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Minutes of a meeting of **Blakeney Parish Council** which was held on **Tuesday 3rd August 2021** in **The Scout Hut**.

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

Also; District Cllr Victoria Holliday & County Cllr, Michael Dalby.

Clerk:- Tracey Bayfield

Public: 1

1. Apologies for Absence were ***accepted*** from; Alban Donohoe & Jess Tutt.

2. Declarations of Interest from members –

- *Edward Hackford – 7.4. **Personal Interest** – as friends with the applicant.*
- *Samantha Arlow – 7.2. **Personal Interest** – as a current and future trader on the Quay.*

3. Resolved that the **Minutes** of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 6th July 2021 are signed as a true record.

4. Chairman's Announcements –

4.1. As Chairman, I attended the NNDC Development Committee, at which they discussed 'The Hide', Queen's Close, and the committee approved the application, however, they have said that they will look into the gates as built and that they agent was going to condition the lighting. (*Members present advised that the external lighting, having been vastly reduced in the days prior to the committee meeting, is now back on in force and the District Cllr to report this back to NNDC.*)

4.2. I also attended the NNDC Development Committee, at which they discussed the application to extend the caravan season at Galley Hill House (about to be known as Hilltop Retreats and not to be confused with Galley Hill Farm) and this too was approved by the NNDC committee.

4.3. As a member of the North Norfolk Town and Parish Forum, you may be interested to know that the group is in contact with the Minister, via our MP Duncan Baker, regarding second homes and holiday lets, lack of affordable housing for local people, be it rent or to purchase, potential to raise income from second homes and holiday lets etc, all which BPC and other councils have discussed over the years. Some statistics may also be of interest to you; Blakeney has a total of 301 out of 703 (that is 42.8%) properties that are Second Homes or Holiday Lets, this is the highest figure of the table, which included,

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Wells (34.2%), Sheringham (26.4%), Mundesley (17.3%), Trimmingham (13.6%) and Langham (26.5%). The group are asking that the Minister looks at the potential income that could be generated for the District Council and the parish and towns if they were to introduce a levy for Council Tax on these properties, and for example, an additional income from 5% of the CT Levy at band D £95.20 per household, would bring in £15,993 to Blakeney and to Sheringham, it would be as much as £45,696. To summarise the group continues to work very hard for the parishes and towns in North Norfolk.

4.4. The Clerk shared the Play Inspection reports with Cllr Jane Armstrong, who has now analysed these, I therefore wish to seek the views of those present, on whether to resurrect the 'Recreation Committee' in order to consider the quarterly Play Inspection reports going forward, or whether to add this job to the 'Finance & Governance Committee', or to simply leave things as they are.

Members view is, that this would be best added to the 'Finance & Governance Committee' where the reports could then be discussed and considered more fully. This to be ratified at the September Parish Council meeting.

5. Reports from Police, County & District Councillors –

5.1. *Wells Safer Neighbourhood Police Team* – PC Jason Pegden – No report received.

5.2. *County Councillor* – Michael Dalby gave a generic report.

5.3. *District Councillor* – Victoria Holliday.

NNDC, in conjunction with the Clinical Commissioning Group, are offering a new service, Social Prescribing, for residents who need some help with problems such as loneliness, isolation, too much stuff to do around the house or money issues. You can refer yourself or be referred by a health professional, and a Living Well Officer will help you access services or offer support so things don't get worse. You can call 01263516248 or email social.prescribing@north-norfolk.gov.uk.

A group of us coastal parishes are working with the Ambulance Trust to reduce emergency response times in our area. The emergency services are very busy at the moment with staycationers as well as locals needing help, so they have launched a 'happy healthy holidays' campaign to direct us to the most appropriate service - it's best in the first instance to call 111 as they can do quite a lot such as repeat prescriptions, making you an appointment with a health professional or telling you the nearest open Minor Injuries Unit. They are putting in extra resources such as a paramedic on a bike in some of our bigger coastal towns such as Wells.

At NNDC Full Council, we approved a new 5 year Housing Strategy, which aims to increase the supply of new housing, improve the existing housing stock, make

better use of existing housing (including second and holiday homes), and support vulnerable residents.

NNDC has recently submitted a successful bid for a community renewal fund for Fakenham, which will include better cycling and walking infrastructure and sports facilities, and help residents address climate change.

NNDC has recently adopted a new Model Councillor Code of Conduct.

