by the expression that combatting loneliness is in our gift.

7. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION

- Concerns over the yellow planning site notice for Greencroft House, 22 Morston Road, ref: PF/16/1168; which was pinned to the wall of no. 24 Morston Road. This was for yet further variation of conditions and part retrospective approval of screen fence and wall details. This is not what we were originally consulted on.

8. PLANNING – *To receive & consider* the following Planning Applications:-

PF = Full Planning Permission

PM = Planning Permission – Reserved Matters

LA = Alteration to Listed Building

- i) Application No. **PF/16/1489** – *Proposal; Erection of two storey extensions at, **Thorpe Cloud, 15 Back Lane, Blakeney.*** It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we have no objection.
- ii) Application No. **PF/16/1524** – *Proposal; Erection of flint and brick wall of up to 2m high to front (south) and west boundaries at, **Gull Ridge Cottage, 67 New Road, Blakeney.*** It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we support this application.
- iii) Members were in receipt of information with regard **Community Land Trusts**, and it was ***proposed & agreed*** that we invite Debbie Wildridge from CLT to our Annual Parish Meeting in March 2017.
- iv) Planning Application no. **PF/16/1144** erection of 3 dwellings (1 x detached single-storey & 2 x one and a half storey) at, **Memorial Cottages, New Road, Blakeney** which has now been withdrawn. In

light of the information the Chairman & Clerk obtained via the Community Land Trust event at NNDC recently, both the Trustees of The War Memorial Cottages and then the Full Council were asked to confirm if they still wished to proceed to submit a new application for just the two properties at the rear of the plot, whilst ensuring that we confirm that they are to be only for affordable social housing. Both parties independently ***proposed & agreed*** to continue as previously agreed.

- v) Members noted that Historic England had received an application to add the **War Memorial** (not including the cottages) to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest, and that they are going through the process.
- vi) Member received the minutes of The Trustees of The Pastures, asking Blakeney Parish Council not to register **The Pastures** as a 'Village Green'. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we respect their wishes and take no further action.
- vii) It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we nominate the various buildings/land (as listed) under the **Community Right to Bid Scheme**.
- Land at the top of The Pastures, owned by Emma Stannard.
 - Former School Field on Langham Road, owned by Norfolk County Council.
 - Kings Arms Public House, owned by Marjorie Davies.
 - Spar Shop, Westgate Street, owned by A F Blakemore.
 - Public Toilet Block on The Quay, owned by North Norfolk District Council.
 - Field opposite 'Bliss' on Morston Road, now owned by Daniel Broch.
 - Land at 39 New Road, now owned by Alistair Lindop & Jane Armstrong.
 - Church Hall on The Quay, owned by The Diocese.
 - Methodist Chapel, High Street.
 - Catholic Church, top of Back Lane.
 - Field opposite St. Nicholas Church, owned by The National Trust.
 - Oddfellows Field, on Langham Road, owned by The Oddfellows Charity.
 - Scout Hut, owned by The Scouts Association on BPC owned land.
 - Village Hall, owned by Blakeney Village Hall Trust Committee, on BPC owned land, and to which BPC are Custodian Trustees.
 - Blakeney Garage.
 - Trevor Leach's Field on Wiveton Road.
 - Perry Long's Boatyard on Westgate Street.
 - Blakeney Duckpond, owned by Blakeney & District Wildfowlers Association.

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- Field farmed by Mark Holman, behind Kingsway directly opposite 'Avocet View'.
 - Blakeney Marine Boatyard Field on Morston Road.
 - Glaven Caring Centre.
- viii) Members were in receipt of further information regarding the possibility of submitting a planning application to allow for parking for up to 60 days a year, on the **Former School Field** on Langham Road and at the same time an application to the NCC Parish Partnership Funding Scheme. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we do submit an application to both.

9. FINANCE

9.1. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that **Accounts** totalling £23,382.30 are paid.

9.2. **Clerk/RFO Report** gave the cashbook balances to date as well as various income figures.

9.3. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we apply to the **Highways Partnership Funding Scheme** for a 'trod' at the bottom of Back Lane, which runs from Back Lane on the bend past the entrance to Friary Hills up to the Cart Track, this would mean an application for £1,750.

