

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF BAWDESWELL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 7th MARCH 2024 AT BAWDESWELL VILLAGE HALL STARTING AT 7.00PM.

Present: J. Mallen (Chair), D. Shannon, A. Hartley-Walder, C. Good and P. Craven
District Councillor G Bambridge
Mrs J Boxall (Clerk)
Members of the public 2

1. To receive and note apologies for absence

No apologies for absence were received, all councillors were in attendance.

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

Cllr Shannon, Cllr Hartley-Walder and Cllr Good declared a personal interest in agenda item 9 subject to discussion on specific sites (Breckland Local Plan).

3. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 1st February 2024

It was unanimously **AGREED** to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 1st February 2024, as a true and accurate record as proposed by Cllr Shannon seconded by Cllr Good. Minutes were duly signed.

4. To adjourn the meeting to allow members of the public to speak on agenda item

No comments received.

5. To receive reports from District Councillor, County Councillor & Police. To receive report from Village Hall & Primary School

District Cllr G. Bambridge gave an update on the Breckland Local Plan but confirmed that there was no indication yet what is proposed for Bawdeswell. He gave a brief report on other matters affecting the district.

County Councillor B. Borrett, the Police and the representative from the Primary School were not in attendance. Following a brief report on the village hall from Cllr Good, the Parish Council approved use of the Recreation Ground for the centenary celebration on August 18th.

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

The registration document in respect of the mower was received and it was confirmed the insurance was in place. The Asset Register has been updated to reflect the purchase of the grounds maintenance equipment. The mower has not yet been delivered. Cllr Shannon attended the SNAP meeting and raised the Council's concerns regarding speeding in the village. The Police confirmed that they would attend Bawdeswell with a radar gun and carry out monitoring. It was suggested the PC seek support from local villages with the formation of a Community Speed Watch team. Cllr Shannon confirmed he would attend the next SNAP meeting in June.

7. Bawdeswell Heath – To receive update and approve submission to Charity Commission. To consider / approve PC taking over Bawdeswell Heath Trustee role with a view to the distribution of funds following completion of sale.

A draft submission was circulated to Councillors for consideration. It was unanimously **AGREED** that the Clerk would submit the draft (seeking approval for the sale of 2 acres on Bawdeswell Heath) to the Charity Commission, as proposed by Cllr Shannon, seconded by Cllr Mallen.

Following discussion, it was unanimously **AGREED** to support the initiative of the Parish Council taking over Bawdeswell Heath Trustee role with a view to the distribution of funds following completion of sale, as agreed by Bawdeswell Heath Trustees. As proposed by Cllr Shannon, seconded by Cllr Mallen.

8. Play equipment – To consider / approve further action following play inspection report Bluebell Rise & repairs to play equipment recreation ground and approve further action regarding dog mess on playing field.

As it was confirmed that a subsequent play inspection would shortly be carried out and as there were no urgent matters requiring attention at Bluebell Rise play area, it was agreed to defer further action until report received.

Following the receipt of complaints from residents regarding dog mess, the Council agreed to publish a piece in the Reeves Tale stating they have been inundated with complaints about dogs mess around the village and in particular on the play area and Football pitch. It was agreed to approach Breckland and request the installation of CCTV cameras to catch and prosecute the offenders and highlight this in the Reeves Tale. Residents to be encouraged to report dog owners who commit offences. It was agreed to purchase signage making users of the playing field aware that they are being monitored.

It was suggested the Parish Council look at funding for fencing around the play equipment where a dog ban could be enforced.

9. Breckland Call for sites – To receive update on Local Plan and consider site specific response

The approved commentary on the Breckland Local Plan update papers for consideration was sent to Breckland on 4th February. It was **AGREED** to submit site specific commentary to Breckland ahead of Breckland's April publication of proposed sites for consideration. Cllr Shannon circulated a draft commentary for consideration. It was unanimously **AGREED** to submit this draft to Breckland with amendments as discussed proposed by Cllr Hartley-Walder, seconded by Cllr Mallen.

10. Highways – To receive items to report to Highways, receive update on items already reported

An email response was received from the Highway Engineer regarding concerns raised over parking outside Horkey Kitchen and parking concerns / speeding on The Street;

'I am sorry to hear of the difficulties the residents of Bawdeswell have experienced however they are not uncommon in such areas. In these locations where the provision of off street parking is insufficient some parking of this character is inevitable and there is little we can do to prevent it happening. Although parking on bends and on the footway/verge is not illegal it should not be done if it causes the problem you describe. If parking causes an obstruction to the extent that a danger is caused the Police can take action.'

The provision of yellow lines could be a solution however this would prevent everyone including residents from parking on the road. It is likely that such a proposal would fail due to the objections of local residents. If you could advise me that all residents are in favour of this idea I will promote a scheme. Any scheme would take approximately 18 months before lines could be installed due to the required consultations and legal processes. This would also require funding.