6. Open Public Session – No public spoke.

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

- 7.1. **PF/21/1425** – *Proposal; Demolish existing studio and replace with proposed new studio (Consent for PF/17/0653 lapsed) at, **Southdown Cottage, The Downs, Blakeney.** **Resolved** – No objection, subject to it being built of brick.*

- 7.2. **RV/21/1785** – *Proposal; Variation of condition 2 (approved plans), 3 (restricting use to retail bakery and café) and 6 (extraction equipment) and removal of conditions 4 (no primary cooking of unprepared food) of planning permission PF/20/2515 to allow the primary cooking of unprepared food and sale of hot food on the premises at, **St. Nicholas Church Hall (Two Magpies Bakery), The Quay, Blakeney.** **Resolved** – Object; We agree with the objector, who says that the application has been a manipulation of the planning system from the very start and we agree with the objections raised. We strongly believe that this bit by bit application will have a detrimental effect on many businesses in the village, most of whom are currently too busy and short staffed, to probably be fully aware of what is going on. We have huge concerns over the installation of an extraction/ventilation system on the exterior of this building, (which we have been lead to believe has already taken place), as it will look straight onto Mariners Hill, a public open space in the heart of the Conservation Area, with the noise and smells affecting the near neighbours and those using Mariners Hill. For these reasons we urge NNDC to refuse this application.*

- 7.3. **PF/21/1805** – *Proposal; Demolition of redundant garages and erection of 3 dwellings with associated parking at, **Land at Queens Close (old Garage Block), Blakeney.** **Resolved** – No objection.*

- 7.4. **RV/21/1876** – *Proposal; Variation of condition 2 of planning ref. PF/19/0768 to allow for revised vehicular access arrangements and associated landscaping amendments at, **Hilltop Retreats (Galley Hill House), Langham Road, Blakeney.** **Resolved** – Object, we have huge concerns over the highway safety aspect of this proposal. This site lies on a bend, on the hierarchy road into the village, and will itself*

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be generating a higher number of vehicle movements due to its future use. We also wish to see the current hedging preserved.

- 7.5. **PF/21/1935** – *Proposal; 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.** **Resolved*** – No objection, subject to a condition being added that there is to be a restriction/control over the parking on The Pastures driveway and that these proposals do not lead to further water/sewerage problems in the immediate area.
- 7.6. **PF/21/1937 & LA/21/1938** – *Proposal; 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.** **Resolved*** – Due to the number of elements within this one application, we will consider each part separately and comment as such on each element.

The Folly - Object; Upon reflection, we consider this to be a vast overdevelopment of the site and an intrusion upon neighbouring properties, and we support the objections raised by residents of Quay House. If approved, these proposals must not lead to further water/sewerage problems in the immediate area

The Granary – No objection, although we note that this means a loss of parking spaces, when the Hotel already acknowledges that it has a problem with a lack of parking spaces now. Hence, our no objection is subject to a condition being added; that there is to be a restriction/control over the parking on The Pastures driveway and that these proposals do not lead to further water/sewerage problems in the immediate area

Replacement windows in main hotel – No objection.

- 7.7. **RV/21/1859** – *Proposal; Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission ref. no. PF/19/2219 to allow for installation of solar panel to south elevation roof slope at, **Otium, High Street, Blakeney.** **Resolved*** – No objection.
- 7.8. **PF/21/1989** – *Extension and alterations to dwelling at, **Saltmarsh, 18 Morston Road, Blakeney.** **Resolved*** – No objection.

8. FINANCE

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8.1. **Resolved** that the **Accounts** totalling £10,533.95 are approved and paid.

8.2. **Clerk/RFO Report** – Carnser Car Park and Coronation Car Park figures reported along with cashbook balances held.

The Bonfire & Fireworks committee have agreed to defer any decision about the 2021 event until September.

The 'basket swing' on the playing field, is due to be repaired by Fenland Leisure sometime this month.

9. Reports from Representatives on Other Committees/Groups

9.1. **Resolved** to appoint Rosemary Thew as the 1 Parish Councillor to the **Dinghy Park Management Committee** and to approve the representatives on behalf of the Blakeney Sailing Club; John Seymour, Alan Collett and David Fairbrass, subject to the Dinghy Park Committee confirming that these persons comply with the recent adopted changes to those eligible to be appointed.

10. COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS – None received.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

11.1. **Resolved** that having considered the **Tree Survey** dated May 2021 that we ask David Gillett to provide us with an itemised quote for all the proposed work, coded green, and then for all the proposed work coloured yellow.

12. Confidential Business – Exclusion of the Press & Public

***Resolved proposal;** Due to the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted (detailed below), it is proposed that the press and public are now excluded and they are instructed to withdraw. (Admission to Meeting Act (Public Bodies) 1960.)*

12.1. **Resolved** to award this years '**Outstanding Contribution to the Community Award**' 2021, to Rachel Bould, this to be announced at the Party on The Pastures.

Meeting closed at 8.22pm.

Chairman _____