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Minutes of a meeting of **Blakeney Parish Council** which was held on **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019** in the Parish Office, commencing at 7.00pm.

**Present**:- Rosemary Thew (Chairman), Jenny Girling (Vice-Chairman), Shirley Everett, Barry Girling, Edward Hackford, Nigel Sutcliffe, Jess Tutt and Iain Wolfe.

*Also District Cllr Karen Ward and County Cllr Dr. Marie Strong.*

**Clerk**:- Tracey Bayfield

**Public**:- 6

1. **Apologies for Absence** were ***accepted*** from Alban Donohoe & Samantha Arlow.

2. **Declarations of Interest** from members under the 'Code of Conduct'.

- Nigel Sutcliffe – pecuniary interest in item no. 9.1. as this is the neighbouring property.

3. **Letter of Resignation** had been received from Neil Thompson. The Council wished for it to be noted on record, their sincere thanks for all the hard work from Neil over the years. The legal process to fill the vacancy has begun.

4. **Minutes** -

4.1. ***Resolved*** that the minutes of the **Full Council Meeting** held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019 are to be signed as a true record.

5. **Guests** –

5.1. **Wells Police (Safer Neighbourhood Team)** – PC Jason Pegden was not present and no report had been received.

5.2. Ross Bullard of 'Came & Company Insurance Brokers' was due to explain **Cyber Insurance** at the invite of BPC. He has had to defer this and will now join us for the January 7<sup>th</sup> 2020 meeting.

6. **CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- At a recent Meeting the Norfolk Association of Local Councils resolved to ask all its member councils to work towards net zero carbon emissions by 2045.
- Neil Thompson has advised that a very generous donation towards the Primary School library has been received.

7. **COUNCILLOR REPORTS** –

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

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**Have your say on Norfolk's Council Tax:** Go to [www.norfolk.gov.uk/budget](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/budget) and have your say. (If not familiar with computers ask for assistance at the library.) The council is proposing a rise of 3.99% for 2020/21 i.e. 1.99% for general services and 2% for adult social care. NCC Cabinet will review the budget on 13 January and a decision will be finalised at full Council on 17 February. CLOSING DATE DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>.

**The independent Local Government Boundary Commission for England** is asking for your views on the electoral review of Norfolk County Council. CLOSING DATE 11<sup>th</sup> February 2020 – note this is the third and I am sure the LGBC hope the final closing date. However understandably the draft recommendation consultation has required amendment. Thus 5 May-13 July 2020 is now the date currently scheduled with final recommendations due to be published on 30 September. However, all such dates are subject to change so keep an eye open for any further changes.

The review will agree new council division boundaries across the council.

- Do you have suggestions about where your division boundaries should be?
- Where do people in your area go to access local facilities, such as shops and leisure activities?
- Which areas do you identify as your local community?

Your opinion matters. For more information and interactive maps go to: [consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://consultation.lgbce.org.uk) and [www.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.lgbce.org.uk). Write to: Review Officer (Norfolk), LGBCE, 1st Floor, Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0TL Email: [reviews@lgbce.org.uk](mailto:reviews@lgbce.org.uk). Twitter: @LGBCE Consultation.

Whilst you may offer your idea of where your division boundary should be others will also be giving their views. Hence it is important to look out for the draft recommendations about which you can also have your say.

**Norfolk County Council's Environmental Policy:** You can read the full report on NCC's website Infrastructure and Development Select Committee (13 November 2019 Appendix A) which was agreed at full council on 25 November 2019. In brief NCC will work with our neighbor's within the region, specifically Suffolk County Council and the Broads Authority, to collectively achieve 'net zero' carbon emissions on our estates by 2030, but within our wider areas, work towards 'carbon neutrality' also by 2030.

**Free Fire Safety Check:** Go to Norfolk County Council website and see how you can be considered for a free fire risk safety check. Share the information with any of your family or friends who would benefit from this service.

7.2. **District Councillor** – Karen Ward gave the following report:

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NNDC Full Council passed a motion on Ambulance Response times - to work with coastal parishes who are experiencing the worst response times in North Norfolk and to put pressure on the trust to respond urgently to concerns

Feedback from the Local Plan consultation has now been collated and will be reviewed by the Planning Policy and Built Heritage Working Party on Monday 9th December. A timetable for location specific discussions will be produced for 2020 and as soon as I know when Blakeney is going to be considered I will let you know.

