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A virtual meeting of **Blakeney Parish Council** was held on **Tuesday 12th January 2021** commencing at 7.00pm.

Present:- Rosemary Thew (Chairman), Jenny Girling (Vice-Chairman), Jane Armstrong, Alban Donohoe, Barry Girling, Edward Hackford, Nigel Sutcliffe, Jess Tutt & Iain Wolfe. Also County Cllr, Dr Marie Strong.

Clerk:- Tracey Bayfield

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1. **Apologies for Absence** were ***accepted*** from; Samantha Arlow & Shirley Everett.

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

3. It was ***resolved*** that the **Minutes** the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on Thursday 3rd December 2020 are to be signed as a true record.

4. **Guests** – PC Pegden had forwarded the following report from **Wells Police (Safer Neighbourhood Team)** – Since the 3rd December 2020 onwards there have been 12 calls to the Police, Crimes recorded are 1 x Assault and 1 x Criminal Damage. A reminder that any breach of health orders (Covid), must be reported via the ‘report it pages’ on the Norfolk Constabulary website as they need to be recorded.

Resolved; a note of thanks to our local Police team who are doing a great job policing Covid breaches locally, they have been seen around the village, in particular the Quay on a number of occasions.

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

6. **COUNCILLOR REPORTS** –

6.1. **County Councillor** - Dr. Marie Strong had submitted a generic report in advance which had been circulated to the members, which will be copied in the pages of the GVN. She did however, wish to express the ‘Support for Families and the Free School Meals’, referred to in the report and a new event to help parents in Norfolk access support, this would take the form of a free webinar on the 14th January and details are being rolled out via NCC.

6.2. **District Councillor** – Currently on extended leave.

7. **OPEN PUBLIC SESSION** – 3 people spoke.

- *Jamie Bird – (Land & Planning Director for ‘Fleur Developments’). We have circulated the revised proposals to the Parish Council and the neighbouring properties of the Kimberley development, and we think that we have addressed most of the concerns of the Parish Council. By*

allowing us to use the verge, will save us time and money, meaning that we can increase the donation we give to the Primary School towards the library project. Prior to this evenings meeting I have been in touch with Simon Case (Landscape Officer NNDC) regarding the proposed removal of the trees on the verge and await his reply. We hope that you can see that we have really worked on our proposal to you.

- *Joff Brooker (Fleur Developments) – We have been contacted by two families that have expressed an interest in moving in to live here permanently and school their children locally. We are keen to start the build. We thank you for being patient and listening to us and our proposals. I can only apologise again for the way in which this has happened.*
- *Whiteways resident – As per the email I sent to the Parish Council, I am happy with the proposal put forward by Fleur, the highways vision splay adequate is safe. I appreciate that Fleur are continuing to talk to the neighbours of their site. Local residents wish to speed up this development.*

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

- 8.1. Members were in receipt of revised compound proposals for site development works at, **Kimberley, New Road, Blakeney**. Much discussion was had on this item and questions were put to the developer. The majority of members were still extremely disappointed by the way in which this had played out, and the fact that out of 7 units of housing, there was not one element of affordable housing for local people. However, it was noted that there were no outstanding objections from the immediate neighbours.

It was **proposed** that *“We accept the proposal by Fleur (as per the Revised Compound Proposals, Kimberley, New Road, Blakeney, January 2021, which were received by BPC on 6th January 2021 which are shown as item no. 4 of said document. Summary of Revised Proposals, main points being; a) Area for compound reduced, c) hoarding printed with digital photo of hoarding*, d) Cabins coloured green, e) Trees planted, f) Fully compliant proposals, g) Vision splays for Saxlingham Road and Whiteways unaffected, which equates to their proposed preferred resolution no. 1 which is as follows;– *The proposals are acceptable as defined in this document with photo printed hoarding).*

An amended proposal was made and resolved; *“We reluctantly accept the proposal by Fleur (as per the email proposal 1 above), but with the caveat that; Fleur produce and provide us with an expanded/detailed Vehicle Management Plan, which would, in*

particular, ensure that no vehicles are parked on the main A149 and that they road is not used as a waiting bay for vehicles wishing to enter the site. Safety of pedestrians using the footpath must be ensured and the entrance/exit to the site must be kept clean at least daily. In addition, the developers are required to advise their opening hours which must not unduly inconvenience residents.

