

**Minutes of Great Bealings Parish Council meeting held at the Bealings Village Hall at 7.00pm on
Tuesday, 7th January 2020**

Present: Charles Barrington (Chairman) (CPB), Colin Hedgley (CH), Martin Cripps (MC), Mrs Sally Johnson (SJ), John Carter-Jonas (JCJ), Anthony Sheppard (AS)

In attendance: Mrs Dee Knights (DPK), Clerk to the Council;

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Rob Munn and Robin Vickery, SCC (RV)

2. Declaration of Members' Conflicts of Interests in any items on this Agenda

LNPI, District Cllr – CH, no other declarations.

3. To approve the Minutes from the Meeting held on 12th November 2019

Minute 10(iii) was amended to read “...a loan of £25,000”, the minutes were then approved and signed.

4. Matters arising from the Minutes

(i) **Trees, planting etc** – MC reported 7 lime trees have been planted on the way to the Church and 3 field maples on the Millenium Footpath to replace 2 dead oaks. There are 2 oaks still to be planted. There is £118 outstanding from CH's Enabling Communities Funding. In the spring, stock fencing will need to be erected around the trees and a working party will be arranged. 45 free trees have arrived courtesy of the Suffolk Tree Warden Network, but permission to plant these is awaited. They are being cared for in a temporary location, probably until next winter.

JCJ reported that a large oak near Garrods Hill has reached the end of its life. CPB will find out who the landowner is and communicate with them.

- (ii) **Water Meadow** – CH has offered to accompany the ESC Enforcement Team on their proposed inspection of the site, and is waiting to hear from them
- (iii) **Finger Post, Holly Lane** – CH reported that this matter is ongoing. The PC would like to re-furbish this and re-install it.
- (iv) **Meeting re Fynn Lark News** – CH reported on the meeting which had been held in November. It was emphasised that the financial support of the PCs was essential, and confirmation was given that GtB have included this in their budget for 2020/21. The PCCs will also be asked to make a contribution. Various ideas for improvements are being considered.

5. Reports by

- (i) **County Councillor Robin Vickery** - No report has been received as RV has been unwell.
- (ii) **District Councillor Colin Hedgley** - A comprehensive report had been circulated to Cllrs and a full copy is attached to these minutes. CPB asked CH to report to the next meeting on the current position regarding ESC's revised Local Plan, following publication of the Inspector's Report, which is due at the end of January.

6. Planning Applications

- (i) **DC/19/4799/LBC – Listed Building Consent – Birds Hill House, Seckford Hall Road – replacement of existing windows with stained oak windows**

The Council **RESOLVED** to support this application

(ii) **Any other applications** – None

(iii) **Decision Updates:**

DC/19/3884 – Fambridge, Lower Street – application permitted

DC/19/4066 – Rosery Cottage Barn – Retrospective application – application refused

DC/18/3002 – Wood Barn Cottages – Appeal dismissed

7. Other Planning Matters – None

8. Admirals Head

A detailed discussion was held on the consideration of the last meeting, to borrow £25,000 by means of a PWLB loan repayable over 10 years. It has since become clear that this amount cannot be loaned to the Friends of the Admirals Head (FotAH), but would have to be used to purchase community shares. The share structure gives an investor very little power and would leave the residents of GtB with the liability to repay the loan over 10 years, even if the venture were to fail. GtB's shares would be those of an unsecured creditor and the chances of any recovery (in event of failure) would be very slim. The required 50% parish increase in council tax liability would affect all residents for 10 years, not just those in favour of the project. The view of Cllrs is that the prime funding source should be personal share commitments by residents, and grants. A vote was taken and Cllrs **RESOLVED** unanimously to refrain from purchasing any community shares in this project. The Clerk will advise the FotAH and LtBPC.

9. Highways

(i) **Boot Street Bridge – Extension to Speed Limit**

SCC have advised some further details of the cost of progressing the design and preparation of the necessary Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). However, the PC would have to source funding for the whole of this project which is estimated at £7 – 10,000. CH recommended applying to the EXEMPLAR Fund after 1st April, and advised that he will also have a new Enabling Communities Budget, but RV's budget for 2020/21 has already all been allocated. CPB will tell SCC we have identified some funding and ask for a dedicated designer to be appointed to progress this.

(ii) **SAVID/SID** – CPB advised that he has now replaced the batteries in the SID, so it is now working again in accordance with the pre-set times.

(iii) **Farm Track at Cherry Tree Farm**

The PC has been approached by the householder, who has been given to understand that the PC is not in favour of retaining the tarmac surface at the entrance to the farm track, once the underground cable route is completed. This matter has never previously been discussed by the PC and the unanimous feeling is that the tarmac should be retained. The PC will advise SCC or Scottish Power of this if they make an enquiry.

(iv) **Other Highways Matters** – None

10. Finance and Admin

(i) The following cheques were authorised; proposed by JCJ and seconded by MC

Chq No	Payee	Description	Amount £
2009	Mrs D P Knights	Office Expenses	22.62
2010	Mrs D P Knights(dated 28.01.20)	January salary	165.16
2011	HMRC(dated 06.02.20)	January PAYE	41.25
2012	Mrs D P Knights(dated 28.02.20)	February salary	165.21
2013	HMRC (dated 06.03.20)	February PAYE	41.20
2014	Storm Internet	Website registration	35.99
2015	Swanns Nursery	Trees	382.51

(ii) **Budget and Precept 2020/21** – The amended budget was formally approved together with an increased precept of £4820, which represents a 2.5% rise on the parish element of council tax– proposed by MC and seconded by JCJ. It was agreed that this figure can be communicated to ESC by the original due date of 24th January

(iii) **Other Finance and Admin Matters** – The Bank Reconciliation, which had been circulated, was approved and signed.

11. Correspondence

- (i) **Fynn Lark News** – following an invitation for GtB to provide the editorial for the March edition, CPB recommended that this should cover the forthcoming link-up of the church with St Mary's in Woodbridge. He will liaise with Norman Porter to produce this
- (ii) **Anonymous letter** – CPB circulated an anonymous letter he has received following on from the notes that had previously been displayed on one of the notice boards. The author had been invited, by means of the minutes, to attend the PC meeting to discuss their views, but has declined. It is repeated here that all meetings are open to residents and other members of the public, in particular the Annual Parish Meeting which this year will be held on Monday 4th May
- (iii) **Emails** – JCJ reminded Cllrs the importance of keeping all emails on PC matters strictly business like.

12. Date of next Meeting – Monday 9th March 2020

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Signed.....
Chairman