### **8. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION**

- *Gray's Travelling Funfair – disappointed with the Public Statement. Item was not on the agenda. Believe the Finance Committee has overstepped the mark. Appreciate that difficult decisions have to be made, but feel that this is the wrong one. Seriously urge BPC to reconsider. Read a couple of extracts from facebook posts.*
- *140 people have signed a public petition. The public will hold a public meeting. Where has the Parish Council lost £5,000 when it never had it in the first place. We want to keep the fair on the quay. BPC are welcome to attend the public meeting.*

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

*Cllr Nigel Sutcliffe left the meeting for item 9.1. only.*

- 9.1. Application no. **PF/19/1930** – *Proposal; Alterations & extensions to existing house & annexe & carport at, **Annexe at, 69 Morston Road, Blakeney.** **Resolved – No objection.***
- 9.2. ***This item had been withdrawn*** - Application no. **PF/19/1383** – *Proposal; Demolition of bungalow and erection of 2 x two storey dwellings (semi-detached), erection of 2 x detached garages and boundary wall at, **Fiddlers Rest, 6 New Road, Blakeney** and therefore no further action is needed.*
- 9.3. Application no. **LA/19/1938** – *Proposal; Replacement windows and doors at, **Flinders, 132 High Street, Blakeney.** **Resolved – No objection.***
- 9.4. Application no. **PF/19/1950** – *Proposal; Variation of condition 2 (plans) of planning permission PF/18/1263 to allow for amended design at, **8 Wiveton Road, Blakeney.** **Resolved – Object;** as per our original comments ie; this development is not in-keeping with the village. Policy EN4 Design – states that design which fails to have regard to local context and does not preserve or enhance the character and quality of an area will not be acceptable. Policy EN2 Protection and Enhancement of Landscape Settlement Character – states that the development should be sympathetic to, the distinctive character areas identified in the North Norfolk Landscape Character Assessment etc. Development proposals should demonstrate that their*

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location, scale, design and materials will protect, conserve and where possible enhance the special qualities and local distinctiveness of the local area.

- 9.5. Application no. **PF/19/1976** – *Proposal; Demolition of detached dwelling, removal of outbuildings and erection of 7 dwellings, associated development and access to New Road at, **Kimberley, New Road, Blakeney.** **Resolved – Object;** We have concerns over height, (three storeys is not in-keeping) the density (compared to Whiteways next door) and massing. We are concerned over what appears to be a communal green space in terms of who will ensure it is maintained going forward and a lack of a uniformed approach in the pantiles. Also the Tree Preservation Order on site must be adhered to, the current application shows (T1) as being replaced, it has a TPO for a reason and in this case it provides valued screening. We are aware of a detailed response from a member of the public regarding the landscaping on this site to the Case Officer and agree with the comments made.*
- 9.6. Application no. **PF/19/2022** – *Proposal; Construction of dormer window to the southern elevation of the property at, **Cottontail Cottage, Back Lane, Blakeney.** **Resolved – No objection.***
- 9.7. Application no. **PF/19/1992** – *Proposal; Formation of new access to Langham Road to serve relocated caravans approved under planning permission ref. no. PF/19/0768 at, **Galley Hill House, Langham Road, Blakeney.** **Resolved – Object;** Huge concerns over the safety of this proposed new access given the bend in the road and our local knowledge of this stretch of road in terms of speed given that it is the designated route hierarchy into the village. (Especially when coupled with the summer use by pedestrians and cyclists.) In addition, the removal of the hedge would make this site significantly intrusive in the landscape. We echo the comments made by another objector with regard the pre application advice given in IS2/18/2320, ie. existing site access retained and the hedgerow creates the screening.*
- 9.8. Members noted; Application no. **CL/19/2044** – *Proposal; Certificate of lawfulness for existing use as shop area as part of the dwelling at, **103 – 105 High Street, Blakeney.** No action was necessary.*

## **10. FINANCE**

- 10.1. **Resolved** that the **Accounts** totalling £11,697.48 are paid and approved.
- 10.2. **Clerk/RFO Report** – Members were in receipt of the cashbook figures todate.
- **A.F. Blakemore Foundation** (Spar) had made the maximum charitable donation of their scheme; £200 towards the replacement children's roundabout following an application by the Clerk. Our thanks to them for their continued support.

- **Scout Lease** – We have been advised by the Blakeney Group Scout Leader that The Scout Association Trust Corporation replied on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019 and raised a number of questions, the Blakeney Scout Group Executive now have to appoint and instruct Solicitors. We have asked for an update following their next scheduled meeting in January 2020 and we will have this as an item on our February agenda.

10.3. **Resolved** that the **2020/21 Precept** figure to be requested from NNDC is £41,000 and that we work towards balancing the budget and review all of our income and expenditure streams going forward.

