

Bacton Parish Council

MINUTES of the Annual Parish Meeting

held at Bacton Village Hall, on

Monday 11th September 2023 at 7.00pm

Present: Councillors: David Chambers (Chairman), Philip Jeffries (Vice-Chairman), Vanessa Kingsley, John Kingsley, Graham MacAusland, James Steed, Gail Wigglesworth, and Paul Wigglesworth.

In Attendance: Suzy Lupin - Clerk, District Councillor Mellen, County Cllr Stringer and twelve members of public.

Jul 10-1. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence

Jul 10-2. Declaration of Interest and Dispensation Considerations

There were no declarations of Interest or request for dispensations.

Jul 10-3. Minutes of previous meetings

The Council resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on the 11th July 2023 were a true record and that the chairman be authorised to sign them as such.

Jul 10-4. District & County Councillor Reports

- a.** District Cllr Mellen had submitted a written report which was received by the Council. D Cllr Mellen reported that the Pride in Your Place campaign continues, and is encouraging Parish Councils to make use of these funds and for Councils to support applications from local voluntary, community and social groups. Applications must be received by 31st October 2023.

Business grants of between £5,000 - £10,000 will be available via MSDC from the Rural England Prosperity Fund.

The Free Trees, Hedgerows and Wildflowers scheme continues and welcomes applications to improve tree canopy cover across the district. Areas where this scheme would benefit are parish land, school grounds, recreation grounds, land open to the the public, millennium greens and community spaces.

It was noted that residents struggling with the cost of living have been supported by Babergh and Mid Suffolk, including a reduction in council tax, support for rent and last winter a total of £110,995 was awarded to 62 organisations through Winter Warmth grants.

- b.** County Cllr Stringer had submitted a written report which was received by the Council. C Cllr Stringer informed the Council of the latest proposals by the National Grid to install 114 miles of electricity pylons as part of the Norwich to Tilbury project. Raising concerns that the intended installation disruptions would compromise the outstanding natural beauty of the Dedham Vale area. Off shore development will be explored as an alternative.

C Cllr Stringer informed the Council of the £1.3m upgrade of Suffolk's Fire and Rescue training centre at Wattisham, which formally opened on the 24th August. The centre will provide critical training for firefighters to protect Suffolk communities.

It was noted that four schools had been effected by the reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete, (RAAC), (East Bergholt High, Hadleigh High, Clayton High and Stowupland High), although Stowupland High remains open for children to attend as the reported RAAC were limited in number.

Jul 10-5. Public Forum -

Concerns were raised by more than one resident reporting large commercial vehicles speeding along Turkey Hall lane to the building development site, causing distress to pedestrians and dog walkers. It was also noted that their deliveries to the site were outside the agreed times creating noise pollution to local residence. One member of the public reported that the fence to their property was damaged by vehicles trying to access the site. It was suggested that a larger opening would help these vehicles turn into the site so as not to cause further damage to nearby properties.

D Cllr Mellen and C Cllr Stringer acknowledged the concerns raised and requested that any formal complaints referring to the Traffic Management Plan should be sent to the District Council Enforcement Team, where they will be dealt with.

It was put to the Council that facilities for older children were not being met. It was requested that new ideas e.g. a skate park should be considered to facilitate the older children of the Village.

Parking along Church Road near St Marys Church and the school were reported to be causing traffic congestion leading to potential hazards. Cllr Chambers suggested this issue would need to be included in the traffic calming project.

Jul 10-6. Planning -

a. DC/23/03916 - Land To The South West Of Nutwood The Street

Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a Proposed Use/Development - Confirmation of lawful commencement of phase 1 (Enabling Works) and Phase 2A (Plot 1) as approved under reserved matters approval DC/20/02656 pursuant to permission DC/18/04868 (Erection of up to 5 No. detached dwellings with garages) -

D Cllr Mellon advised that it was a complicated application and that further legal enquiries would have to be made.

b. Updates on Planning Applications Considered at Previous Meetings

i. DC/23/00775 | Bacton Technology Park, Broad Road

Change of use from vacant offices to a Non-Residential Education and Training Centre - Use Class F1(a) Provision of Education. The Change of use to automatically revert back to Offices upon termination of occupancy by Catch 22 Charity Limited - **Withdrawn**

ii. DC/23/02852 | Oak Tree House Kerrys, Farm Lane, Bacton

Changes to exterior walls from render to grey cladding and roof plain tiles to red pantiles **Granted**

iii. DC/23/02407 | 43 Pretyman Avenue, Bacton

*Application for a Non Material Amendment relating to DC/21/05632 - Replace the external brickwork skin with blockwork finished with horizontal cladding using 'Hardiplank, grey slate'. **Granted***

iv. DC/23/00308 | The Bungalow, Church Road, Bacton

*Erection of 1 no. dwelling - **Granted 25.8.23***

v. DC/23/02729 | North-East side Garden of The Bungalow, Church Rd

*Application under S73 for the Removal or Variation of a Condition following approval of DC/ 21/06766 - **Granted 4/8/23***

Jul 10-7. Finance & Governance

Receipts and Payments - The schedule of receipts and payments was received and it was resolved to approve the payments.

