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Minutes of a meeting of **Blakeney Parish Council** which was held on **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2023** in **The Scout Hut at 7.00pm.**

**Present:-** Rosemary Thew (Chairman), Nigel Sutcliffe (Vice-Chairman), Samantha Arlow, Alban Donohoe, Shirley Everett, Barry Girling, Jenny Girling, Judith Pegden, Mike Reed, Willie Weston & Iain Wolfe.

**Clerk:-** Tracey Bayfield

**Public:-** 5

**1. Apologies for Absence** – none; all members were present.

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

**3. Resolved** that the **Minutes** of the minutes of The Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023 are signed as a true record.

**4. Chairman's Announcements** –

- **Back Lane** – NCC looked at the recent surface repair works yesterday and agreed that further work needs doing.
- **Neighbourhood Plan** – NNDC have advised that the referendum will be held from 7am to 10pm on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at Blakeney Village Hall. If the community votes in favour of the Plan, it will form part of the wider Development Plan for North Norfolk and help determine planning applications within the parish of Blakeney.
- **Parking on A149 New Road** – Norfolk Constabulary have visited and concluded that vehicles parked on the highway outside 43 New Road, are not causing a dangerous obstruction as the road is wide at this point, and causes the traffic to slow down. With so much building work in general along the coast, this is not something that will go away in the near future. Any further questions should be directed to [SNTHolt@norfolk.police.uk](mailto:SNTHolt@norfolk.police.uk)

**5. Reports from County & District Councillors** –

5.1. *County Councillor* – Michael Dalby had circulated a report in advance.

5.2. *District Councillor* – Victoria Holliday updated members and will circulate report.

**6. Open Public Session** –

- *The Liberal Democratic member, standing for the next General Election; Having just attended the open public meeting in the village hall, about Holt*

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*Medical Practice planning to close Blakeney Surgery I wonder if the Parish Council and the community would consider crowd funding for £300k to build a new surgery, I think this is highly viable.*

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

- 7.1. **NP/23/1490** – *Proposal; Erection of steel framed agricultural store at, New Barn Farm, Saxlingham Road, Blakeney. **Resolved – No objection***; however, we do support the comment made by a member of the public with regard colour, ie. preference for it to blend into the immediate surroundings.
- 7.2. **PLANNING APPEAL ref: AP/23/0015 (original no. PF/21/1524)** – *Proposal; Change of use and extension to existing storage barn to form new dwelling and enable rare chalk grassland creation system including re-location of existing access at; Storage Barn, Morston Road, Blakeney. **Resolved*** – Our last objection was comprehensive and stands.
- 7.3. **PLANNING APPEAL ref: AP/23/0011 (original no. PF/22/2797)** – *Proposal; Demolition of existing single storey rear extension and first floor stair access, and construction of a new first floor and single storey extension to form a habitable room on part of the original building footprint. The application also includes for replacing existing windows with energy efficient fittings and insertion of a windows to the garage, at; The Wells, 3 The Pastures, Blakeney. **Resolved – Object***; we agree with all comments made by North Norfolk District Council with regard this application.

### 8. **FINANCE**

- 8.1. **Resolved** that the **Accounts** totalling £18,381.49 are paid.
- 8.2. **Clerk/RFO Report** –
- BPC will withdraw from the Norfolk Alc **Pilate Scheme for Gov.uk** domain as it does not support our website or email services. We will look to achieving the Gov.uk domain via other sources.
  - **AGAR 2022/23** – The figures in boxes 6 & 7 have been restated in consultation with PKF Littlejohn Auditors, as the Business Rates for 2023/24 had inadvertently been included in the previous years end figures.
- 8.3. Members were in receipt of scheme details for the NCC **Highways Parish Partnership Scheme** for the financial year 2024/25 and asked to bring any suggestions to the attention of the Clerk asap in order that they

can be costed and considered before the closing date of 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

