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

Present:- Rosemary Thew (Chairman), Jenny Girling (Vice-Chairman), Alban Donohoe, Barry Girling, Edward Hackford & Iain Wolfe.

Clerk:- Tracey Bayfield.

Public:- 6

1. A letter of resignation from our previous Chairman, Tony Faulkner dated 2nd August 2016 had been received. It was therefore ***proposed & agreed*** that Rosemary Thew takes on the role of **CHAIRMAN** for the remainder of 2016/17 and that Jenny Girling will remain as **VICE-CHAIRMAN** for the same period.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** – were received and ***accepted*** from; Roger Hall (*away*), Margaret Benson (*away*), Samantha Arlow (*stuck in traffic in Norwich*) & Neil Thompson. PCSO Shane Artingstall due to shift patterns.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** from members – Iain Wolfe declared a personal interest in item no. 9.ii. The National Trust Planning application as a past employee, although this ceased more than 2 years ago.

4. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that the following **MINUTES** are to be signed as a true record;

4.1. FULL COUNCIL – Tuesday 5th July 2016.

4.2. EXTRA ORDINARY FULL COUNCIL – Tuesday 26th July 2016.

4.3. EXTRA ORDINARY FULL COUNCIL – Tuesday 2nd August 2016.

5. **GUESTS** –

5.1. Report from **Wells Police (Safer Neighbourhood Team)** read on their behalf. Since the last full meeting of the Parish Council there were a total of 21 calls received from Blakeney. Of the 21 calls, 15 did not require Police attendance, hence they would be low level information calls both from the public and other emergency services or historic suspicious circumstances calls that needed to be logged but not attended. 6 did require attendance, 3 of them being recorded assaults (crime) and the other 3 minor road traffic collisions or related highways matters.

5.2. The meeting welcomed Helen Chester who advised us about the requirement to register all **Public Rights of Way** by 2026 and how she may be able to help with this. Helen reiterated the information which had already been widely circulated in print and which is available to the public. Helen's hourly rate is £25.00 and initial search to establish if

there is anything which could possibly be taken forward would take around 4 hours, hence it was ***proposed & agreed*** that we ask Helen to undertake this initial search for us. The aim is to see if there are any more rights of way which could be added to the map or if there are any which could be recorded at a higher status.

6. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS – The Holt Medical Practice, is home to the 'Holt Patients Participation Group' and they will be holding an open meeting on Thursday 22nd September at 7.00pm at the Holt Medical Practice. Lal Wright has been a local long serving representative and is soon to step down, hence if there is anyone who is interested in joining this group please do contact them.

7. COUNCILLOR REPORTS –

7.1. **District Councillor** - Final report from outgoing Cllr. Andrew Wells.

- The plans for Shared Services by NNDC and Gt. Yarmouth were now not going ahead, with the decision not to proceed taken late in the day by NNDC.
- Devolution and the restructuring of Norfolk & Suffolk, discussions are still ongoing. NNDC does not support this.
- Planning & Enforcement – NNDC have taken on new enforcement officers, but are now short on planning officers, although the reality is that there is a national shortage, not just at NNDC. To try and address this, NNDC have taken apprentice planning officers who they hope to train up. In reality the problems within the planning department are ongoing.
- NNDC Representative – District Cllr Sarah Butikofer will be your short term representative at NNDC until the election for the District Cllr for the Glaven Ward has been held. Sarah can be contacted via email sarah.butikofer@north-norfolk.gov.uk all her other contact details are on the NNDC website.
- Thank you – Andrew started by thanking the Parish Council for their hard work and support during his time in office. The Parish Councillors concluded Andrews report by expressing their sincere thanks and gratitude for the hard work and commitment that he has shown to Blakeney during his time. A round of applause ensued.

7.2. **County Councillor** - Dr. Marie Strong.

Cockthorpe Mobile 'Telephone Mast: Whilst I gather that Vodafone and 02 have continued to transmit from this mast there have been ongoing problems regarding EE and Three. I have been in contact with the Corporate Affairs Manager for Ericsson UK Ltd and he assures me that a solution to the problem is in the offing and that I will be kept informed.

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North Norfolk Food and Drink Festival: Congratulations to all those providers and suppliers of excellent produce particularly the considerable number of stall holders from our local parishes. The beautiful location of Holkham's walled garden did justice to the displays of food and beverage and we came away with a trolley full of provisions.

Recycling Centre - hazardous waste amnesty 9am and 5pm on Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 September: Residents can get rid of unwanted toxic chemicals at seven of NCC's recycling centres. Wood preservatives, bug and weed killers, paint, thinners, varnishes and special cleaning products are among the wide range of household chemicals which will be accepted for free. These are products too dangerous to be tipped down drains and cannot be put in regular waste bins because they can damage the environment and need to be dealt with using specialist disposal processes. Sites include Hempton, Helhoughton Rd, Fakenham, NR21 7DY.