## **11. TRANSPORT/TRAFFIC RELATED ITEMS & REPRESENTATIVES ON OTHER BODIES**

- 11.1. **Resolved** to forward the following items for the attention of the Norfolk County Council **Highways Rangers** when they visit in December; whilst noting that some may not be their responsibility and hence we will ask them to confirm which department they come under. Other items have already been fed in as and when received outside of this meeting.

*Clean the 20mph signs in Back Lane – Repair the green grassed area at the Langham Road, Westgate Street junction which is now totally churned up and rutted following the recent work by UKPower networks/Openreach – Road surface damage by The Manor Hotel, opposite the Cart track, as a result of the water and stones, this needs addressing – Ensure that the 2 bollards at the pedestrian crossing are clean and in good working order (lit at night) – New Road footpath encroachment to be continually monitored and reduced where need be – All white lines/markings at the Westgate Street junction to be repainted – Quality of the road resurfacing on Morston Road in places following the recent cabling works is awful and requires attention – On Morston Road, the grass verge near the property known as ‘Wildacre’ (no. 83) is awful following the recent cabling works by UKPower networks/Openreach and requires attention - Damaged/bent highway signs need replacing; the Blakeney village sign as you enter from Langham into Blakeney still needs replacing and has been reported many times now over the past few years and the sign at the top of Westgate Street which reads ‘Blakeney Quay’ is also bent.*

- 11.2. Don Glaister will now come and present the ‘Project Plan’ for the Carnser Corner on behalf of the **Blakeney Channel Coastal Community Team** at our January 2020 meeting.
- 11.3. **Resolved** to defer the appointment of one additional Parish Councillor to each of the following in house **Committees**; i) Affordable Housing, ii) Bonfire & Fireworks, iii) Dinghy Park Management, iv) Personnel/Data Protection, v) Finance Committee & also possibly for the B3CT until we have filled the current Parish Councillor vacancy.

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- 11.4. **Resolved** that BPC is happy for Neil Thompson to continue as a valid **Trustee of The Red House Land** following his resignation from the Parish Council.
- 11.5. Edward Hackford gave a verbal update on behalf of the **Blakeney Village Hall Trust**.
- 11.6. **Blakeney Neighbourhood Plan** – 35 responses have been received in reply to the public consultation event, these are currently being coordinated by our consultant. BPC had a question with regard the last paragraph of Policy 1 in the draft Neighbourhood Plan, which was, “Who makes this call?” The answer is NNDC. (Although it is easy to check a few months before affordable homes come forward to ask NNDC for an update of the Housing List and numbers with local connection. As per the details previously provided by Graham Connolly, NNDC.) The next meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group is on 16<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm.
12. There were no **COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS**.
13. **CORRESPONDENCE**
- 13.1. **Resolved** to accept the comprehensive review of the **Village Hall Car Park** area which had been undertaken by the Chairman and Clerk and the recommendations for works are to be progressed in this financial year. The BVHT were provided with a copy of the report for which they were thankful and endorsed the findings and would welcome the work.
- 13.2. **Resolved** that having received the email links from NNDC with the information they hold in relation to our request for **Village Statistics** as per the BPC decision taken on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2019, and the information held by the Office for National Statistics, we are unable to take this any further and refer it back to the BC3T, from where this request initially came. It may be worth them contacting the UEA to ask if it would be a project suitable for and student.
- 13.3. **Resolved** that we defer the decision of whether or not to continue with the outstanding contribution to the **Community Awards** until our April 2020 meeting.
- 13.4. **Resolved** to commit a sum of £150 from the Community Fund for the production of a **Community Charity Book** which should end up cost neutral. The Clerk will make further tentative enquiries.

**NNDC Planning Decisions or Updates, or any Planning Inspectorate Appeals since our last meeting.**

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- **PF/19/1149** – Demolish existing dwelling and erection of two storey detached dwelling at, 5 Westgate Street, Blakeney – **Granted.**
- **PF/19/1373** – Alterations and extension to form new first floor accommodation following removal of part of existing roof and alterations to windows at, 4 Whitefriars, Back Lane, Blakeney – **This application has been withdrawn.**
- **PF/19/1383** – Demolition of bungalow and erection of 2 x two storey dwellings (semi-detached), erection of 2 detached garages and boundary wall at, Fiddlers Rest, 6 New Road, Blakeney – **This application has been withdrawn.**
- **PF/19/1681** – Two storey and part single storey detached dwelling and detached double garage with annexe accommodation above following demolition of existing dwelling and garage at, Pinetrees, Saxlingham Road, Blakeney – **This application has been withdrawn.**

*Meeting closed at 8.41pm.*

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_