- a. It was resolved to approve paying the Clerk and Parish Warden on a Standing Order.

- b. The Council was informed that the mandate had now been formally completed.
- c. After discussion it was resolved to approve the new insurance policy subject to the Clerk confirming that all outdoor events and numbers of people would be covered.

Jul 10-8. Building Development Transport Management Plans:

During discussion, the Council sympathised with the residents affected by the ongoing problems at the building sites and assured it would be formally writing to the District Council to request the developers enforce the transport management plans originally drawn up and agreed in their planning directive.

Jul 10-9. Potential Transport Improvements

After discussion it was resolved that the Clerk would investigate further into the logistics of this new scheme, and report back to the Council.

Jul 10-10. Village Hall Grant

After discussion it was resolved to approve the grant to refurbish the Village Hall floor at a cost of £2,545.

July 10-11. Bacton Green Bowls Club

After discussion it was resolved to provide a grant to purchase one set of bowls up to a cost of £279.

Jul 10-12. Working Group Reports

a. Events: Cllr Jeffries reported that Bacton Fayre was a great success despite the weather. Cllr Vanessa Kingsley reported that the Traffic Survey was well received, most residents supported the Council's wish for Road Calming. It was suggested by Cllr Vanessa Kingsley to include similar surveys at future events to gather evidence to reflect the true wishes of the residents to support future matters.

i. Cllr Jeffries requested that the Clerk write to the British Legion to carry out the Festival of Remembrance service.

b. Village Greens: Cllr MacAusland asked if the oak tree on Taylors Green had a preservation order attached to it. The Clerk will investigate.

c. Recreation and Play Area -

i. Cllr MacAusland reported that the signs were up and in place.

ii. After discussion it was resolved for the working party to explore options of how to tackle the dog mess at St Mary's Playing Field.

iii. After discussion, it was resolved that the Clerk would write to Flagship Homes to request their assistance in purchasing six picnic tables. It was felt that their development directly impacted St Marys field with the future installation of a new path linking the site to the field.

d. The Work of the Village Warden -

i. It was noted by Cllr Paul Wigglesworth that the fence opposite the Village Hall was originally built by Suffolk Highways and should therefore be their responsibility to replace it. The Clerk will write to Highways to request a site visit.

e. Any other working group reports:

- i. The Cemetery Working Party will explore options of where to place new signs directing the public to the cemetery.
- ii. Cllr Jeffries presented a scaled drawing relating to the Garden of Reflection and requested that this plan should now be implemented. The Clerk will seek three quotations from local Landscaping companies.

Road Traffic Safety Group: Cllr Vanessa Kingsley reported that she had received 181 Traffic Surveys back from residents giving their full support for traffic calming, only 20 surveys said no to speed bumps but still expressed a need for some form of traffic control. Cllr Kingsley assured residents at the meeting that Turkey Hall Lane is one of the areas that will be included in the project.

Working Group Memberships: After discussion it was resolved to uphold the decision of the last Council to work towards developing a Neighbourhood Plan.

Jul 10-13. Councillors' Reports and Items for Future Agendas:

Cllr Chambers reported that Gerald Brown, chairman of Haughley Parish Council has invited Bacton Parish Council and neighbouring parishes to attend a meeting to discuss ongoing traffic issues, linking existing footpaths, biodiversity and emergency planning. Councillors will be informed of the meeting date.

Cllr Chambers informed the Council that the PCC were considering revisiting the request from the Parish Council to take responsibility for repairing the footbridge.

A revised design for the plinth below the Beacon is to be placed on Beacon Green. This has been put forward by Cllrs Chambers, Jeffries and Paul Wigglesworth to provide seating in a stepped format, like a two tiered wedding cake rather than one block of stone. The design was agreed by the Council and will be discussed with Taylor Wimpy and amended accordingly through Planning.

Cllr Jeffries asked where the location of the Christmas tree is to be this year.

The meeting closed at 20.58pm

Signed as a true record by authority of the Council

Chairman

Date