Composting: Not such a 'time-sensitive' item as the amnesty week-end. Since more and more people are taking gardening seriously and there is an increase in renting allotments I thought to include a link to the NCC latest Master Composter newsletter [Norfolk Master Composter newsletter July - September 2016](#).

Adults at Risk of Abuse: On a serious note the number of adults being abused does not abate so I am repeating the following advice: If someone you know is being abused call NCC Adult Social Services on 0344 800 8020 (24 hours a day); text 07767 647670; email SCCE@norfolk.gov.uk; online.norfolk.gov.uk/socialcareenquiry. Leaflets are available in the library. (You can also use these contacts if you are worried about a child). For more information see www.norfolk.gov.uk/speakup. In an emergency call the police on 999.

Devolution for Norfolk and Suffolk: Unfortunately I have to confirm press coverage that the devolution process continues to become more and more confusing – including a statement that because of earlier voting by councils North Norfolk residents will not be given a vote in respect of a mayor. The briefest and simplest statement I can make is that Norfolk County Councillors across the political spectrum have given strong if cautious support to devolving powers and finance down from government but have no enthusiasm for setting up an additional tier of local government with a mayor. Whilst Norfolk has nearly 1 million residents the consultation for Norfolk and Suffolk achieved just under eleven thousand respondents. However I am confident that when NCC has its final debate on devolution councillors will give serious consideration to the outcome of the consultation together with views expressed at town and parish council meetings and by individuals across our urban and rural divisions. I am also confident that councillors, elected to represent the people of Norfolk will demonstrate due diligence before casting a vote on a mayoral combined authority for Norfolk and Suffolk.

Hi-tech Access to Library Services: Just to impress 'techie' readers I offer the latest tool service from NCC's library service which has launched Spydus Mobile, a free app that residents can download onto their smartphone or tablet to access

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library services and manage their membership at any time 'on the move'. The app allows users to search for books, place holds on interesting items, download e-books and e-audio books, keep track of their library account and manage their loans. Even those who are not library members can use Spydus Mobile to scan barcodes on books, CDs, DVDs and other items, using their device's camera while they are out and about, and search for available copies at their local library. To download Spydus Mobile for Apple and Android devices visit the App Store or Google Play and select Norfolk Library and Information Service.

Concessionary Bus Passes: I know in the changeover from my mobile 'phone and email equipment I have lost one email but I recall one of the questions – asked by many. The answer is that the Government will not allow the county to take any money in relation to a concessionary bus pass.

8. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION – No public wished to speak.

9. PLANNING –

PF = Full Planning Permission

PM = Planning Permission – Reserved Matters

LA = Alteration to Listed Building

- i) Application No. **PF/16/1126** – *Proposal; Erection of detached two and a half storey dwelling with detached annexe and integral garage at, **Michaelmas Cottage, 1 Langham Road, Blakeney.** It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we maintain our previous **objections**, which are;
 - Overdevelopment of the site.
 - Concerns over the access point for additional vehicle movements to and from this site on to the B1156, Langham Road, which is defined as a main distributor route so close to the junction of the A149, as we have concerns over visibility and safety issues.
 - These concerns are heightened due to this proposal to now add a detached annexe, thus potentially resulting in more vehicles and traffic movements.*
- ii) Application No. **PF/16/0685** – *Proposal; Erection of office extension and erection of tractor storage building at, **The National Trust, Friary Farm, Cley Road, Blakeney.** It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we **object** for the following reasons;
 - Policy EN1 – Nfk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, states that proposals that have an adverse effect will not be*

permitted, and that the benefits of any proposal would have to clearly outweigh any adverse impacts. We believe that this proposal is contrary to this policy, and therefore should not be permitted.

- Policy EN2 – Protection and Enhancement of Landscape and Settlement Character, states that development proposals should conserve and where possible enhance the special qualities and local distinctiveness of the area, including its historical, biodiversity and cultural character and the setting of and views from Conservation Areas. This application does neither. The proposed building height would be detrimentally visible from the north.
 - Policy EN8 – Protecting and Enhancing the Historic Environment. Refers to the character and appearance of Conservation Areas being preserved and where possible enhanced, combine this with Policy CT4 – Telecommunications as this proposal sees the erection of a BT satellite pole on the west elevation. This is a sensitive site and therefore contrary to Policy EN8.
- iii) Application No. **PF/16/1151** – *Proposal; Single storey and rear extension (retention of part built single storey side extension) at, **6 Harbour Way, Blakeney***. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we have no objection.

