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Minutes of a meeting of **Blakeney Parish Council** which was held on **Tuesday 3rd November 2020** commencing at 7.00pm in the Scout Hut.

Present:- Rosemary Thew (Chairman), Jenny Girling (Vice-Chairman), Samantha Arlow, Jane Armstrong, Alban Donohoe, Shirley Everett, Barry Girling, Edward Hackford, Nigel Sutcliffe & Iain Wolfe.

Clerk:- Tracey Bayfield

Public:- 3

1. Apologies for Absence - were ***accepted*** from Jess Tutt. Also, County Cllr, Dr. Marie Strong, County Cllr Karen Ward & PC Jason Pegden.

2. There were no **Declarations of Interest** from members.

3. Minutes -

3.1. It was ***resolved*** that the minutes of the **Full Council Meeting** held on Tuesday 6th October 2020 are signed as a true record.

4. Guests – PC Jason Pegden, from **Wells Police (Safer Neighbourhood Team)** had sent the following report in his absence.

There have been 5 calls to the Police since my report last month and 3 crimes reported; 1 x criminal damage and 2 x public order offences. We are now facing another national lockdown and having Policed the last one, my advice is to report any breaches via the Report It pages via the Norfolk Constabulary website. These types of breaches need to be recorded and they will be actioned quicker than calling 101. Please do not email me direct as they will get missed and not actioned if I am not here. There is daily 24hour cover in the area.

5. CHAIRMANS ANNOUNCEMENTS –

- Remembrance Day Service – No wreath laying on the 11th, but a service will be recorded and shared virtually on the 8th November via the RBL in association with the Church.
- We have all received details of the ‘Experience Innovation Incubator (Nfk) Call for Ideas’ information sheet from NCC via the Clerk by email. Please note if you have any ideas, then the deadline is 20th November.
- Edward Hackford had recently represented us at a meeting of the Ambulance Response Times Working Party; which is made up of a membership of representatives from NCC, NNDC and various local parish and town councils. The aim of the group is to monitor and reduce the amount of time it takes for a patient to get to hospital from North Norfolk and to increase the number of community paramedics given that there are no longer any First Responders in

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North Norfolk. The group plans to meet 3 times a year and the minutes will follow in due course.

6. COUNCILLOR REPORTS –

6.1. **County Councillor** - Dr. Marie Strong had submitted a detailed and informative report (nothing Blakeney specific), which will be copied in the pages of the Glaven Valley News. In addition she wished it to be known that the NCC Household Waste and Recycling centres will remain open during the forthcoming lockdown.

6.2. **District Councillor** – Karen Ward, had sent her apologies and will forward a detailed report over the weekend.

7. OPEN PUBLIC SESSION – 2 people spoke.

- Jamie Bird – Land & Planning Director for Fleur with regard the ‘Kimberley’ development on New Road. We asked Darren Mortimer, Highways Officer based at NNDC if we could use the verge very early on in our planning, he in turn spoke to Steve White (Senior Highway Engineer) NCC, and they didn’t seem to have any real issues. The use of this verge area to us is really crucial to the build of the development and being able to start the work and we have reduced the size of the compound from our initial concept.

Cllrs made it known that BPC had not been consulted, it was not brought to our attention by the developer at any point in time, and neither was it mentioned and highlighted as part of the planning application, or drawn to our attention by NNDC. It was in fact by sheer chance, that we picked up on this, despite the time and effort gone into the preparation of the off-site parking agreement.

- David Mack – Creeting and Coast (Land Acquisition), have been working very closely with a near neighbour of the ‘Kimberley’ site, who has in turn been liaising with and representing other near neighbours and they seem happy enough with the amended compound proposals. With regard the list of amendments for ‘Kimberley’ under application no. PF/20/1871 they are in essence, rather minor.

Cllrs made it known that they did not consider the compound minor in any way, and with regard the list of amendments, the use of 21 external lights, albeit on sensors which can be overridden, is considered to be a gross light intrusion, given our ‘Dark Skies Policy’ here in North Norfolk. All in all, we are very disappointed.

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

- 8.1. Application no. **LA/20/1594** – *Proposal; Replacement of existing windows with new double glazed units matching the present profile at, **103-105 High Street, Blakeney.** Resolved – No objection.*

- 8.2. Application no. **LA/20/1727** – Proposal; Internal and external works associated with update of existing bathroom and kitchen including new floors and units, paint and decoration throughout ground floor; painting of exterior woodwork (window frames, doors) at, **Beachstone House, 59 High Street, Blakeney**. **Resolved – No objection.**
- 8.3. Application no. **LA/20/1816** – Proposal; Replacement windows to rear elevation at, **130 High Street, Blakeney**. **Resolved – No objection.**
- 8.4. Application no. **PF/20/1871** – Variation of Condition 2 (Approved Plan) of Planning Permission PF/19/1976 to allow changes to house designs/site layout/landscaping to align with company standards at, **Kimberley, New Road, Blakeney**. **Resolved – Object.** *We object to this application. We consider the use of 21 external lights to be a gross light intrusion, given our ‘Dark Skies Policy’ here in North Norfolk. We wish to see ‘Fleur’ reinstate these as per the original approved application. We wish to see motion sensors, not timed sensors and we are very disappointed with this proposed amendment.*
- 8.5. Members received plans for the proposed **Construction Compound** on NCC Highways land, regarding Application no. **PF/20/1871** at **Kimberley, New Road, Blakeney**. **Resolved – Object.** *We do not consider this proposed compound to be minor in any way and we are deeply disappointed. We oppose this. We believe that the village as a whole would be very upset with this proposal, there will be noise disruptions for those nearby, safety implications for those using Saxlingham Road and living at Whiteways. No traffic management plan has been produced for our consideration. BPC had agreed use of the Village Hall Car Park for vehicles and at no time was it implied that the verge would be used as a compound, (we had made it clear that we did not want the verge used in our discussions) hence we are stunned by this and all lack of consultation with us. Again we are very disappointed and feel that there is total disregard for the village. Whilst this may be an important project to the developer, it is not an important project to this village, it provides nothing in the way of affordable housing, a request at the outset.*

We feel so strong about this, that we may feel the need to cancel our agreement for use of the Village Hall Car Park, and would therefore ask that the Clerk places this as an item for discussion on our December agenda.

