

**Minutes of the meeting of Great Bealings Parish Council held on
Tuesday 8th November 2022 at Bealings Village Hall**

Present: Sue Prentice (Chairman) (SP), Colin Hedgley (CH), Sally Johnson (SJ), John Carter-Jonas (JCJ), Regan Scott (RS)

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

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Trevor Harris, Caroline Saunders and Elaine Bryce (EB)

2. Declarations of Interest

LNPI, District Cllr – CH.

3. Declarations of Lobbying and Responses to Lobbying

None

4. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st September 2022

The minutes were approved for signature.

5. Clerk/Councillor Updates not on agenda:

- (i) **White lines outside Annesley House** – CH said that this matter needs to be referred to EB to progress. He suggested that the PC draws up a list of all outstanding highways matters that we would like her to address. SP/CH will action.
- (ii) **Other** - none

6. Reports by:

- (i) **County Councillor Elaine Bryce** – A report has been received and circulated and is attached to these minutes. There were no queries on this.
- (ii) **District Councillor Colin Hedgley** - A report has been circulated to Cllrs and a full copy is attached to these minutes. CH verbally commented on the additional funding received by ESC to tackle rough sleeping, also on a recent fly-tipping case, and some free parking in Woodbridge at Christmas. He reported that the recent Roadshow Advice Centres had been well attended and the levelling-up money is being spent. He confirmed that the new Chief Executive of ESC has been appointed and will be starting in the New Year.

7. Planning Applications:

- (i) **DC/22/3705/FUL – Creation of swimming pool- Rosery Farm Cottage, Lodge Road**

SJ reported some concerns that had been raised by a resident. To address these, the Council **RESOLVED** to support the application, on the assumption that it will be installed to the correct specification and standards to ensure that, if the pool is drained, the water is treated and filtered before it gets to the river

- (ii) **DC/22/3848/FUL – Installation of ground mounted solar panels in garden – Garrods Hill, Lodge**

The PC **RESOLVED** to support this application.

- (iii) **Any other applications** – None

(iv) Decision Updates:

DC/22/2529 – Aberfeldy – Application permitted by ESC

DC/22/2330 – Cherry Tree Cottage – Application decision still outstanding

DC/22/2871 – Stone Cottage – Application decision still outstanding. SJ reported that further visits from Environmental Services are still taking place

DC/22/1517/CLE – Regency House – Cllrs expressed disappointment that the decision to permit the continued use of a large shed on the flood plain behind the house failed to acknowledge that the use of the area as a garden would not, of itself, change the status of the flood meadow, and appears to have disregarded the concerns raised as to the potential pollution and flood risk posed by the development.

8. Other Planning Matters**(i) Enforcement Matters – ENF/22/0069/USE – Water Meadow, Lower Street**

ESC enforcement officers have made contact with the landowner at a recent site visit, and have given him a short extension of time to comply with the requirements of the planning enforcement action.

(i) Review of Neighbourhood Plan

SP reported that the pre-consultation draft revised Plan was sent to ESC at the end of September

(ii) Other matters – none**9. Highways and Footpaths**

(i) SAVID/SID – CH reported that next week is Road Safety Week. JCJ advised that he suspects the SID is failing, as he needs to change the batteries frequently. CH asked to be kept informed.

(ii) Quiet Lanes

(a) Grundisburgh Road – SP reported that she had sent a letter of thanks to the resident who had erected a wooden post and the Quiet Lanes sign.

(b) Lower Street – this is currently work in progress

(iii) Other Highways matters – SP advised that the railway sleepers proposed for the land at the Grundisburgh Rd junction are unviable. The plan now is to re-site the Grit Bin and plant some dwarf fruit trees – she will investigate this with SJ. In the meantime, she has purchased some more plants from the Parish Planters fund.

(iv) Footpaths

(a) By Cherry Tree Cottage – RS raised the issue of whether the landowner or SCC was responsible for the condition of the footpath. SP suggested that the question of landowners' responsibilities regarding footpaths is a matter to be resolved between the SCC Footpath Officer and the landowner. Anyone who raises issues with footpaths should be encouraged to inform SCC via their website.

(b) Other – Sheep have now been moved into the field where the barbed wire is located

10. Environmental Issues

(i) Trees – JCJ has taken delivery of 220 trees. He will arrange a meeting with a local landowner in the next week or so to discuss planting

(ii) Other – SP now has a contact at AWA to discuss the GtB treatment plant

11. Finance and Admin

- (i) Cllrs noted the recent national pay award which applies to the Clerk. The following payments were authorised; proposed by SJ and seconded by SP

Chq No	Payee	Description	Amount £
-	Mrs D P Knights	Office Expenses	52.36
-	Mrs D P Knights (dated 28.11.22)	November salary	276.11
23	HMRC (dated 06.12.22)	November PAYE	69.00
-	Mrs D P Knights (dated 28.12.22)	December salary	276.11
24	HMRC (dated 06.01.23)	December PAYE	69.00
-	Little Bealings PC	Village Sign Insurance	10.03
-	Mrs S Prentice	Parish Plants	20.70

- (ii) **Draft Budget** – The Clerk has circulated a draft budget for 2023/24. Funding requests have been received from the Angela Cobbold Hall (ACH) and two charities, plus a request for an increase in the donation awarded to the Bealings Village Hall (VH). Cllrs decided to decline the request from the ACH as it is very popular and they concur with CH’s opinion that it should be self-funding. Cllrs maintained their position that unfortunately, at present, the PC is unable to support granting funding to any charities. Cllrs also decided against increasing the donation to the VH, as this would mean an increase in the precept. However, it was acknowledged that the VH is facing substantial financial demands in 2023 and it was agreed that a letter would be sent to EB requesting some funding from SCC towards the resurfacing of the car park. The draft budget was provisionally approved, and a final decision will be made at the January meeting.
- (iii) **Provisional Precept Discussion** – The Clerk has circulated the council tax base figures supplied by ESC. Cllrs agreed to maintain an unchanged precept of £7500 for 2023/24 and this will be confirmed in January.
- (iv) **Other Finance and Admin:**
- The Bank Reconciliation was approved for signature
 - Other matters - none

12. Correspondence

- Community Governance Review** – The PC’s recommendation to reduce the number of Cllrs from 8 to 7 has been approved by ESC w.e.f 04.05.23
- Spare ‘History of Bealings’ books** – the PC is unable to accept the offer to purchase some of the remaining books as there is no storage space available.
- Village Sign** – This was originally funded by the local WI which has recently disbanded. The PC **RESOLVED** to accept joint ownership of the sign, in conjunction with LtB PC.
- Village Welcome Pack** – This is now extremely out of date. Cllrs agreed that its format is no longer relevant in this digital age and the information should be part of the Village Website. SP will liaise with Norman Porter.
- May Coronation** – Cllrs discussed whether a local celebration event should be staged during the weekend of the Coronation. A suggestion that the event could be combined with the Plant Sale due to take place the previous week had been rejected by the organiser. Some concern was expressed regarding the potential availability of volunteers for both events. No decision was taken.

13. Dates of Meetings in 2023 in the Committee Room at 6.30pm unless otherwise stated

Tuesday 10th January
 Tuesday 14th March
 Tuesday 9th May in Village Hall at 7.00pm – Annual Parish and PC Meetings
 July – TBC
 Tuesday 5th September
 Tuesday 14th November

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed..... Chairman