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Minutes of a meeting of **Blakeney Parish Council** which was held on **Tuesday 4th July 2023** in **The Scout Hut at 7.00pm**

Present:- Rosemary Thew (Chairman), Nigel Sutcliffe (Vice-Chairman), Alban Donohoe, Barry Girling, Jenny Girling, Judith Pegden, Mike Reed & Ian Wolfe.

Clerk:- Tracey Bayfield

Public:- 1

Did not attend:- Willie Weston

1. Apologies for Absence were ***accepted*** from; Shirley Everett & Samantha Arlow and also, District Cllr Victoria Holliday & County Cllr Michael Dalby.

2. There were no **Declarations of Interest & requests for dispensations** from members.

3. *Resolved* that the **Minutes** of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 6th June 2023 are signed as a true record.

4. Chairman's Announcements;

- **Electric Car Charging Points** – Blakeney Village Hall Trust had met with Anglian Car Charging and having discussed the finer points, including costs and the rapidly changing technology, they have decided to reconsider this in a couple of years' time and not proceed at the moment.
- **Scout Hut** – The depleted committee met recently and are keen for us to move this forward, although the ramp still remains an issue, ie. not compliant with DDA or planning permission, items which are to be sorted before BPC takes over any responsibility.

5. Reports from County & District Councillors –

5.1. *County Councillor* – Michael Dalby to be asked if he can chase the outstanding work on Back Lane, work which has been undertaken would appear to be somewhat lacking.

5.2. *District Councillor* – Victoria Holliday had circulated a report in advance.

6. Open Public Session –

- *The Liberal Democratic member, standing for the next General Election, shared some information regarding Holt Medical Practice, as Melton Constable Surgery currently falls within his Norfolk County Council division, hence a mutual concern and he would urge everyone to respond to the Holt Medical Practice Consultation which is likely to open at the end of this month.*

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

- 7.1. **PF/23/1149** – *Proposal; Alterations to garage including modifications to roof, to join it to the main roof to accommodate a bedroom in roof space with formation of four new dormer windows at, Avalon, 8A Morston Road, Blakeney. Resolved – No objection.*
- 7.2. **PF/23/1209** – *Proposal; Proposed first floor loft conversion with dormer on west-facing roof slope; alterations to fenestration and external materials at; 2 Kingsway, Blakeney. Resolved – No objection.*
- 7.3. **RV/23/1263** – *Proposal; Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of planning permission PF/21/2307 – to vary single-storey extensions, removal of part of roof and extension to provide first floor accommodation and other external alterations at; Cranford, High Street, Blakeney. Resolved – No objection.*
- 7.4. **PF/22/1415 & LA/22/1416** – *Proposal; Alternations, partial demolition of garden wall and erection of garden shed and also Internal and external works to dwelling at; The Friary, Mariners Hill, Blakeney. Resolved – Object; We agree with the comments made by Historic England, in that; Heritage Assets are an irreplaceable resource and should be conserved and great weight should be given to this. The desire is to preserve or enhance the character and appearance of conservation areas. This application does not concord with this desire.*
- 7.5. **PF/23/1329** – *Proposal; Porch to front elevation of dwelling at; Point View, Saxlingham Road, Blakeney. Resolved – No objection.*
- 7.6. **PF/23/1330** – *Proposal; Single storey extensions and external alternations to dwelling at; Charnwood, Pintail Drive, Blakeney. Resolved – Object; We consider this to be overdevelopment of the site.*

8. FINANCE

- 8.1. **Resolved** that the **Accounts** totalling £12,788.62 are to be paid.
- 8.2. **Clerk/RFO Report** –
- Due to the complexity of the car park **income reports**, these will now be prepared to taken to the Finance & Governance Committee who will in turn report back to full council.
 - A reminder to all Cllrs, that our **Whole Council Training** session is tomorrow evening, and all members are expected to attend.

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- NCC Highways have advised that they will support the parish as much as possible in our desire to follow the **NNDC Conservation Area Appraisal Plan**, with regard reducing the amount of rogue signage in the village. They ask that BPC contact the businesses/organisations first and ask them to remove their boards, stating that if they don't then highways will remove them and take them away for recycling.
- To confirm that the number of members of the **Dinghy Park Management Committee** is in fact 9, not 6 as mentioned at the AGM.
- **A149 Hunstanton to Sheringham proposed Speed Limit Amendments** – NCC Community & Environmental Services have advised that following the number of objections and reoccurring concerns received during the statutory consultation, NCC has decided not to reduce the speed limit from the existing National Speed Limit down to 40mph and this scheme will no longer be progressed.

8.3. **Resolved** that we have noted the quotes/recommendations for a new **Office Printer** and would ask the Clerk to compare this with the cost of hiring such a model, and ask the Clerk to place the order, she feels most appropriate. We are aware that we did not budget for this item, but appreciate that is a necessity.

9. **Written Reports from Representatives on Other Committees/Groups** which have met recently if applicable.

