

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BAWDESWELL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 9th MAY 2016 STARTING AT 7.45PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL.

Present: B.Cunliffe (Chair), W. Mason, D. Shannon, J Mallen, J. Lilwall, T. Smith and R. Read
District Councillor G. Bambridge, County Councillor B. Borrett
Mrs. J Boxall (Clerk)

Members of the public – 44

1. To consider accepting apologies for absence.

All Councillors present.

2. To record declarations of interest from members in any item to be discussed.

No declarations of interest were received.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4th April 2016

Resolved to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting

4. To adjourn the meeting to allow public participation and also to allow Councillors with a prejudicial interest to speak on agenda items.

No comments were received.

5. To receive reports from District Councillor, County Councillor & Police

The Police report was circulated electronically. Cllr Cunliffe to try and expedite Police action re increasing problem of vehicles parking on pavements. District Cllr G. Bambridge to send report for Council consideration. County Cllr B. Borrett gave update on devolution and encouraged people to be involved with the consultation.

The Parish Council **resolved** unanimously to move to item 8 on the agenda as proposed by Cllr Shannon, seconded by Cllr Smith.

8. Planning

(a) To consider planning application

REFERENCE: 3PL/2015/1424/F

PROPOSAL: Residential development of 36 dwellings

LOCATION: BAWDESWELL: Land off Hall Road

APPLICANT: Sovereign Group Limited

Cllr Cunliffe read out a statement highlighting his objections to the application. Cllr Mallen believed the area to be a natural area for development and that more residents in the area would increase need to make services more viable. Cllr Shannon referred to the PC's adopted policy on development. There was concern over the unsustainability of development, the development being outside the settlement boundary and lack of infrastructure to support the development. There was reference to the recent objection submitted by the PC to becoming a Local Service Centre (LSC) and concern that approval of this application would create danger of having LSC status imposed. It was confirmed that the PC have always objected to applications outside the settlement boundary. It was recognised that there would be a settlement boundary review later in the year at which time there may be pressure to include the proposed site within village boundary. Concern was raised over drainage and sewerage system. District Cllr Bambridge confirmed the application would go to planning committee due to its large scale nature. There was reference to Breckland's lack of land supply and how this may affect the outcome of the application should it be refused and go to the Planning Inspectorate.

Meeting adjourned at 8.27pm for members of the public to speak on the application

Concern was expressed over lack of infrastructure, electricity supply issues and sewerage concerns. With the exception of 7 people who abstained from the show of hands, the remainder of the public in attendance recorded an objection to the planning application. All in attendance were encouraged to submit their views directly to Breckland.

Following discussion the meeting was reconvened at 8.51pm

The Council agreed unanimously to strongly object to the application. It was agreed to reiterate the Parish Council's policy on supporting sustainable development inside the settlement boundary, to reiterate arguments against becoming a Local Service Centre and concentrate on highlighting concerns about sewerage and access (Highways). It was agreed to query ownership of proposed amenity land. Cllr Shannon agreed to draft submission and circulate to Council for approval. Clerk to submit to Breckland.

(b) To receive decisions from Breckland District Council

Erection of replacement dwelling at Reepham Road, Bawdeswell – Permission
Change of use of land to a private gypsy & traveller caravan site (6pitches) & 6 amenity buildings at The Stables, West of the Old Workhouse Paddock - application withdrawn

(c) To consider any late planning applications

No late planning applications were received

6. To receive update on matters arising from previous minutes for information only – B1147 signage, electricity refund,

Highways confirmed that the B1147 signage was removed as the road was now designated a C road (C888). The Clerk was satisfied with the explanation / calculation of the amount refunded by Breckland for the electricity and did not consider further action necessary.

7. To approve request from Bowling Club re purchase concrete - recreation ground land

Cllr Shannon was approached by the Bowling Club to see if the Parish Council would pay for the concreting of the strip of land between the Bowling Club and the Village Hall for the purpose of reclaiming VAT. The Clerk referred to VAT notice 749 and the rules regarding recovery of VAT by public bodies. In light of this and as the land may not belong to the Parish Council it was agreed unanimously that the Parish Council would not agree to the request.

9. Finance

To receive financial report for 2016/17 to date and approve Annual Governance Statement 2015/16

The Internal Auditors report was circulated. The auditor raised concern about the Community Car Scheme. It was suggested that there should be a record of the journey made and the payment acknowledged by the passenger. Following discussion it was agreed the PC would not make any amendment to the Community Car Scheme as journeys are well documented and arranged in advance and the scheme is audited by Breckland Council. There was concern that volunteers would be lost if they were asked to request / provide further verification.

The Internal auditor highlighted that some payments / invoices had only one set / no initials. The PC agreed that in future signatories would ensure that both the invoice and payment slip were signed and the Clerk would double check this at the end of each meeting. Thanks were extended to Andrew Toomey for his work carrying out the audit.

The Clerk presented the Council with the Annual Return for the financial year ended 31st March 2016 and the Annual Governance Statement 2015/16. The Clerk had previously circulated end of year figures to Council. The Council resolved to approve the Annual Return, Accounting statements 2015 /16 and the Annual Governance Statement, as proposed by Cllr Mallen, seconded by Cllr Mason and approved unanimously. It was agreed that the inspection period for the exercise of elector's rights would be from 2nd June to 15th July 2016 and date appointed for the exercise of elector's rights set as 19th July to ensure compliance.

To receive bank statements for consideration

Bank statements were available for inspection. The balance of the Community account after invoices (as detailed below) are paid is £32122.17 and the balance of the business money manager was £2248.05. Project Bawdeswell account was confirmed as £1894.28. The third instalment of the Public Works Board Loan £2090.82 will be debited on 13th May

To approve payments made, to be made and approve late payments as necessary

The Council **resolved to approve** the payments made and to be made.

The following payment was made on 25th April 2016 as approved minute ref 51/8

Bawdeswell PCC – Church Clock repairs £ 897.00

The following payment was made by cheque dated 9th May 2016

Norfolk County Council – DBS Check Community Car Scheme - 100997 £ 25.00

The following payment to be made by bank transfer on 10th May 2016

K&M Lighting – Street Lighting Maintenance 13th April – 12th May £ 6.96

R. Fryatt – Community Car Scheme £ 49.30

R. Blyth – Community Car Scheme £ 43.00

The following payments to be made by bank transfer on 31st May 2016

Mrs Jo Boxall – May salary & expenses £ 296.50

HMRC – PAYE May £ 68.60

10. Correspondence –

The Clerk reported that she received a report that rubbish had been left on Bawdeswell Heath. The Trustees had been advised.

11. To receive items for information

Cllr Shannon gave an update on fundraising for the driveway. The PC agreed for Cllr Shannon to pursue a match funding bid with Breckland. The contract has been signed for the car park refurbishment works with a start date of 4th July. It is hoped work will be completed by 22nd July.

12. To receive items for the next agenda

As the money in the Project Bawdeswell account is to be used for the car park refurbishment there would need to be consideration about the future of the account. It was agreed that the PC should leave a minimum (£1) in the account to leave it open for future projects. Recycling credit projects to be considered.

13. To confirm date of next meeting (6th June 2016)

It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held on the 6th June 2016

14. To close the meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 21.29pm