- 8.2. Application no. **PF/20/2515** – *Proposal; Change of use from Church Hall to retail bakery and café at, **St. Nicholas Church Hall, The Quay, Blakeney.***

There was interest in the idea of a village bakery, but a concern about the loss of rooms which, up to now, have provided opportunities for local charities etc. to operate. There has been one objection and, because the yellow planning sign has only just been erected, we are unclear whether the application is truly in the public domain. This is important as there are other village outlets where beverages are available.

The position and history of the church rooms make this a very important site. The objector and some of us believe that the rooms were left to the men of the village after the war (for community benefit) and this needs to be resolved before we can consider an application which would involve a business interest.

Turning to the plans, we are surprised to be consulted on change of use only rather than building plans as well. The position of the rooms on The Quay makes them very visible. The proposals seem to reflect a revamp to the exterior which would seem not to be in keeping with other buildings on The Quay. Furthermore, the application suggests a bakery but the plans submitted suggest that the kitchen is likely to be too small to allow baking on site. So, we are unclear quite what is proposed. Also, one toilet for customers and staff seems insufficient.

Resolved – Object; The unanswered questions around the terms of any legacy and the lack of transparency around building plans mean that we object to the application.

- 8.3. Members were in receipt of the draft of **The Blakeney Neighbourhood Plan.** ***Resolved;*** huge thanks to the members of the group which have undertaken a vast amount of work in order to produce this excellent document. We formally give our approval, in order for the Steering Group to submit to North Norfolk District Council.

9. FINANCE

- 9.1. ***Resolved*** that the **Accounts** totalling £7,521.89 are approved.

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- 9.2. **Clerk/RFO Report** – Members were in receipt of the cashbook figures to date.
- 9.3. ***Resolved*** to accept the recommendation from the Finance Committee that we request a **2021/22 Precept** figure of £43,000.
- 9.4. ***Resolved*** to accept the quote for **Tree Inspection Work** by David Gillet for the sum of £425.00
10. There were no **COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS**.
11. **CORRESPONDENCE** – No items received.
12. **Confidential Business – Exclusion of the Press & Public**

*Due to the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted; **New Developments/Affordable Housing/Charities**; is there an overlap? It is proposed that the press and public are now excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.*

Proposed that this discussion is not confidential and that the public should be permitted to remain for the item.

Amended proposal; As Chairman, I asked for this item to be on the agenda, and given the explanation previously, ie. involves a number of charities and outside organisations, I propose that this is a confidential item. Meetings of the various organisations to discuss their way forward may of course be called by them in the future. Amended proposal was taken. ***Resolved*** that the press and public be excluded.

The one remaining member of the public left the meeting at this point.

Sites for housing/development have been thrown into the pot in dribs and drabs of late. Perhaps now is the time to stand back and assess them all side by side, before we proceed any further, given that some come under the umbrella of the Parish Council, some are outside Charities, some are Charities under the umbrella of BPC as such, and others are Housing Providers. The land is all within the parish of Blakeney. Now would be a good time to reflect on where we are and what exactly it is that we want for the village going forward. The goal posts keep on moving and we have to be sure that the benefits to the village are still there, ie. the best land use, mixed developments, ownership etc. In the pot now are; BLA04 (land behind Kingsway), War Memorial Cottages Site, and the Former School Field on Langham Road. Whilst no detailed full planning applications have been agreed for any of these sites, it is only right that we look at the picture as a whole. On the back of any preferred site (NNDC) there will always be the chance of an Exceptions Site.

Whilst no decisions were made, the members agreed that it was right to consider the collective pot and would call the appropriate meetings for further discussion with

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relevant parties, with the aim of delivering the best outcome for the village, ie. affordable social housing but not at a huge detrimental effect to the village.

Meeting closed at 8.38pm.

Chairman