

Bacton Parish Council

MINUTES

of the meeting held at Bacton Village Hall, on

Monday 25th April 2022 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: David Chambers (Chairman), Bernard Coxhead, Philip Jeffries, Vanessa Kingsley, Gail Wigglesworth, Paul Wigglesworth.

In attendance: Maximilian Clay - Clerk to the Council
3 Members of the public.

Apr22-1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Black and Macausland and the Council resolved to approve the reasons.

Apr22-2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensation considerations

Cllr Kingsley declared an interest in Item 9 as she is related to the potential trainer. There were no other declarations of interest.

Apr22-3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Council resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on the 21st March 2022 were a true record and that the Chairman be authorised to sign them as such.

Apr22-4. District & County Councillor Reports

- a. District Cllr Mellen was unable to attend but he had submitted a written report in advance of the meeting (appended to these minutes)..
- b. County Councillor Stringer had submitted a written report and highlighted the fact that, although Bacton falls within the area of the Free Port, the focus seems to have been on facilitating external businesses to benefit from this status whereas he would like to see local businesses benefitting too..

Apr22-5. Public Forum

The Chairman invited contributions from the public but no matters were raised.

Apr22-6. Planning

a. Responses to Application Consultations:

i. DC/22/01531 - Land at Earls Green Road, Bacton

Application for Outline Permission: Erection of one detached property with detached double garage (Access points to be considered, Appearance, Landscaping, Layout and Scale to be reserved).

In discussion several points were raised:

- ◆ The proposed site is an entirely undeveloped field outside the settlement boundary (and not, as stated in the application, an infill site).
- ◆ The break in development between Bacton and Earls Green is an essential part of the particular rural character of the area - this would be irreparably damaged by the proposed development.
- ◆ Although the proposed house would be within about half a mile of the centre of the village, the proposed site is not served by pathways and the road is narrow (to the point that damage to and erosion of the verges is an established problem) and so safe and sustainable access to village facilities is problematic.
- ◆ Contrary to what is stated in the application, a considerable amount of established hedge would have to be removed to conform with the access splay required by Highways regulations for an access on to a lane on which the national (60mph) speed

limit applies. This would further harm the particular character of this rural lane.

- ◆ Given that several hundred houses are currently under construction or subject to an approved development scheme in the village, there is no need for further development, especially outside the settlement boundary on a green field site.

For all these reasons, the Council resolved to object to the application.

ii. DC/21/03292 - Land to the South of Birch Avenue, Bacton

Discharge of Condition 6 - Provision of Roads and Footpaths

In brief discussion it was pointed out that the space adjacent to the railway had been earmarked for potential provision of a community resource building and that the area was therefore supposed to be provided with all services. The Council resolved to make this comment to the planning authority.

iii. DC/21/03292 - Land to the South of Birch Avenue, Bacton

Discharge of Condition 9 - Cycle Storage and Electric Vehicle Charging

The Council resolved to respond stating that every house should have access to charging points for electric cars.

iv. DC/21/03292 - Land to the South of Birch Avenue, Bacton

Discharge of Condition 3 - Materials - No comments.

v. DC/19/00646 - Land on the West Side of Broad Road, Bacton

Discharge of Condition 12 - Footway Improvements

In discussion it was agreed that whilst large amounts of technical detail had been presented as part of the developer's submission, the proposal was not clear enough in regard to recognition of the problem of width under the bridge and the proposed solution. The safety of cyclists and pedestrians did not seem to have been adequately provided for and Members were reminded that the Parish Council had previously resolved to recommend the installation of traffic lights to manage the traffic flow under the bridge.

It was resolved to object on this basis and the Clerk was asked to liaise with District Cllr Mellen.

vi. DC/19/00646 - Land on the West Side of Broad Road, Bacton

Discharge of Condition 22 - Materials - No comments.

b. The Council noted the following updates on applications considered previously:

i. DC/22/00455 and DC/22/00456 - The Cottage, Broad Road, Bacton.