9. FINANCE

- 9.1. **Resolved** that the **Accounts** totalling £19,868.79 are approved.
- 9.2. **Clerk/RFO Report** – Members were in receipt of the cashbook figures todate.

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- The grant application submitted to the Victory Housing Fund via the Nfk Community Foundation for repairs to the play equipment was unsuccessful, due to the demands on the limited fund.
- The grant application submitted to the Blakemore Foundation (Spar) towards repairs to the play equipment was successful and they gave £200.
- The 'Sheep Bridge' as it is known at the end of the dinghy park, which crosses Bridge Creek, is maintained by the 'Bridge maintenance team at NCC'. On 22nd October, it underwent repair and I have been informed that it will now be placed on a scheme list for replacement at some point in the future.
- Our Internal Auditor, Mr David Wright, undertook an inspection of the first 6 months' accounts for the current financial year (2020/21) on 23rd October; the following files were inspected; Invoices, Receipts, Cashbook, VAT, Salaries, Minutes & Bank Statements. Everything was found to be in accordance with the suggested approach for our sector.
- Blakeney Volunteer Litter Picking Scheme – Jane Lewis offered to co-ordinate a scheme. We have set this up with the full support of the NNDC Environment Team, who have provided, 10 sets of equipment; litter picking sticks, bin rings, rubbish bags etc. The scheme has received a great response, has reserve members and is going to continue into winter, rather than stop after the Half Term hols. A great success.
- Cllr Armstrong had asked for the following motions to be included on this agenda; however, they are not included for consideration by Full Council this evening.
 - i) Consider whether it is appropriate to accept the grant offered by NNDC in the light of the income received by BPC over the financial year to date.
 - ii) Consider an appropriate date for a meeting of the Finance Committee.

As per Standing Order no. 9 (f & h) - The decision of the Proper Officer as to whether or not to include the motion on the agenda shall be final, and such motions shall be recorded with an explanation by the Proper Officer of the reason for rejection.

As the Proper Officer I have taken the decision not to include these items for the reasons given to the requester; ie;

- i) This is a decision which will need to be taken by The Finance Committee when it meets (which has delegated power), not Full Council.

- ii) I shall set the date and call the meeting as soon as I am ready to do so. We traditionally do not hold the Finance Committee meetings until November/December, and I shall call the meeting as soon as I have everything prepared. We now have the first 6 months of figures and I will aim to work on these very soon, I am unable to therefore give a date at the moment, as soon as I can, I will!

9.3. Members considered the following items of **Deferred Expenditure**;

- i) **Resolved** to undertake the repairs to children's Play Equipment of Playing Field = £2,947.00 + VAT (*contractor appointed back in September 2020.*)
- ii) **Resolved** to continue with preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan budgeted at £2,000.
- iii) **Resolved** to Install the new Speed Ramp at entrance to Village Hall Car Park = £355 (*contractor appointed back in March 2020.*)
- iv) **Resolved** to repair and reinstall the sign with new posts at the resident's entrance to Coronation Car Park, quote from Geoff Davison accepted.
- v) **Resolved** to install the noticeboard on The Pastures, quote from Geoff Davison accepted.

9.4. **Resolved**; having considered a number of quotes/responses for the removal of ivy from back wall of **Coronation Car Park** we appoint Norfolk Garden Solutions to cut the ivy growing at the base of the wall in the car park, and allow it to die back, and not touch/remove any from the wall at this time. In addition, we seek advice as to what we believe is a 'Party Wall' and speak with our insurance company. We also look to obtain quotes for buttresses or RSJ's and fence the area off.

9.5. **Resolved** that we allow up to £250 for the purchase of new white battery operated **Christmas Lights** for the tree on The Pastures.

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

11. **CORRESPONDENCE**

11.1. **Resolved**; both Jane Armstrong and Rosemary Thew are happy to take on the role of being the one appointed member of BPC to attend **Norfolk ALC** virtual meetings every few months. They will agree between them. (Rosemary had been undertaking this role in the past year.)

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- 11.2. ***Resolved;*** that given the continued delay in bringing the future of any proposed lease regarding the **Scout Hut** to a conclusion with the local group, BPC would prefer that the lease is now surrendered and to this effect a virtual meeting is to be set up a virtual meeting with The Scout Group HQ, (not local group) as per the information received via our solicitor.
- 11.3. ***Resolved;*** that having considered all the information on the **Community Fibre Partnership Scheme** in association with Openreach we would like to proceed with this scheme for the benefit of the village.
- 11.4. ***Resolved;*** that we do not site alternative **Textile Recycling Bins** via NNDC under their recycling credit scheme, but that we continue with the Scope charity bins.
- 11.5. ***Resolved;*** that we continue with the **Commemorative Seat** programme and do not revert back to wooden seats as opposed to those made from recycled material.

Meeting closed at 9.07pm.

Chairman _____