9.1. **Blakeney Surgery (Holt Medical Practice/HMP) – Cllr Nigel Sutcliffe**

- The survey undertaken by our MP has been published and he is to contact HMP about its results. We await to hear the result of those discussions.
- The survey completed by Healthwatch has now been completed with 271 respondents. The majority of those (76%) indicate that the closure would have a negative impact upon them particularly with regards to how they are to travel to get medical support. This report will be used by Healthwatch in their consultations with the Integrated Care Board (ICB).
- Four FOI questions have now been asked of HMP to provide details of;
 1. The work relationship between HMP and Holt Medical Services Ltd.
 2. A request for their financial year end balance sheets from 2018 to 2023.
 3. Any discussions regarding the sale of Blakeney surgery.
 4. Any discussions regarding the purchase of Blakeney surgery.We await a response from HMP.
- My application to join the HMP Patients Participation Group has been rejected on the grounds of my close involvement in the resistance to close the surgery.

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- Healthwatch have had a meeting with HMP regarding their requirement as part of the ICB process to undertake a consultation process as the 'contractor' in accordance with 'Advice Note 3: Procedure for requests to close branch surgeries'. The keys issues coming out of that meeting are that;
- HMP will arrange patient engagement meeting at Blakeney with the date to be determined and with an independent chair provided by Healthwatch.
- Three drop-in sessions will be arranged at Holt surgery, Melton Constable surgery and Holt library with the dates yet to be agreed.
- Healthwatch will work with HMP to prepare their own survey.
- Healthwatch will act as the 'honest broker' to ensure the timetable for a 3-month consultation period is maintained.

Whilst this is progress, bearing in mind that so far HMP have done nothing with regards to consulting with patients about the closure of the surgery, it does give me a cause for concern. Our efforts so far have been with the patients who have been adversely affected by the closure of Blakeney surgery. The consultation by HMP will be based upon the whole of their practice, most of whom will be unaffected by their closure decision. Can I ask that all BPC councillors make sure they get involved in this Healthwatch process at any opportunity you can.

- BPC agreed unanimously that it was time to get involved in a direct dialogue with HMP to raise our concerns and to express community concerns. It was agreed that our Chair, Vice Chair and the District Councillor, should arrange a meeting with HMP to commence this process.

9.2. **Blakeney Neighbourhood Plan** – *Cllr Rosemary Thew* – NNDC have advised that the referendum will take place on **Thursday 14th September 2023**, and we urge everyone to vote on the day. A 'Referendum Information Sheet' will be published on the NNDC website no later than 28 days prior to the referendum. While the Neighbourhood Plan cannot be formally 'made' (adopted) until after a positive referendum result, national planning policy and legislation stipulates that emerging Neighbourhood Plans, and in particular 'post-examination' plans, should be given appropriate weight in decision making where that Plan is a material consideration to the application. Consequently, the issuing of the Decision Statement on Thursday 29th June brought into force the Neighbourhood Plan as a material consideration in the planning application process, where proportionate regard and weight should now be given to the post-examination draft neighbourhood plan (referendum version) in decision making as far as it is material to any planning application.

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The modified neighbourhood plan (referendum version), the Decision Statement and further information, can be found at: www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/blakeneynp

- 9.3. **Dinghy Park Management Committee Meeting** – *Cllr Alban Donohoe* gave a summary of the last meeting and the minutes will be available on the BPC website as usual.
- 9.4. **Resolved** to reappoint outside members to the following committees; **Party on Pastures/Events**; Alison Wagstaffe, Alison Jewell, Lynn Massingham & Jess Daynes and also the **Dinghy Park Management Committee**; the Blakeney Sailing Club will reconfirm their representatives to us very soon, as will the Blakeney Harbour Association, (in the meantime, status quo) and our 2 public representatives, Peter Roe and Steve Roch, have both advised that they are happy to remain, however, we do have to advertise these positions also.

10. No **COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS** received in advance.

11. CORRESPONDENCE –

- 11.1. **Resolved** that following a suggestion from an individual, we invite other outside groups to see if we can pull together to obtain more funding for **Individual Community Grants** for those in need.

For information only; NNDC Planning Decisions or Updates, or any Planning Inspectorate Appeals since our last meeting; most available on NNDC website.

- i) **PF/23/0070 – Barn Owl, Three Owl Farm Cottages, Saxlingham Road, Blakeney** – Change of use from holiday cottages to ancillary accommodation to main dwelling, and external alterations including demolition of porch, construction of lean-to plant room, blocking up of one window and installation of two bifold doors - **Approved**.
- ii) **RV/23/0473 & RV/23/0457 – Red House, The Quay, Blakeney** – Works associated with replacement side extension following demolition of existing side extension – **Approved**.
- iii) **EF/23/0713 – Four Winds, 13 Kingsway, Blakeney** – Lawful development certificate for proposed single storey rear extension – **Permission not required**.

Meeting closed at 8.25pm.

Chairman _____