Householder Planning and Listed Building Consent Applications respectively: Erection of single storey extensions (following removal of glazed structure) and alterations as per Heritage/ Design and Access Statement. Withdrawn

ii. DC/22/00562 & 00566 - The Forge, Fords Green, Bacton IPI4 4QG:

Householder Planning and Listed Building Consent Applications respectively: Erection of a new single-storey extension (following demolition of existing), and erection of a new detached cartlodge (following replacement/demolition of existing static caravan and garage). Decision awaited.

iii. DC/22/01189 - Land Adjacent to Oak Tree House, Cow Green, IPI4 4HJ:

Application for Approval of Reserved Matters following Outline Approval DC/21/03634. Town and Country Planning Order 2015. Submission of details for Access, Appearance, Layout, Landscaping and Scale for 1 dwelling. Decision awaited.

iv. DC/22/00970 - 24 Pound Hill Bacton IPI4 4LP:

Householder Application - Erection of front porch extension. Approved

v. DC/22/01219 - The Oaks, Church Road, Bacton IPI4 4LW:

Erection of single storey and two storey side extensions. Decision awaited.

Apr22-7. Community Governance Review - Report from the Working Group

The working group reported that it had had useful discussions and had concluded with one recommendation: that the middle school site should fall within the parish boundary. It was felt that it was generally considered as part of Bacton - a view confirmed by the fact that the middle school was called Bacton Middle School and that the area clearly related to Bacton for its immediate services. The Council resolved to ratify this recommendation.

Apr22-8. Ownership/ Responsibility for the Bridge to the Church and the Ditch

It was noted that ownership of the bridge is not absolutely clear but that it would seem to belong to the Church. The Council was minded to undertake the repair of the barriers which have become unsafe but may not be able to do so because of the question of ownership. It was also noted that work to the bridge would probably require a faculty (ecclesiastical planning permission) which was a further complication.

It was resolved that the Clerk would explore the legalities of funding this work and report to the next meeting.

Apr22-9. Defibrillator/ CRP Training (Cllr Kingsley withdrew from the discussion having declared an interest)

It was resolved to arrange two sessions of training, at a cost to the Council of £35 each, and to book the Rev'd James Mair Room at the Medical Centre for the purpose.

Cllr Coxhead reminded the meeting that the Village owns a CPR training kit which could be used for the purpose.

Apr22-10. Adoption of Open Space at Beacon Green

The principle that the Council should adopt the space had been discussed previously and the Council reiterated that it was generally in favour of doing so. However, as drainage attenuation lagoons form part of the space it would be important to establish that if the Council did take ownership, responsibility for the drainage would either remain with the developer or be transferred to another statutory body. It was resolved to communicate this position to the developer and await their response before making a final decision.

Apr22-11. Cleaning and Painting of the Village Sign

The Council resolved to go ahead with this work and the task was delegated to Cllrs Jeffries and P Wigglesworth, for completion before the 2nd June, when the long Jubilee weekend begins.

Apr22-12. Finance

a. Financial Reports to 31st March 2022

The Council resolved to receive the reports, noting that more detailed consideration of the figures would be on the agenda as part of the Annual Report to be considered at the May meeting.

b. Receipts and Payments

The Council resolved to receive the schedule of receipts and payments and to approve the payments, totalling £2,766.82.

c. Changes to Bank Mandate

The Council resolved to add Cllrs Vanessa Kingsley and Gail Wigglesworth to the mandate with Barclays Bank PLC.

Apr22-13. Working Group Reports

a. Community Events - Jubilee

Cllr Jeffries reported that all was proceeding well in relation to the programme of events for the Jubilee weekend. A flyer, advertising the events had been printed and copies were circulated to members. Cllr Jeffries noted that he was organising a volunteer party for distribution of the flyers.

b. Village Greens

Quotations for new fencing at the Shop Green pond had been sought and were awaited. The Clerk was given delegated authority to agree to pay up to £3,000 for the work.

c. Road Safety

The speeding information was noted and Rob Wilson was thanked for his work. Council resolved that the Clerk and Rob Wilson would liaise in relation to risk assessments for the moving and placement of the speed indicator signs.

d. Cemetery

The Mole problem seemed to have been resolved but the contractor was still monitoring the situation and had not yet submitted his account.

Apr22-14. Councillors' Items for Future Agendas and Reports Relating to Meetings

It was agreed to include the Christmas Lights Switch-on in the July agenda and that Patrick Barker would be invited to speak to the Council at a future meeting.

Cllr Kingsley reported that she and Cllr Jeffries had arranged a meeting with an officer from the District council about settlement plans on the 17th May and that this may also touch on Neighbourhood Planning. The Clerk will also attend this meeting.

Apr22-15. Co-Option of Councillors

It was noted that there was still a vacancy for co-option. An advertisement would be included in the next available parish magazine (June).

The meeting closed at 8.59pm

Signed as a true record by authority of the Council

Chairman

Date