

# Bacton Parish Council

## MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting

held at Bacton Village Hall, on

**Monday 8th July 2024 at 7.00pm**

**Present:** Councillors: Julie Bonner (JB), Vanessa Kingsley (VK) (Chair), John Kingsley (JK), Graham MacAusland (GM), Paul Merry (PM), James Steed (JS), Gail Wigglesworth (GW), and Paul Wigglesworth (PW)

**In Attendance:** Suzy Lupin -Clerk,, County Cllr Stringer (CCS) and 4 members of public.

### 1. Apologies for absence

None

### 2. Declaration of Interest and Dispensation Considerations

None received.

### 3. Parish Council Membership

a. None

b. After discussion it was resolved to advertise for the vacant position of Councillor after formal notice is given.

### 4. Minutes of previous meetings

a. The Council resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th June 2024 were a true record and that the Chair be authorised to sign them as such.

b. The Council resolved to agree the action log resulting from the minutes of 10th June 2024.

### Impact of Action Log results:

**Councillor question :** (PW) enquired about the green area gifted to the Parish Council at the Flagship site. When will it be regraded as the land is not suitable for grass to grow.

Clerk to send email enquiry.

**Areas discussed which have been identified from the Flood Survey, regarding flood problems in the village.**

ITEM	Notes from meeting	Responsibility by:
Focus 1: Broad Road update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Manhole has been covered with concrete - No access.</li> <li>• Footpath to be installed before first house is occupied on the development site, for access to flooding issue.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bellways and County County Stringer</li> </ul>
Focus 2: Turkey Hall Lane update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resident ditches - Not resolved.</li> <li>• Notice to be sent to householders to be made aware of their Riparian responsibilities.</li> <li>• Riparian Guidance on Parish Website</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bacton Parish Council</li> </ul>
Focus 3: Bellway and Pulham Lane ditches - flooding gardens Pretyman Ave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bellways development has not been built to the original drainage specifications.</li> <li>• Land levels in question.</li> <li>• Bellways or MSDC to confirm course of action.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bellways/ MSDC</li> </ul>
Focus 4: End of Pulham Lane Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Highways have carried out works.</li> <li>• Sewage overflow is visible on the road.</li> <li>• Anglian Water not investing in updating sewage systems.</li> <li>• Residential homes to be encouraged to separate rainwater connection to sewage system.</li> <li>• Pipe narrowing needs investigation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anglian Water</li> <li>• Bacton Parish Council</li> <li>• Highways</li> </ul>

Focus 5: Village Hall/ Pretty House update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Works carried out - System holding</li> </ul>	
Focus 6: Water flow from Taylor Wimpey and centre of village to Taylors Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blocked pipes opposite Manor cleared.</li> <li>• New Bungalow built may have left debris - Builder to be contacted.</li> <li>• Investigation by SCC / Parish Council</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bacton Parish Council/Builder</li> <li>• SCC</li> </ul>
Focus 7: The Dip in The Street update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed</li> </ul>	
Focus 8: Top of village between Scout Hut and Shop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed</li> </ul>	
Focus 9: Ford's Green (Bacton/Cotton) on bend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed</li> </ul>	
Focus 10: Cow Green & Kerrys Farm: Underneath road blocked causing green to flood, contaminates pond	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing with Suffolk County Council</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SCC</li> </ul>
Focus 11: To encourage residents to install soakaways for rainwater instead of into the sewage system. This would mean a reduction in their water rates bill.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advice from Essex &amp; Suffolk Water on how to proceed.</li> <li>• This has a potential to reduce residents water bills.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bacton Parish Council</li> </ul>

## 5. District & County Councillor Reports

a. District Cllr Mellen (DCM) had submitted a written report which was received by the Council. You can find the full report on the Council website (<http://bacton-pc.gov.uk/>).

**Student Event** - Babergh and Mid Suffolk are putting on an event in July for sixth formers to find out about careers in local government and how councils are structured. This is part of the Councils' local democracy project.

**Locality Awards** - Applications for this year's Locality Awards grants are now open again after the election – but please contact me first about your application <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/web/mid-suffolk/w/locality-awards>

b. County Cllr Stringer (CCS) had submitted a written report which was received by the Council. You can find the full report on the Council website (<http://bacton-pc.gov.uk/>).

**Fostering** - Suffolk County Council is taking part in a new initiative for fostering under the banner Foster East along with ten other councils in the region. There is an urgent need for foster carers in the East of England, with more than 7,000 vulnerable children already in the care of their local authority, and a further 150 children coming into care every month.

Foster East will give people considering fostering the opportunity to speak to an advisor from 8am to 8pm daily, and the chance to talk to an experienced foster carer to find out more about what the role involves and ask any questions. More information can be found on [www.fostereast.org.uk](http://www.fostereast.org.uk)

**Cold Callers** - Suffolk County Council's Trading Standards have asked residents to be vigilant about tradesmen knocking on their doors to offer services, after several examples recently of cold callers persuading people to part with large sums of money for unnecessary or substandard work. The council is recommending that residents only use workmen on the Trusted Trader website: <https://trustedtrader.team/Suffolk/about-us>

Residents can also protect themselves and their neighbours by nominating their area to become a No Cold Calling Zone – there are now more than 200 of these across Suffolk. In order to nominate your road or neighbourhood, visit <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/community-and-safety/suffolk-trading-standards/fair-trading/no-cold-calling-zones>

**Councillor question:** (PW) asked why there had been an additional pole put up on North Close. (CCS) informed that it may be replacing the original pole which had been erected in the wrong place.

