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Minutes of a meeting of **Blakeney Parish Council** which was held on **Tuesday 3rd April 2018** at 7.00pm in the Parish Office.

Present:- Rosemary Thew (Chairman), Shirley Everett, Barry Girling, Edward Hackford, Jennet Tilley & Iain Wolfe.

Clerk:- Tracey Bayfield.

Public:- 5.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** were received & ***accepted*** from; Alban Donohoe (*away*), Jenny Girling (*unwell*) & Jess Tutt (*unwell*). PC Jason Pegden.

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

3. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that the **MINUTES** of the FULL COUNCIL held on Tuesday 6th March 2018 are to be signed as a true record.

4. **GUESTS** –

4.1. **Wells Police (Safer Neighbourhood Team)** report received advised that there had been one report of criminal damage since the last Parish Council meeting and no other crime reported. A reminder to be aware of marine crime as the new season approaches and to report anything suspicious to the Police.

4.2. The meeting welcomed and thanked **Liz Wrigley** (Neighbourhood Planning Consultant; Core Connections) who kindly promised to keep us up to date with regard updates on Neighbourhood Plans & Second Homes during the production of our own Neighbourhood Plan.

Liz was the examiner in the Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan and has met with the examiner of the Upper Eden NP. Liz shared highlights and objectives specifically from the Upper Eden Neighbourhood Development Plan (2012-2025), St. Ives in Cornwall & Petersfield in Hampshire. They identified a number of concerns which also affect our local community such as; affordable housing for local people in rural areas, older communities, preventing over scaled development, second homes, affordable housing/market housing ratio on new developments, self build homes, local connections, both residency and employment, and employment/business opportunities.

A useful conversation followed and Liz left us with various information and would be happy to assist with any questions we may have going forward.

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

6. **COUNCILLOR REPORTS** –

6.1. **District Councillor** - Karen Ward gave the following report.

Light Pollution - External domestic lighting is not currently considered as part of planning applications, unless the site is in a Dark Sky designation. However, consideration of revised policies could be made in the Neighbourhood Plan; in the emerging Design Guide or as part of the Conservation Area Review.

Enforcement queries – Officers have been to Wilson’s Way; Michaelmas Cottage annex and work being carried out on the Coastal path following requests from residents and appropriate action taken.

Local Plan - A meeting is taking place on Weds 4th April between Blakeney PC, Blakeney Housing Association and Officers at NNDC to discuss affordable housing sites ahead of the general Local Plan site visits on 5th April.

Parking at Queens Close - Following another accident with a resident trying to get along the path to her car, I have contacted Victory Housing and we are now looking into an alternative route for the pedestrian path which would not be so steep. A meeting with the local residents is being organised to discuss what other steps we can take to improve the situation.

General NNDC matters;

Local Plan - Government has published a revised National Planning Policy Framework for consultation. This can be viewed at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/draft-revised-national-planning-policy-framework>

The consultation period closes on the 10th May. The outcome of this consultation has the potential to change the parameters for our Local Plan quite substantially. NNDC will be submitting a detailed response to this consultation, but Parish Councils considering Neighbourhood Plans, would be wise to review the consultation for themselves.

A revised Local Plan timetable has now been published, which envisages public consultation in early 2019 and Adoption of the emerging Local Plan in late 2020. However, these dates might slip again if the results of the consultation mean a higher Housing Target and more/different sites to be allocated.

Preferred site allocations for Hoveton, Ludham, Mundesley and Stalham have been discussed and Briston, Fakenham and Blakeney will be discussed in April.

Affordable Housing - The Overview & Scrutiny Committee has called Victory Housing and Broadland Housing in to account for Housing disposals in rural and coastal villages, due to concerns about the lack of affordable housing outside towns across the District.

Assets - NNDC manages a land and property portfolio of over £50 million on behalf of the residents of North Norfolk. It is critical that these are managed well and for the

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benefit of **all** residents. An updated and revised Asset Management Strategy has now been agreed, which will ensure greater transparency in the ongoing management of this portfolio.

Glaven Valley Conservation Area Review - Work is already underway and the team have met with representatives of Friends of North Norfolk, who were instrumental in getting the reviews commissioned. If there are any buildings or landscapes which are not accessible from the public highway, but which you consider should be considered in this review, then please do let me know and I can introduce you to the team who are undertaking the review.