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

**9.1. Blakeney Surgery – Cllr Nigel Sutcliffe.**

- Our MP Mr Baker has held a meeting with Holt Medical Practice (HMP) who informed him they did not like what he has done and his overall involvement with trying to keep Blakeney surgery open. He has informed them this is a local cause, as with many others, which he supports.
- The public meeting which HMP must hold took place today. It was well attended (around 280 people) and is the first time we have heard from HMP as to why they want to close Blakeney surgery. My thanks go to Jane Lewis for ensuring the information leaflets were distributed to Blakeney residents informing them of it.
- The answers to the four FOI questions we asked HMP have now been answered as follows;
  1. The work relationship between HMP and Holt Medical Services Ltd. Holt Medical Services Ltd is the trading name for Kelling Pharmacy. The directors of that company we understand are the partners of HMP.
  2. A request for their financial year end balance sheets from 2018 to 2023. These were received and were redacted so much that they were incomprehensible.
  3. Any discussions regarding the sale of Blakeney surgery.
  4. Any discussions regarding the purchase of Blakeney surgery.

In respect of both 3 & 4 the answer from HMP was that there were no discussions.

- May I remind you that as part of the consultation process, HMP must undertake their patient survey and this will commence on the 14<sup>th</sup> August and can be completed on line with printed copies being available. The closing date is 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023. Please make sure we all complete it. The dates for the drop-in sessions at Holt Surgery; Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August 10:30 – 12:30 & Holt Library Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August 10:30 – 12:30 & Melton Surgery Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August 10:30 – 12:30. These sessions will allow patients the opportunity to discuss their concerns in person, with an independent third

party, or to have someone else complete the survey on their behalf whilst they are present.

BPC have not yet got involved in a direct discussion with HMP as suggested at our last meeting due to everything else that has been on-going, but we will still consider it for the future.

9.2. **Resolved** that following the nominations from Blakeney Sailing Club we reappoint the following members to our **Dinghy Park Management Committee**; John Seymour, Alan Collett & David Fairbrass.

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

**11. CORRESPONDENCE –**

11.1. **Resolved** that having considered the feedback from the community that we continue our enquires for the replacement of the **Webcam** only (no CCTV) at Blakeney Quay and that this will now fall to the Parish Council to take these enquiries forward.

**Confidential Business – Exclusion of the Press & Public – Resolved** that; *Due to the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted which include individuals and accounts (i. Scout Hut inc. charitable elements, ii. Blakeney Memorial Cottages Charitable Trust, iii. Outstanding Contribution to the Community Award 2023), it is proposed that the press and public are now excluded and they are instructed to withdraw. (Admission to Meeting Act (Public Bodies) 1960.*

11.2. **Resolved** that Alban Donohoe, Judy Pegden, Mike Reed (& Jenny Girling) offer to join the current named Trustees of the **Scout Hut** in order to keep the basics running and work with them to resolve outstanding issues, including; Finances, Property condition (they are awaiting a site visit from NNDC) & Risk Indemnity and in tandem we shall make enquiries as to the future use of the site and undertake any appropriate feasibility studies. Collectively, we shall work hard to let the 2 local Trustees stand down as soon as is practical to do so, whilst achieving the best outcome possible, whilst considering ongoing financial liability.

11.3. **Resolved** that on the recommendation of The Almshouse Association some time ago, we revisit the number of **Blakeney Memorial Cottages Charitable Trustees**, which should be 4 or 5 at the most. BPC had in fact ran with 4 for decades and only increased this in the last few years, against advice. BPC have always adopted the stance that only serving Councillor will be Trustees, therefore it is agreed that Jane Armstrong, (no longer a serving member of BPC) will be removed as a Trustee with immediate effect.

- 11.4. **Resolved** that having considered the applications for the **Outstanding Contribution to the Community Award 2023** the award shall go to Mrs Lynn Massingham.

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

- i) **PF/23/0579 – Little Butts, Saxlingham Road, Blakeney** – Demolition of existing single-storey dwelling and erection of replacement dwelling - **Approved.**
- ii) **PF/23/0894 – Richmond, Morston Road, Blakeney** – Detached garage/boat store and widening of access/gateway – **Approved.**
- iii) **Four Winds, 13 Kingsway, Blakeney** – Lawful development certificate for proposed single storey rear extension – **Permission not required.**

*Meeting closed at 9.20pm.*

Chairman \_\_\_\_\_