

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING OF BAWDESWELL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 6<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2024 AT BAWDESWELL VILLAGE HALL STARTING AT 7.00PM.**

**Present: J. Mallen (Chair) D. Shannon, C. Good, A. Hartley-Walder and R. Hannent  
J. Boxall – Parish Clerk, Members of the public – 2  
District Cllr G. Bambridge, County Cllr B. Bambridge were not in attendance**

**1. To receive and note apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Cllr Craven.

**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 Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024**

It was unanimously **AGREED** to approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024, as a true and accurate record as proposed by Cllr Hannent and seconded by Cllr Good. Minutes were duly signed.

**4. To adjourn the meeting to allow members of the public to speak on agenda items and receive presentation in respect of proposals for broadleaved woodland on land between Bawdeswell & Foxley**

A representative from Albanwise Environmental introduced the idea to retain / restore existing ponds, hedges and the medieval moat on 163 acres of land (currently grade 3 agricultural land) between Bawdeswell and Foxley. The scheme would largely provide woodland with open habitats. It was hoped that there would be community access through the area.

Points raised for future consideration included the need to ensure that local communities were protected from intrusion, how existing cabling would be managed (cable corridor) and whether people would be allowed to walk dogs in the area.

It was confirmed that there were several options for locking in the long term benefits of the scheme including a conservation covenant or section 106 agreement. Options for funding the scheme were highlighted with future management from Albanwise directly or by entering into a partnership with Norfolk Wildlife Trust and delegating maintenance.

It was acknowledged that there was positive community benefit to the proposed scheme. A consultation with residents in Bawdeswell and Foxley was proposed for the Spring.

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

District Cllr G. Bambridge highlighted the consultation on car parking charges and the recycling centre booking requirement and referred to his report which was circulated via email. County Cllr B. Borrett also sent a report via email for consideration. The Police were not in attendance.

Cllr Good gave an update on matters at the Village Hall and confirmed that a very positive AGM was held, and an extraordinary meeting was held focusing on a 5 year plan, identifying key issues including the establishment of a reserve for maintenance and repairs. Future projects included seeking support from the Parish Council to consider improving car parking, increasing space as a venue for larger events. The installation of solar panels was also being considered to help keep electricity costs down. Quotes had been sought (£25000). An application for a £10000 grant would be made to the Norfolk Offshore Windzone Fund by the Village Hall with further discussion regarding the funding of the remaining balance should the application be successful, which could include seeking other grant funding sources or an application to the Parish Council for a loan.

The Parish Council agreed that they are supportive of the project recognising the benefits of the scheme.

**6. To receive update on matters arising from previous minutes for information only – Breckland Local Plan - no update in abeyance until New Year**

There was no further update on the Breckland Local Plan. As the consultation for car parking charging was now open, the Clerk confirmed she would be submitting the Council's view as previously agreed.

**7. Bawdeswell Heath – To receive update**

It was confirmed that the Charity Commission had responded to the Bawdeswell Heath Trust and a meeting was scheduled to consider the document received. Cllrs J. Mallen and D. Shannon would attend. It was acknowledged that the Parish Council could take no further action until the Heath Trustees resolve the issue with the Charity Commission, as the parcel of land held in trust by the Parish Council was under different terms.

**8. Play equipment – To receive update**

It was noted that grass is starting to come through on seeded areas. Dog mess was still an issue (in all areas of the village). The trial dog poo bag dispensers had been a partial success but a few had been vandalised.

**9. Grounds Maintenance –**

**To consider / approve further action regarding overgrowth recreation ground**

Cllr Shannon highlighted the issue of weeds and brambles around the perimeter of the recreation ground and acknowledged that this was beyond the scope of the grounds maintenance contractor. It was agreed that this would need attention next year. Trees on the other side of the basketball court were highlighted as a greater concern.

It was agreed to ask Muddy Badger to cut the hedge at Adams Pit, as per schedule.

Cllr Shannon reported that there was an area of hedge between the pump house and The Loke that needed cutting but it was unclear whose responsibility it was. Clerk to contact the Developer to clarify responsibility.  
Concern was raised about the cut through between Norwich Road and Hall Road as mobility scooters are unable to manoeuvre through the metal barriers. Clerk to establish who is responsible for the barriers and confirm highway specification for access for mobility scooters.

Cllr Good highlighted the ongoing issue of the car parked outside the village shop which was causing an obstruction and agreed to raise this with the Police.

#### **To consider / approve further action regarding tree survey**

The Clerk was waiting for a quote from Ravenscroft and would chase this. The Village Hall have expressed concern about the oak tree. It was agreed to seek an informal opinion on a large tree in an adjoining garden.

#### **10. Dog bin – Jubilee Gardens & Litter bin – Beehive Way – To receive update.**

The Clerk contacted Breckland for advice as the email for submission to NCC Highways kept bouncing back. Following the vandalism to the dog mess bag dispensers, other options were considered. Cllr Shannon to speak to contractor re moving the litter bin.