Sports - Investments in Tennis at Cromer and Swimming at Sheringham are open for public consultation. Information is available on the NNDC website if you want to know more.

If you have any questions about any aspect of this update, then please do get in touch

karen.ward@north-norfolk.gov.uk or 07946 533983

6.2. **County Councillor** - Dr. Marie Strong gave the following report.

Mobile Library Service: The current budget for the county wide mobile service is £457,430. It is proposed cut this budget by £200,000. I accept that a review of the service would be very useful, however I believe the first step should be to consult with its users, librarians, parish councils, community groups. If parish councils and other groups involved with mobile library users would like to write to me asking that before a decision is taken local opinion and ideas are sought I will share this view with fellow councillors including members of the Communities Committee. It was **proposed & agreed** that Marie be asked to undertake a consultation with regard the mobile libraries, before the cuts are made, something simply, like a tick box exercise in order to receive replies swiftly given the timing.

Access v. Restriction to our Salt Marshes and Creaks: I remember that when there was a plan to zone off a section of Blakeney marshes, where no humans or domestic animals were to be allowed to walk, there were residents of Hindringham who pointed out that the marshes belonged to them as much as to coastal residents. Hence I believed you would want to read the latest about the marshes. You may previously have heard of the national scheme to extend coastal access for the public to enjoy. However concerns were raised about people venturing out on the marshes. It is now proposed that the saltmarsh at Wells, Warham and Stiffkey be designated as “no access land”. Whilst being aware of the need for safety there is the potential for local people who have enjoyed the marshes for walking and boating for generations to be barred. It is important to read the consultation document to see what other villages may be affected.

Having said that villages from Burnham to Holme have 'common rights' and Holkham, Morston & Blakeney may also have rights. Where local councils, interested groups and individuals have only traditional rights they will need to respond to the consultation if they are to preserve their traditional rights. These traditional rights are referred to in the North Norfolk Special Area of Conservation. I will be raising the matter with the Norfolk Coast Partnership and Norfolk County Council. The consultation closes on 16 May and can be found on: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/england-coast-path-from-weybourne-to-hunstanton-comment-on-proposals>.

7. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION –

A member of the public raised concerns over the pedestrian gateway access steps, which had been installed into the two properties known as Michaelmas on Langham Road. The steep earth and sleeper steps would appear to be inadequate and quite possibly dangerous where they adjoin the narrow Morston Road footpath. *(District Cllr Karen Ward will take this up with planning/design at NNDC. County Cllr Dr. Marie Strong advised that NCC would only comment if they felt that there was a Highway safety aspect.)*

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

Planning Applications; *In order to reduce the number of extra ordinary meetings called, any applications which have been received by the Parish Council since the publication of the agenda and the actual meeting, will be considered at said meeting, unless the Parish Council decide otherwise. In order to advise the public, any such applications will have been listed on the Parish Council Facebook page and website.*

- 8.1. Members noted the the draft **Drawing Guidance** for future use by those submitting householder and small scale development planning applications to North Norfolk District Council.

9. FINANCE

- 9.1. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that the **Accounts** for March, totalling £39,307.72 are to be paid.

- 9.2. **Clerk/RFO Report** – i) Finance/Car Parks/Balances , ii) Review of Local Government Ethical Standards – consultation currently taking place, sent to all Cllrs, with a deadline of Friday 27th April 2018, iii) NNDC have confirmed that the Local Government Boundary Committee for England have concluded that the new Ward Boundary from May 2019 for Blakeney, will be called the Coastal Ward, and shall consist of; Blakeney, Cley, Kelling, Morston, Salthouse, Stiffkey, Wiveton & Weybourne.

- 9.3. Members were delighted to learn that 2 of our 3 applications to the Norfolk County Council **Parish Partnership Funding Scheme** had been

successful; i) Blakeney Primary School, which will receive £1,475.50 towards the 'School 20mph flashing lights/signage', ii) SAM2 (Speed Awareness Message – mobile signage), which will receive £1,640.50. The unsuccessful application was an 'Unauthorised Land Access Prevention Scheme', which sadly did not fit the objectives of the funding.

9.4. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we purchase 3 additional white broxap **Removable Posts** for installation near the Trading Sites on The Carnser and also a further 2 fixed ones, if need be, to add to the 3 in stock to replace the old wooden posts at the bottom of the High Street, subject to Highways agreement.

