

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BAWDESWELL PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 4th FEBRUARY 2021
STARTING AT 7.30PM.**

The meeting was held under The Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020 via Zoom.

Present: B.Cunliffe (Chair), J. Mallen, J. Lilwall, A. Hartley-Walder, K. Ewing, A. Toomey and R. Reed

Mrs J Boxall (Clerk)

Members of the public – 0

1. To receive and note apologies for absence.

No apologies for absence were received as all Councillors were present.

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

None received.

3. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 3rd December 2020

It was unanimously resolved to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 3rd December 2020, as a true and accurate record as proposed by Cllr Cunliffe, seconded by Cllr Ewing, to be signed as soon as possible once current restrictions are lifted.

4. To adjourn the meeting to allow public participation.

No comments were received as there were no members of the public in attendance.

5. To receive reports from District Councillor, County Councillor & Police. To receive reports from Village Hall and Bawdeswell Heath.

County Councillor B. Borrett, District Councillor G. Bambridge and the Police were not in attendance. The monthly Police report was circulated electronically. Cllr Cunliffe circulated a report to Council regarding Bawdeswell Heath for consideration. He confirmed the Council owned an acre of land in the centre of the Heath and contributed 50% towards the annual insurance cost. Trouble with motorbikes using the Heath for scrambling had been successfully managed. Cllr Lilwall gave a brief update on matters at the village hall, confirming the Hall remains in a secure financial position thanks to excellent management / grants received and Trustees were starting to plan a return to using the Hall once restrictions are lifted.

6. To receive update on matters arising from previous minutes for information only -

It was reported that the repair and repositioning of the noticeboard would be delayed until current restrictions were lifted. It was acknowledged that the boundary at the Church needs reinstating and a quote of £1130 had been received for the supply and installation of a post and rail fence to go the full length of the boundary. It was confirmed that it was the Parish Council's responsibility to restore the boundary. Following discussion it was agreed in principle and would be approved at the March meeting.

7. To receive update re specification for car parking area at the Village Hall and approve further action

Cllr Cunliffe circulated photographs highlighting the severe problem of flooding in the car park at the Village Hall. Cllr Ewing gave an update on plans to drain the water into a nearby field and confirmed that a quote had been received. Cllr Toomey expressed concern that the drainage scheme may not be sufficient to carry the large volume of water away in the long term. Cllr Cunliffe proposed that the Council continue with plans for the drainage pipework and seek other contractors / obtain further quotes for comparison, seconded by Cllr Mallen and agreed by majority with one abstention. Cllr Ewing highlighted the need to consider the timescales for carrying out the drainage works given crop planting etc.

8. To consider further action regarding reports of speeding in Bawdeswell

Residents had approached the Council with concerns over speeding in the Village. Norfolk Constabulary confirmed they were targeting speeding in known blackspots. An officer with a speed gun recently monitored the Reepham Road and Norwich Road. It was acknowledged that speeding was an issue in most villages and further measures were limited. It was agreed to contact residents encouraging them to report speeding vehicles to the Police.

9. To approve further action regarding sunken manhole cover.

Cllr Reed reported that despite assurances that the sunken manhole cover would be repaired and dates given by Norfolk County Council for repairs, the work was still outstanding after 6 months. Clerk to chase with Highways.

10. To receive update on meeting with Norfolk Wildlife Trust and approve further action with regards to Adams Pit

The Clerk circulated the report from Norfolk Wildlife Trust and gave a brief update on the meeting. It was agreed that as no further action was necessary in the next couple of months, any decisions with regards to Adams Pit could be deferred. It was agreed the Clerk should try and obtain land registry records.

11. Planning

(a) To consider planning applications

3PL/2021/0017/F - Change of use from annex to separate residential property

LOCATION: Cobblers Cottage, The Street, Bawdeswell

Following discussion the Council unanimously agreed to object to the application as there was no parking for a separate dwelling and the property exited onto a dangerous corner / bus route. The Council understand that the application may be contrary to Breckland's policy on garden development.

(b) To receive decisions from Breckland District Council

The appeal was dismissed for development of three detached self-build properties with garages on land adjacent to Meadowbank and Loran, Dereham Road, Bawdeswell, Norfolk NR20 4AA

(c) To consider any late planning applications

No late planning application were received.

12. Finance

To receive financial update and bank statements for consideration

The balance of the Community account as at 31st January 2021 was confirmed as £18111.52, Business Money Manager was £2258.82, Project Bawdeswell account (earmarked reserves) was confirmed as £5006.64.

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

All payments made and to be made for January and February approved as proposed by Cllr Cunliffe, seconded Cllr Hartley-Walder. A late payment of £120 for community car scheme use was approved.

13. Correspondence

All items received were circulated to Council.

14. To receive items for information

Cllr Cunliffe reported on the recent use of the Community Car scheme funds to support a resident in need and helpline success supporting a resident who was scammed. A letter sent to the village store from the Parish Council, thanking them for their service to the community has been highlighted nationally by McColls.

The Clerk confirmed that the Charity Commission Annual Return 2020 in respect of the Allotment to Former Highways Surveyors account had been submitted and receipt acknowledged. A grant application for £400 was submitted to Breckland in respect of the Community Car Scheme as there is still a current reserve of £750.26. It was hoped that the service can resume soon.

15. To receive items for the next agenda March 4th 2021

Future agenda items to include Village Hall drainage and church boundary.

16. To close the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.46pm