There is history of the 20mph speed limit at Bawdeswell but it appears to date from around 2007. The extent of the 20mph is the built up area of Bawdeswell village where there is development on both sides of the carriageway and is consistent with our speed management strategy at that time. The school sits outside of this 'built up' area and the highway corridor to the north of the school is open fields. I can therefore understand why the school was not included. However, the Norfolk Speed Management Strategy was revised in 2014. At this time members included an aspiration within the Speed Management Strategy for all Norfolk schools to be located within a 20 mph speed limit. Whilst this was an aspiration there was no NCC funding to implement 20mph at the 500+ schools in Norfolk. This was also when the school part time 20mph speed limits were introduced as a parish partnership initiative and we are mindful of them also being delivered whenever private development takes place near a school. Therefore, at Bawdeswell it is a question of timing for when the village 20mph scheme was implemented rather than a mistaken omission. I'm happy to say that the extension of the 20mph speed limit to include the school has been put forward via the Local Safety community fund Scheme and is awaiting approval.'

Concern was raised over sunken manhole covers. Clerk to circulate details of Norfolk County Council Highways online reporting form.

11. Speeding concerns – To receive update and consider / approve further action.

No further discussion as this item was discussed elsewhere on the agenda

12. To consider recruitment of new Councillors.

It was agreed that an advert to encourage new Councillors, outside of the minutes was needed in the Reeves Tale. Clerk to create a poster explaining the role. Cllr Hartley-Walder to contact the school, to try and encourage parents to consider the role.

13. Planning

(a) To consider planning applications received

PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF HOUSEHOLDER DEVELOPMENT CONSULTATION - 3PN/2024/0010/PNE - Prior approval for proposal to erect a single storey rear extension projecting from the original rear wall by 4.74m deep, with a maximum height of 4m and eaves height of 2.40m The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) - Schedule 2, Part 1, Class A at 40 Hall Road, Bawdeswell (for notification only)

(b) To receive decisions from Breckland District Council

Altered and new openings to East, West and South elevations & internal alterations at 18 & 20 Reephams Road, Bawdeswell – Approved

(c) To consider any late planning applications

None received

14. Finance

To receive income / expenditure budget figures to 29th February 2024 for consideration

The balance of the Community account as at 29th February 2024 was confirmed as £16338.62, Business Money Manager (Earmarked reserves) was £30772.09. Budget figures were circulated to Council for consideration. Internal control check was carried out? A transfer of £360 from Allotment to Highways Surveyors Trust Account would need to be made in respect of recent grounds maintenance works.

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

All payments made and to be made as per schedule of payments were **AGREED** as proposed by Cllr Hartley-Walder, seconded by Cllr Shannon. The list of payments was duly signed.

Payments		£
3rd February 2024	Bank charges 13th December to 12th January 2024	8.00
3rd February 2024	Excite Solutions - Invoice 2783 (pymts split due to bank limits)	2,000.00
3rd February 2024	Bawdeswell Village Hall - December hire	24.00
4th February 2024	Excite Solutions - Invoice 2783 (pymts split due to bank limits)	2,000.00

5th February 2024	Excite Solutions - Invoice 2783 (pymts split due to bank limits)	1,640.00
16th February 2024	K&M Lighting 13th February - 12th March 2024	9.42
16th February 2024	CBR business solutions DBS check	14.40
21st February 2024	Rowett insurance - mower	130.16
29th February 2024	Mrs Jo Boxall - February salary & exps	508.77
2 nd March 2024	Bawdeswell Village Hall - February Hall Hire	24.00
2 nd March 2024	Muddy Badger - Adams Pit Hedging & clearance	360.00
Receipts		
28 th February 2024	interest - Business Money Manager Account	50.45

To approve transfer £1000 from public open space reserves in respect of grounds maintenance 2023/24

Following discussion it was unanimously **AGREED** to transfer £1000 to the Community Account from the Business Money Manager Account in respect of grounds maintenance costs for 2023/24 Bluebell Rise as proposed by Cllr Shannon, seconded by Cllr Hartley- Walder.

15. Correspondence

All correspondence received was circulated.

16. To receive items for information and receive items for the next agenda

Cllr Mallen (as Chair of the Parish Council and Trustee) attended a meeting of the John Leeds Trust with other Trustees, where it was agreed to pay grant applicants back to 2022 (£350 for high school uniform etc.). An article will be published in the Reeves Tale about the trust as concern was expressed about reaching all those who were entitled to the grant.

It was agreed to ask Mr Williamson if he could fill the pot holes on the village hall driveway as they were becoming a health and safety concern and needed urgent attention.

Future agenda items to include end of year financial figures, Breckland Local Plan update, recreation ground update

17. To approve the date of the next Parish Council Meeting Thursday 4th April 2024

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 4th April 2024 at 7pm

18. To close the meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 21.05pm