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Minutes of a meeting of **Blakeney Parish Council** which was held on **Tuesday 4th March 2025** in The Parish Office/Parish Room.

Present:- Rosemary Thew (Chairman), Nigel Sutcliffe, Jenny Girling, Barry Girling, Judy Pedgen, Alban Donohoe, Iain Wolfe & Samantha Arlow.

Clerk:- Tracey Bayfield

Public:- 2

Did not attend:- 0

1. Apologies for absence were ***accepted*** from; Willie Weston, Mike Reed & Shirley Everett.

2. Declarations of Interest received from members;

- *Cllr Samantha Arlow declared a pecuniary interest in item no. 12; Trading Sites tenders as a current site holder.*

3. Resolved that the **Minutes** of the Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 4th February 2025 are signed as a true record.

4. Chairman's Announcements – None.

5. Reports from County & District Councillors;

5.1. *County Councillor* – Michael Dalby shared a report with the members, with a reminder that the Consultation on Devolution started on 17th Feb and closes at 11:59pm on 13th April 2025.

5.2. *District Councillor* – Victoria Holliday had submitted a report in advance. In addition;

- No update regarding the Queens Close, residents parking scenario.
- NNDC have confirmed that there will be a % of money allocated from the second home council tax premium to villages with the highest percentage of second homes, for investment in affordable housing and could include social housing, and this would include Blakeney,
- 8 Langham Road – ENF/25/022 – NNDC Enforcement Team consider the works carried out on site do not fall within the various permissions, and a new planning application has been invited for a replacement dwelling. That has been requested by 25th March. Work should have stopped on site.

6. Open Public Session – 2 parishioners spoke;

- Think the dog poo bins do not get emptied as often as they should.

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- As secretary of the Blakeney Village Hall Trust, I believe that the current BPC questionnaire regarding a proposal to charge at the village hall car park, excludes people not in Blakeney, and will exclude them being able to use the Pharmabox.
- The 'Goff' house as being advertised by 'Omaze'; can NNDC confirm if they will take any enforcement action in terms of the footprint of this property.
- Can I have a clear financial understanding of the parish councils' finances.
- The BPC consultation document does not ask a simple 'Do you want charges at the village hall car park?' Yes or No.

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

7.1. **LA/25/0270** – *Proposal; Window replacement x 2 on rear (north east) elevation, & x 2 on side (north west) elevation, at, Morgan Cottage, 97 High Street, Blakeney. Resolved;* No objection.

8. FINANCE

8.1. **Resolved** that the **Accounts** totalling £6,120.53 are to be paid.

8.2. Clerk/RFO Report –

- **Devolution** - At the NNDC presentation to Cllrs and Clerks at Northrepps village hall on 18th February, it was made clear that the future is extremely uncertain as to the future of assets that are classed as 'discretionary' in villages and towns going forward. To this end, dialogue should be engaged asap. I have therefore asked NNDC to confirm the following information in respect of the NNDC owned and managed **public toilet block on Blakeney Quay**, in order that BPC may start to plan/consult accordingly;
 - i) Would NNDC be looking to transfer the Blakeney Quay toilets block over to Blakeney Parish Council?
 - ii) If so, what timescale are we looking at?
 - iii) What is the cost per annum to NNDC of running, servicing and fully maintaining this toilet block (past 5 years figs would be helpful)
 - iv) The breakdown of these costs would be helpful.
 - v) Any other factors we should be aware of?
- **Planning Permission – BPC & Neighbourhood Plan** - A resident has written in, asking that the Parish Council are reminded of the policies as adopted in the Blakeney Neighbourhood Plan, when considering any future planning applications, to avoid unwanted stress and money being wasted, as

they felt that the parish council have clearly voted against their own Neighbourhood Plan. (The residents were advised that members did consider the NPlan, and decided to support the application as it provided another affordable home for Blakeney Neighbourhood Housing Society.)

- 8.3. **Resolved** that we noted the recent quarterly play area **Operational Inspection Report** and that we ask 'Secret Gardens' to monitor and undertake any additional repairs needed on the rocking horse.
- 8.4. **Resolved** that we accept the annual **quote** for the continuation of the annual & quarterly **Play Inspection Reports** from Online Playgrounds.
- 8.5. **Resolved** that having ascertained that English Heritage have a small financial budget to assist with the opening of the **Guildhall** that we ask them to advertise the position locally once again, before we consider if we can assist via our attendants.
- 8.6. **Resolved** that we offer a BPC funded **Community First Aid** course(s) via Mini First Aid Norfolk.
9. **Reports from Representatives on Other Committees/Groups** which have met recently;
- i) Dinghy Park Joint Management Committee - RT

10. COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS – None.

11. CORRESPONDENCE –

- 11.1. **Parish Room/Scout Hut;** i) Possible interest in hall from 2 recent enquires has come to nothing, as a proposed 18 month let is far too short, ii) Potential cosmetic improvements that may aid bookings should be considered, but not until we have satisfied ourselves that there is no asbestos in the building. (Apparently there was a report circa 2010, and the Clerk will strive to obtain a copy of this.)
- 11.2. **Resolved** that we continue with the end of season **Bonfire & Fireworks Event** in 2025 and that any income be ringfenced going forward to help contribute to the financing of the event.
- 11.3. **Resolved** that we continue with the **Party on the Pastures** in 2025 and that any income be ringfenced going forward to help contribute to the financing of the event.
- 11.4. **Resolved** not to publish an additional public statement regarding the distribution of the consultation document, re: future parking proposals at the Parish Council owned, **Village Hall Car Park.**

12. Confidential Business – Exclusion of the Press & Public

Resolved; *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.)*

Cllr Samantha Arlow left the meeting at this point.

A total of 11 applications were received for the **Trading Sites** for the years 2026 to 2029 inclusive. 9 were catering related & 2 were craft related.

Resolved that the following tenders are to be accepted; E Temple (Refreshments), E Darby (Seafood) & S Arlow (Crafts). The total of these 3 tenders equates to £20,000 per annum. Keep layout as is, ie. order of type of site.

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

LA/24/2453 – Internal works including stud work & dry lining wall with sound insulation at, 147 High Street, Blakeney – *Approved*

LA/24/2254 – Works associated with alterations to single storey rear extension to replace a pair of windows with bi-fold doors, partially block existing door to form window, replace single glazed window for matching double glazed window and extend terrace at, 147 High Street, Blakeney – *Approved*

PF/24/2194 – Alterations to single storey rear extension to replace a pair of windows with bi-fold doors, partially block existing door to form window, replace single-glazed window for matching double-glazed window and extend terrace at, 147 High Street, Blakeney – *Approved*

Meeting closed at 8:37pm

Chairman _____