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Minutes of a meeting of **Blakeney Parish Council** which was held on **Tuesday 3rd June 2025** in **The Parish Office/Parish Room**, commencing at 7.00pm.

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

Clerk:- Tracey Bayfield **Public:-** 5 **Did not attend:-** 0

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

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

3. *Resolved* that the **Minutes** of the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 6th May 2025 are signed as a true record.

4. Chairman's Announcements –

- *For the second consecutive month a trustee of the Blakeney Village Hall Trust has taken it upon themselves to attack the Parish Council in the pages of the Glaven Valley Newsletter citing misinformation. This attack is unprofessional, making it impossible for us to have a constructive partnership with them.*
- *8 Langham Road, is now due to go to the NNDC development committee at the end of June. RT happy to attend on behalf of BPC.*

Cllr Iain Wolfe arrived.

5. Reports from County & District Councillors;

5.1. *County Councillor* – Michael Dalby gave his report.

5.2. *District Councillor* – Victoria Holliday had shared reports with members in advance. In addition;

- **Parking in Queens Close**, Flagship were reluctant to put parking on the green, for a number of reasons, one being the cost associated with doing so, ie. the infrastructure needed. I am arranging for another meeting with our M.P.
- **Local Plan** – we may wish to see if there is any room for manoeuvre on the piece of land up Langham Road.
- **Anglian Water Sewage Overflow** – Questions are being asked of AW.

- **Fakenham Surgery** – Have a feeling that the out of hours has closed, but with no consultation. Will challenge the I.C. B. over this.

6. Open Public Session –

- Comments that I put in the pages of the GVN are factually correct.
- BPC have not responded to the BVHT request to meet to work together moving forward. *(The Chairman and Clerk confirmed that there was no outstanding unanswered request, and the Chairman invited them to email with some potential dates to meet.)*
- When are the accounts opened to inspection.

Resolved to take item no. 11.5. **Remembrance Day Event** now. *(For the purpose of the minutes, the item is however, reported in the same order as the published agenda.)*

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

7.1. PF/25/0811 & LA/25/0812 – Proposal; Internal and external alterations and repairs to existing dwelling at, The Friary, Mariners Hill, Blakeney. Resolved; No objection.

7.2 PF/25/0900 – Proposal; Change of use from a dwelling (Class C3) to commercial holiday let (no specified Use Class) at, 39 New Road, Blakeney. Resolved; No objection.

8. FINANCE

8.1. Resolved that the **Accounts** totalling £38,086.98 are to be paid.

8.2. Clerk/RFO Report –

- **Parish Councils Filming** (as per BPC minutes dated: 3rd Dec 2024) At the time, it was agreed that we would register Mariners Hill, The Pastures & The Playing Field with the Official Film Office for Norfolk, re; **Parish Councils filming locations. Photos needed; Alban asked and chased. Are you able to assist with this Alban? If not, this item will be closed down. AD confirmed, that he would action this.**
- **Parish(Scout) Room** – WEEAR have today undertaken the asbestos survey on Tuesday 3rd June 2025, indications are favourable. (Report awaited.)

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- **Secret Gardens** – Having confirmed insurance includes play equipment, they have undertaken the repairs.
 - **Paper Banks** in recycling area – M W White, had been in touch to advise that they have taken the commercial decision to remove the small paper bank from our site. This aligns with our decision last month.
- 8.3. **Resolved** to accept the cost of £300 for up to 6 members to undertake **Bespoke Play Area** inspection training with Community Action Norfolk, later in the year.
- 8.4. **Resolved** to subscribe to the ‘Gold’ level of membership with **Community Action Norfolk** in relation to the above.
- 8.5. **Resolved** to approve the undertaking of the **CILCA course** by the Clerk commencing September 2025 at a cost of £750 from reserves.
9. **Written Reports from Representatives on Other Committees/Groups** which have met recently if applicable.
- i) **Blakeney Village Hall Trust** – MR updated members and they were in receipt of the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 20th May 2025. The BVHT will be asked to put their proposals to us in writing for consideration ahead of any Working Group meeting with them. MR, JP, AD & possibly RT will meet with them, however, the BVHT committee will be advised that in the spirit of working together, they must stop slating the parish council in the pages of the GVN.
 - ii) **Blakeney Harbour Coastal Restoration Feasibility Project** – MR and WW attended the drop in event in the village hall today, which was run by the World Wildlife Fund (W.W.F.) who are covering 3 locations; Scotland, England and Wales, and they have chosen Blakeney for England. It includes land, rivers and sea. Natural England and The National Trust are involved, with the latter telling WWF that Blakeney must be included as they were going to focus just on Morston. Follow up information will be available in due course and a webinar in the coming months.
 - iii) **BPC & N/T Working Group** – RT, the quarterly meeting of the Working Group was held on 28th May. We met the new General Manager, Peter Nicholson, who promised to look into the following items; as he settled into the role in the coming weeks; Carnser erosion, 2024/25 y/e outstanding figures and annual licence. We were all pleased to note that the majority of the problems with the new NT pilot P&D machine had been resolved.

10. **COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS** received in advance – None.

11. **CORRESPONDENCE** –

- i) As above, with no report having been received in the interim, we simply await the response from the National Trust and how we move forward in respect of **Erosion** of corner of Carnser Car Park & impact

11.1. There was much discussion over various suggestions on what BPC can do, to enhance the **Trading Sites** area on the Carnser and decide upon which to explore/obtain costings on. **Resolved** that AD will speak without prejudice to the owner of the duck pond, with a view to consideration of long term planning and that we bring this item back to the July meeting. There are a number of suggestions that we can explore further.

11.2. **Resolved** not to designate any streets in Blakeney for **Street Trading**, we prohibit via the NNDC street trading licence scheme.

11.3. Having undertaken a visit of the site themselves, members **resolved** that it was not necessary to undertake any **Surface Repair** at the bottom of the strip coming down from the Guildhall.

11.4. **Resolved** that we are happy to approve the request from **Threshold Sports** to hold the 2026 event on either 9th/10th May but not on any weekends in September 2026.

11.5. **Recission Notice** with regard the request from the 'Blakeney & District branch of the Royal British Legion' for Blakeney Parish Council to take on the responsibility of the **Remembrance Day Event** in the village had been received.

Resolved; Tom Harrison on behalf of the RBL Blakeney, was invited to address the meeting with members interacting with any questions.

BPC noted that the Blakeney and Cley Branch of the RBL has offered assistance for this in anyway that BPC may require. BPC agrees in principle to try and make this happen, subject to **insurance requirements** being met.

Both parties acknowledged a joint willingness to move towards establishing an **independent committee** to take on this responsibility going forward as soon as possible.

BPC agreed to set up a **Working Group** (JP & RT) with the Blakeney RBL to take this matter forward.

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

Meeting closed at 8:48pm.

Chairman _____