9.4. Members discussed increasing the **Carnser Car Park Charges** for the 2017 season. Suggested from £3.00 to £4.00 per day, as it had remained unchanged for over 8 years, and is now one of the lowest priced prime location car parks on the North Norfolk Coast. Various proposals were made and amended ie; £3.00 daily charge to remain, £4.00 to be the daily charge, but the following were finally ***proposed & agreed***:-

- i) To increase the Daily Fee to £3.50 all day (6 in favour and 4 against).
- ii) To charge £1.00 for all vehicles after 6pm (8 in favour, 1 against, and 1 abstention).
- iii) To increase the cost of a Weekly Ticket to £15.00 (all agreed).
- iv) To increase the cost of a Season Ticket to £50.00 (all agreed).

Cllr Jenny Girling, left the meeting at this point, having given prior apologies as she needed to leave the meeting for a short while and would return as soon as she could.

9.5. Members discussed the **Coronation Car Park Charges** ahead of the Finance Committee Meeting in relation to the 2017 season. Various discussions resulted in the following being ***proposed & agreed***:-

- i) 30 Minutes free parking to remain (8 in favour, 1 against).

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- ii) Up to 6 hrs parking to be £3.50 (8 in favour, 1 abstention).
- iii) Up to 24 hrs parking £5.00 (8 in favour, 1 abstention).

10. TRANSPORT ITEMS & REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

10.1. Members noted the minutes from the meeting of the **North Norfolk Town & Parish Council Forum** which was held on 14th November 2016, attended by our representative, Rosemary Thew.

11. COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS – None received.

12. CORRESPONDENCE – None received.

13. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS – *It was **proposed & agreed** to exclude the Public & Press. In view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted (in relation to planning and legal advice), it is advisable in the public interest that the press and public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.*

13.1. **The Pastures** and the way forward. Nicola Baker (Head of Planning NNDC) advised that The Cabinet decided on the 4th November 2016, not to proceed with an Article 4 Direction, but instead have offered to facilitate and fund a mediation process between The Trustees of The Pastures & Blakeney Parish Council & The Blakeney Hotel. All Trustees of The Pastures had been contacted and updated, and It was **proposed & agreed** to accept this offer, in an effort to resolve this ongoing situation.

13.2. Application No. **EF/16/1473** – Proposal; *Application for Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed change of use; Agricultural Barn to (C1) Hotel and other flexible uses as per Part R of the Town and Country Planning Act (GPDO) 2015 at, **Barn to north of Morston Road, Blakeney**. It was **proposed & agreed** that we object to this application and write accordingly.*

13.3. **Affordable Housing & NNDC** – BPC had been asked to start thinking informally about any possible future exception sites.

To note NNDC Planning Decisions Taken & Updates as well as any Planning Inspectorate Appeals if any.

- 1) Application **PF/16/1267** – Proposal; *Erection of single storey front and rear extensions at, **Stallgates, 2 Langham Road, Blakeney**. Consent given.*

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- 2) Retrospective Application **PF/16/0828** – Proposal; *Retention of earth bank at, **39 New Road, Blakeney**. Consent given.*

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- 3) Application **NMA/15/1354** – Proposal; Non-material amendment to allow alterations to roof materials (main & lean-to) & door materials (french doors & windows, bi-fold doors, & front door) at, **The Nest, 57 New Road, Blakeney.**
Consent given.
- 4) Application **PF/16/1254** – Proposal; Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of replacement dwelling at, **Three Owls Farm, Saxlingham Road, Blakeney.** **Refused.**
- 5) Application **LA/16/1285 & PF/16/1284** – Proposal; Internal and external alterations to facilitate erection of part two-storey and single-storey extensions and flint boundary wall at, **Morgan Cottage, 97 High Street, Blakeney.**
Consent given.
- 6) Application **PO/16/1050** – Proposal; Demolition of bungalow and erection of four semi-detached houses at, **Wentwood, Saxlingham Road, Blakeney.**
This application has been withdrawn.
- 7) Application **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.** **This application has been withdrawn.**
- 8) Part Retrospective Application **PF/16/1168** – Proposal; Variation of condition 2,7,12,13 & 14 and removal of Condition 16 of planning permission no. 15/1219 to allow for revised site layout (including positioning of dwellings, pedestrian access, plot boundaries, car parking), reduction in land levels, design and fenestration alterations including re-positioning of flue on Plot 5 and approval of screen fence and wall details at, **Greencroft House, 22 Morston Road, Blakeney.**

Meeting closed at 9.06pm.

Chairman _____