## 6. Public Forum -

A member of the public stood to discuss their planning application - Refer to item 8a.ii.

A member of the public stood to inform the Council that Essex and Suffolk Water are implementing a new 10 year moratorium covering the Hartismere area, which will have impact on existing and future business water usage. It was strongly conveyed that this will have a negative effect on encouraging the investment of new businesses and put limitations on existing companies. Please follow link for more information: [https://www.eswater.co.uk/globalassets/business/wtr0534-mortatoriumleafletimageovsa\\_v3.pdf](https://www.eswater.co.uk/globalassets/business/wtr0534-mortatoriumleafletimageovsa_v3.pdf)

Permission was granted for the Bacton Fayre advertising sign to be erected which will take place on Saturday 3rd August.

## 7. Planning :

a. To consider responses to planning application consultations as listed below and any others that come to hand prior to the meeting.

### i. DC/24/02736 - Junction Of Tailors Green/Church Road Bacton Suffolk

*Notification from a Statutory Undertaker - Installation of a 12m pole for the mounting of LoRaWAN gateway equipment.*

**After discussion it was resolved to object on the following points:**

- It has been positioned in the curtilage of an historic building, blocking its view.
- It's in the curtilage of a conservation area.

**After discussion it was resolved to support the following two applications:**

### ii. DC/24/02555 Former Bacton Technology Park, Elm Tree Farm

*Full Planning - Conversion of former office building to 1no. Dwelling and construction of three bay cart lodge and store (revised scheme to approval DC/24/00144).*

### ii. DC/24/02880 Almondell Cottage, Church Road

*Householder Application -Erection of single storey rear extension to existing detached annex.*

b. To receive any updates on planning applications considered previously:

### i. DC/24/01867 - Prettys House, Church Road, Bacton

*Householder Application - Construction of 14No solar panels to roof of cart lodge - **Granted***

### ii. DC/19/02542 - Land South West Of Wyverstone Road

*Application under S73a for the Removal or Variation of a Condition -Erection of 64No dwellings.To Vary Condition Number 6 (WALL AROUND PARKING AREA) to omit the wall and erect wooden fencing. - **Granted***

## 8. Working Group Reports:

### a. Events:

(GW) reported that the Council had been invited to support VE Day in May 2025.

After discussion it was resolved to adopt the Council involvement and support.

A member of the public reminded the Council of VJ Day.

### b. Village Greens and Byways

(JK) reported that the 'No Parking' signs had been improved and installed at Shop Green. (PW) will be putting up the signs at Cow Green shortly.

The hedge has grown through the fence at Shop Green and will be trimmed.

Identifying Land owners and their responsibility in keeping hedges tidy and under control throughout the village is ongoing.

(VK) reported that the grass cutting contract is in question, as the standard of work is below expectation. The contract is to be reviewed in September along with new quotes to compare.

### c. Recreation and Play Area

(GM) reported that the Notice Board needs an upgrade. The hedge around the dog park needs cutting.

**d. Work of Parish Warden** - A report was presented and the following needs attention: The cemetery path needs weeding, and the hedge needs cutting. Signs around the village are dirty. The hedge to the side of the Village Hall, St Mary's field, top of Turkey Hall Lane and North close needs cutting. The path up towards the entrance of the school has been cleared of weeds. The pond at Cow Green needs tidying especially near the seat. The two BT Kiosks need a clean.

**All defibrillators** have comprehensive checks carried out every month and the results are updated on [The Circuit](#) (A national defibrillator network) website which is directly linked to the East of England Ambulance service. (PW) suggested a confirmation sticker of compliance be added after each check.

### e. Cemetery

(JS) reported that the Clerk has advised the official paperwork required before and after each burial is not compliant in the Council's process. It was resolved that extra hours be allocated to the Clerk to rectify the situation.

Garden of Reflection - two quotes are to be sourced for the top layer of the path and the Clerk will liaise with the Cemetery Working Group in the final decision.

(JS) Reported that the path belonging to the Bacton Charities is in need of replacing. The Clerk will obtain quotes for resurfacing the area to present to the next Council meeting for discussion.

### f. Neighbourhood Plan

(JS) reported that the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) consultant advised that two further quotes are required to identify land for leisure facilities to be included in the NP. Further grants are to be applied for again. He suggested that Bacton Fayre would be a good place to inform residents of the progress so far.

**g. Road Safety:** An extraordinary meeting has been arranged on the 12th August to present the final designs of the Road Calming project in conjunction with Highways.

**h. Flood Task Group:** See Action log results at 4b.

**9. DBS Checks/Identity badges** - After discussion it was resolved to carry out a standard DBS Check on Councillors and employees and to introduce identity badges.

## 10. Finance & Governance

**Receipts and Payments** - The schedule of receipts and payments was received and it was resolved to approve the payments. (appended to minutes).

i. It was resolved to approve a £6,000 transfer of funds from the Premium Account to Community account to cover July payments.

### **Governance: (Policies & Procedures in Risk Assessments)**

i. A new Staff Appraisal and Performance Development policy was approved.

ii. The amended Working Membership Groups was approved (appended to minutes).

**11. Councillors' Reports and Items for Future Agendas:** None to report.

The meeting closed at 20.47 pm

Signed as a true record by authority of the Council

Chairman

Date