#### **11. Planning**

##### **(a) To consider planning applications**

There were no new planning applications

##### **(b) To receive decisions from Breckland District Council**

3PL/2023/1145/F - Proposed change of use of land for the formation of 1no. Gypsy/Traveller pitch, comprising 1 static caravan (mobile home), 1 touring caravan, and erection of 1 dayroom, and use of land for equestrian purposes at Land off Reepham Road, Grid Ref 605624 321639 - refusal

##### **(c) To consider any late planning applications**

No late planning applications were received.

#### **12. Finance**

##### **a) To receive financial update to 31<sup>st</sup> October and bank statements for consideration**

The balance of the Community account as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024 was confirmed as £25,623.82, Business Money Manager (Earmarked reserves) was £35,955.49. Budget figures were circulated to Council for consideration.

##### **b) 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 Mallen, seconded by Cllr A. Hartley- Walder The list of payments was duly signed.

| <b>PAYMENTS MADE</b>          |                                                       |        |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 4th October 2024              | Bank charges 13th August - 12th September             | 10.00  |
| 7th October 2024              | Jane Nursey - Community Car Scheme                    | 9.00   |
| 7th October 2024              | Alan Gardner - Community Car Scheme                   | 3.00   |
| 7th October 2024              | Shaun Eglen - Community Car Scheme Q3                 | 9.25   |
| 7th October 2024              | David Wheeler - Community Car Scheme                  | 3.00   |
| 7th October 2024              | Angela Shannon - Community Car Scheme                 | 20.10  |
| 7th October 2024              | Ruth Whitmore - Community Car Scheme Q3               | 18.75  |
| 7th October 2024              | Peter Andrews - Community Car Scheme                  | 24.05  |
| 7th October 2024              | Linda Rose - Community Car Scheme                     | 21.25  |
| 7th October 2024              | Lin Leppard - Community Car Scheme                    | 20.75  |
| 7th October 2024              | Chris Leppard - Community Car Scheme                  | 13.50  |
| 7th October 2024              | Jo Porter - Community Car Scheme                      | 10.50  |
| 7th October 2024              | Bawdeswell Village Hall - Hall hire September         | 27.20  |
| 7th October 2024              | Garden Machinery Direct - Blower                      | 284.99 |
| 17th October 2024             | Npower - street lighting electricity 1 July - 30 Sept | 126.21 |
| 20th October 2024             | Mrs Jo Boxall - printer ink refund                    | 44.90  |
| 20th October 2024             | K&M Lighting 13th October to 12th November            | 9.42   |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2024 | Graham Williamson – October grounds maintenance       | 241.87 |
| 31st October 2024             | Mrs Jo Boxall - October salary & exps                 | 548.72 |

|                                     |                                                              |         |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
|                                     |                                                              |         |
| <b>RECEIPTS</b>                     |                                                              |         |
| <b>28<sup>th</sup> October 2024</b> | Interest Business Money Manager                              | 56.89   |
|                                     |                                                              |         |
| <b>FUTURE PAYMENTS NOVEMBER</b>     |                                                              |         |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> November 2024       | Bank charges 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept – 12 <sup>th</sup> Oct    | 8.00    |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> November 2024       | Bawdeswell Village Hall - October                            | 27.20   |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2024      | PWLB Repayment                                               | 2090.82 |
|                                     | K& M Lighting – 13 <sup>th</sup> Nov to 12 <sup>th</sup> Dec | 9.42    |
|                                     | Economy Aggregates (soil)                                    | 444.44  |
|                                     | Bawdeswell Village Hall November hire                        | 27.20   |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2024      | Mrs Jo Boxall – November salary & exps                       | 548.72  |

**c) To approve payments to Reeves Tale, NARS, Post Office, Citizens Advice**

It was unanimously **AGREED** to approve payments as follows;

Reeves Tales £410, NARS £50, Citizens Advice £50, Post Office Heating £150, as proposed by Cllr Mallen, seconded by Cllr Hartley- Walder.

**d) To approve 50% contribution to Bawdeswell Heath £198.65**

It was unanimously **AGREED** to approve 50% contribution to Bawdeswell Heath insurance £198.65, proposed by Cllr Mallen, seconded by Cllr Hartley-Walder.

**e) To receive / consider budget figures ahead of setting the precept**

The Clerk circulated predicted end of year budget and earmarked reserve figures for consideration.

**13. Correspondence**

All correspondence received was circulated electronically.

**14. To receive items for information and receive items for the next agenda - Offshore Wind Zone Community Fund**

Items for the next agenda to include setting the precept 2025/26, approval of quote for tree survey. It was agreed to keep the issue of access for mobility scooters on the agenda for future consideration.

**15. To approve the date of the next Parish Council Meeting – 5<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

The date of the next Council meeting was confirmed as 5th December 2024.

**16. To close the meeting**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 20.47pm