

**Minutes of Great Bealings Parish Council meeting held at Bealings Village Hall at 6.00pm on
Tuesday 9th November 2021**

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

In attendance: Mrs Dee Knights (DPK) - Clerk to the Council, Trevor Harris, Martin Cripps (MC)

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Regan Scott (RS), Caroline Saunders (CS) and Elaine Bryce (EB)

2. Declaration of Interest

LNPI, District Cllr – CH

3. Declarations of Lobbying and Responses to Lobbying

No declarations

4. Election of Vice-Chairman

SP nominated John Carter-Jonas be elected as Vice-Chairman. This was seconded by CH and unanimously approved.

5. To approve the Minutes from the Meetings held on 23rd September and 12th October 2021

The minutes were approved for signature, subject to the removal of “*and also install a handrail*” from minute 5(i) of 23rd September

6. Outstanding Items

- (i) **Talking bench** – SJ reported that a quotation for the steps had been accepted, but the contractor had subsequently withdrawn. She is seeking another.
- (ii) **Meet Your MP Event** – SP proposed some topics that could be discussed with Dr Poulter and it was agreed that a meeting would be useful. DPK will take this forward.

7. Vacancies for Parish Councillors

Following the advertisement for a Councillor to replace Rob Munn, ESC have confirmed that there were no requests for an election, therefore the PC can proceed with a co-option. SP welcomed Trevor Harris to the meeting, who was attending as an observer.

8. Reports:

- (i) **County Councillor, Elaine Bryce** – EB had submitted a report which had been circulated to Cllrs and a full copy is attached to these minutes. There were no questions on this. In her absence, CH reported that any highways issues should be raised with SCC via their reporting tool. The reference number may then be notified to EB who will follow it up. MC reported that EB had recently joined a Speedwatch session one morning, which was very much welcomed.
- (ii) **District Councillor, Colin Hedgley** – a report had been circulated to Cllrs and a full copy is attached to these minutes. CH verbally reported that the new system of disposing of food waste had generated many complaints, but this will not be changed as it is a Government directive. Details have been circulated about a Winter Support Grant for vulnerable people. The PC can apply on behalf of families – they cannot apply direct.

9. Planning Applications:

- (i) **Any application coming forth** – None
- (ii) **Decision Updates:**
DC/21/3045 – Land next to Lavender Cottage, Kiln Lane and DC/21/3993 – Regency House, Lower Street – both awaiting decision by ESC

DC/21/4327 – Barn B, Woodbarn Cottages – application permitted by ESC

10. Other Planning Matters:

- (i) ESC are inviting comments on three new Consultations:
 - (a) Sustainable Construction – SP will look at this and anything pertinent will be included in the revised Neighbourhood Plan
 - (b) Affordable Housing – the PC has no comments on this
 - (c) Cycling and Walking Strategy – individual Cllrs need to respond to this themselves
- (ii) SP reported that some members of the parish – none of whom were present at this meeting – had complained to her that the new exterior lighting at Croft Cottage, Lower Street is excessive and constitutes light pollution. CH will take this up with ESC Enforcement and Environmental Health.

11. Review of Neighbourhood Plan

SP updated Cllrs on progress. It is now clear that there will have to be a public presentation and she proposed that this is held during the January PC meeting. The meeting could start at 6.30 for routine PC matters and the public could be invited to join for the presentation which would start at approx. 7.15pm (but no earlier).

NB. This has subsequently been arranged for Thursday 6th January

12. Highways and Footpaths

- (i) **SAVID/SID** – The deadline for the first round of ANPR cameras has been missed due to lack of consent for the proposed positioning. However, due to the active Speedwatch team focus which gives more flexibility, this is not immediately necessary. EB has circulated the criteria details required for a speed limit extension in Lodge Road. JCJ and CS are considering this and will report to the next meeting.
- (ii) **Quiet Lanes** – SP reported limited success. All signage is proceeding apart from Lower Street where it has not yet been possible to find a suitable location for a sign at the junction of Lodge Road. Efforts will continue.
- (iii) **Community Partnership – Road Safety Forum** – The ESC Community Partnership team are proposing to hold a local Road Safety Forum to raise issues that have been reported to SCC Highways but have received no action. This is of great interest and CH will attend on behalf of GtB.
- (iv) **Community Partnership – Road and Traffic Safety Funding** – Applications for funding for Road and Traffic Safety matters are now being invited from stakeholders. Submissions must be made by 17th December. CH will make an application.
- (v) **Other Highways matters** – SCC is undertaking a review of recommended lorry routes across the county and have circulated a survey. PCs are then asked to liaise with their County Cllr to endorse the issues for inclusion as part of the review. SP will complete the survey and EB will be forwarded details.
- (vi) **Footpaths** – Numerous finger posts are lying on the ground. SP is still waiting for the ‘Discover Suffolk’ plaques and when these are put up the PC will carry out a survey of posts that need replacing and record them on a map for SCC.

13. Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Celebration

SJ reported that the joint GtB and LtB steering group have met and she provided provisional details of an event to be held on Sunday 5th June at midday at the Village Hall and playing field. Regular meetings of the steering group will follow.

14. Trees:

- (i) **Queen’s Green Canopy** – JCJ is still awaiting delivery of the 150 native trees, but understands that this is due soon.

- (ii) **Other matters** – it was suggested that a specimen tree (container grown) should be purchased and planted at the Jubilee event, to mark the occasion. The location will be subject to the consent of the Village Hall Committee.

15. Finance and Admin

- (i) The following payments were authorised; proposed by SJ and seconded by JCJ:

Chq No	Payee	Description	Amount £
-	Mrs D P Knights	Office Expenses	21.92
-	Mrs D P Knights (dated 28.11.21)	November salary	247.56
008	HMRC (dated 06.12.21)	November PAYE	61.80
-	Mrs D P Knights (dated 28.12.21)	December salary	247.56
009	HMRC (dated 06.01.22)	December PAYE	61.80
-	Little Bealings PC	Village Sign insurance	5.16

(ii) Draft Budget 2022/23

The Clerk had circulated a draft budget for 2022/23 which showed the estimated basic expenditure for the current year to be £6120 against the budgeted amount of £5360. The main reason for this is the increase to the Clerk's hours which was not approved until March 2021. The proposed budget for next year is £6400. This was provisionally agreed and will be reviewed at the January meeting.

(iii) Provisional Precept Discussion

The current precept of £5900 included £600 to be transferred to reserves, an annual amount agreed for 5 years in order to bring the PC's reserves up the level recommended for smaller authorities. However, it was agreed in January 2021 (Minute 13ii) that this figure would be needed for the salary increase and would have to be regularised when setting the precept in 2022. Therefore the provisional precept amount for 2022/23 is £7500, which includes a £1200 transfer to reserves. This represents an increase for a Band D property of £11.84 per year. A final decision will be made in January.

(iv) Other Finance and Admin matters:

- (a) **Bank Reconciliation** – this was approved and signed
 (b) **Other** – none

16. Correspondence – ESC is proposing some changes to its Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme and are seeking the views of local stakeholders. A consultation has been launched which SP will look at.

17. Dates of meetings for 2022:

Thursday 6th January
 Tuesday 8th March
 Tuesday 10th May – Annual Meetings
 July – TBC
 Thursday 1st September
 Tuesday 8th November

The meeting closed at 7.45pm

Signed.....
 Chairman