10. FINANCE

10.1. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that **Accounts** totalling £33,805.41 are paid.

10.2. **Clerk/RFO Report** – Members were provided with the up to date incomes for both the Carnser and Coronation Car Parks, and the cashbook figures to date.

10.3. Members were in receipt of the **Annual Return (Audit)** for the year ending 31st March 2016 and noted that it has been signed off as satisfactory by the external Auditor.

10.4. As requested previously members were in receipt of various quote options for a **Projector System** for the Parish Office, which would assist immensely with planning applications. It was ***proposed & agreed*** (other than 1 against and 1 abstention) to proceed with the quote from Audio Electronic Design dated 8th August 2016, Option 1.

10.5. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we accept the renewal price for **Street Lighting Maintenance** from T. T. Jones for a further 3 year period.

10.6. Members were in receipt of information with regard **Village Gateways**, and were advised that should they wish to take this forward, then NCC Partnership Funding could also be applied for. It was ***proposed & agreed*** not to proceed, as we feel that this money could be much better spent.

11. TRANSPORT ITEMS & REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

11.1. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that the following **Committee Vacancies**, (as a result of the retirement from the Parish Council of Tony Faulkner) would be filled as shown;

- *Finance Committee* – **Iain Wolfe**.
- *Dinghy Park Management Committee* – **Iain Wolfe**.
- *BPC Affordable Housing Committee* – Carry forward to next meeting.
- *War Memorial Cottages Trust* – **Roger Hall**.
- *The Pastures Trust* – **Iain Wolfe**.
- *The Wash & North Norfolk Coast Advisory Group* – **Rosemary Thew**.
- *PLANNING at NNDC* – **Rosemary Thew**. The next meeting of the Development Committee is due to take place on Thursday 22nd September, and a representative from Blakeney Parish Council may be required to attend. Rosemary is unable to attend, as is Edward. It was agreed to ask Roger Hall or Margaret Benson.

11.2. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that Alban will confirm with us, when he has managed to obtain some dates from Ben Young, (England & Leicester Rugby Player) who has agreed (subject to any career commitments) that he would be happy to join us for an official opening event for the recently completed phase of the **Recreation Ground Project** as discussed sometime ago. It was appreciated that this may have to be one afternoon during term, if a weekend was not now possible.

11.3. **Village Hall Committee** representative Rosemary Thew advised that a new caretaker has been appointed and that improved insulation is being installed which should significantly help with heating. The new kitchen is currently being installed and other cosmetic improvements will be made soon. Bookings are reasonable and the film night continues to be popular. Two new committee members have recently joined; Edward Hackford and Geoff Davison.

11.4. Rosemary Thew, our representative on the **NthNfk Parish & Town Council Forum** explained that the group were targeting the concerns over second homes and Council Tax and had had a good meeting with Norman Lamb MP, who had taken the matter up with NNDC, NCC and the appropriate Minister. The overall concern is that the money raised

from second homes council tax is not meeting the needs of the communities most affected by the second homes.

11.5. **Dinghy Park Management Committee** – Members were in receipt of the latest set of minutes from the meeting held on 23rd August 2016, and Alban (committee member) explained that by seeking the help of an outside person (Don Glaister) to act as the Project Manager was a huge step for this committee. The committee are very grateful to Don, and once he has drawn up a report, it will be taken back to the committee for consideration.

12. **COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS** – Barry Girling asked if Dinghy Park signage could be placed on the next PC agenda, as locals were not happy. The Clerk advised that as the Dinghy Park Joint Management Committee had delegated powers they would be addressing their signage arrangements (they had in fact deferred this for a while for varying reasons) and that it was already an item listed for discussion at their next meeting and that any Parish Cllr or member of the public was very welcome to attend or speak with a member of the Committee. The Clerk also advised that a sign at the entrance to the Dinghy Park appears to have been stolen and that it has been reported to the Police. Some present suggested they knew who had stolen it but did not give a name.

13. **CORRESPONDENCE**

13.1. As we have the agreement of Norfolk County Council, it was ***proposed & agreed*** that we erect some signs on the recently installed wooden **Overtopping Posts** along the quay heading to stop boats mooring on them and that we consult with Neil Thompson who is a member of The Blakeney Harbour Association as to precise wording and the spacing/number needed.

13.2. Members were asked to feed in ideas to update the **4 Year Strategy**; and it was ***proposed & agreed*** to add and initially budget for; i) Neighbourhood Plan (Consultant) and will run this past the APM in March 2017, ii) Definitive Map Footpath costs, iii) Resurfacing Carnser and Village Hall Car Parks.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Chairman _____