10. TRANSPORT/TRAFFIC RELATED ITEMS & REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES

10.1. Iain Wolfe, as one of our representatives, gave an update/report from the most recent meetings of the **Blakeney Channel Coastal Community Team**. *(The minutes will be circulated when received.)*

Barry Girling gave his apologies & left the meeting at this point.

10.2. Rosemary Thew, as one of our representatives, gave an update/report from the most recent meeting of the **Blakeney Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**. A questionnaire is to be hand delivered to properties around the village over the Easter Holidays. *(The minutes will be circulated to members of the Parish Council for information.)*

10.3. Our two representatives, Rosemary Thew and Barry Girling, agreed that they felt that our place on the **North Norfolk Coastal Advisory Group** would be better offered to the 'Blakeney Channel Coastal Community Team', as the topics in the main would seem more suited to them. It was ***proposed & agreed*** to ask if we could offer our seats to them, but we would still keep a watchful eye on the agenda for items of specific interest to the Parish Council.

11. There were no **COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS**.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

12.1. **Natural England** consultation, which sets out their proposals for 'improved' **access to the coast** between Weybourne and Hunstanton. Members noted the proposals and offered no comment save in relation to the stretch of the coastal path between Blakeney and Cley. In that respect, members expressed the hope that, should the path again suffer damage of the sort experienced in the 2013 tidal surge, it would be repaired. To insure against loss of the path because repair could not be done, then we would want those responsible for the Coastal Access Footpath to pursue the option of joining the path through inland access and noted that this could be

achieved through opening up a path alongside the caravan site off Back Lane, running through the Wiveton Café.

12.2. It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we support an exhibition to commemorate the **Armistice in Blakeney** to be held on Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th November 2018. We are happy to set aside a small budget of £250 towards this if need be and would suggest that the organisers may like to consult and meet with other groups such as; The Royal British Legion, The Blakeney History Centre, St. Nicholas Church, etc, and we thank Rosemary Thew for offering to be our representative in any meetings.

Edward Hackford gave his apologies & left the meeting at this point.

12.3. **General Data Protection Regulations** following our whole council training on 20th March 2018, two items still to be addressed.

- To appoint a **Data Protection Officer** (NB; Eastlaw will charge £2k p.a.) – It was ***proposed & agreed*** that with the Clerks agreement; we will appoint our Parish Clerk/RFO (Tracey Bayfield) as the Data Protection Officer also.
- It was ***proposed & agreed*** that we add the responsibilities of the GDPR to the working responsibilities of the **Personnel Committee**.

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

- PF/17/2102** – Extension and replacement roof with raised ridge height and including dormers to north elevation and balcony to south elevation to form 9 additional staff bedrooms at, **The Blakeney Hotel, The Quay, Blakeney** – ***Granted***.
- PF/18/0020** – Erection of single storey rear extension at, **20 Westgate Street, Blakeney** – ***Granted***.
- LA/17/2104** – Internal and external works to ‘The Granary’ to facilitate the conversion of the roof space to additional guest suites and new entrance hall extension at, **The Blakeney Hotel, The Quay, Blakeney** – ***Granted***.
- PF/17/2103** – Demolition of detached outbuilding (‘The Folly’) and erection of 3 storey building to provide additional guest suite. Conversion of roof space to ‘The Granary’ with addition of dormers and rooflights to form two guest suites and erection of extension to east elevation to form entrance hall. Replacement windows in north elevation to part of second floor of the main hotel building at, **The Blakeney Hotel, The Quay, Blakeney** – ***Granted***.

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- v) **PF/17/2106** – Change of use of land to the rear for use as a reclamation yard (Sui Generis), erection of new storage and welfare building in association with the reclamation yard, retention of containers used for storage, re-siting of existing caravan on a temporary basis during construction of new storage and welfare building, formation of new car park area and associated access routes and other associated works and levelling of mound at, **The Acreage, Coast Road, Wiveton** – **Granted.**

- vi) **PF/18/0091** – Erection of single storey front, side and rear extensions and replacement of flat roof garage with pitched roof at, **The Cuddy, 8A Morston Road, Blakeney** – **Granted.**

Meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Chairman _____