

Minutes of Little Bealings Annual Parish Council meeting held at Bealings Village Hall at 7.30pm on Monday 14 May 2012

Present: Mrs F Rogers, Dr C Rowe, Mr B Rufford, Miss D Williams, Mr D Wilson and Mrs M Wilson

In attendance: Mr T Fryatt (District Councillor) for part of the meeting and Mrs C Ramsden, Clerk to the Council

**Councillor
Actions**

1 Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Mrs Rogers (as current Chairman of the Council) asked for nominations. Mrs Rogers was proposed by Dr Rowe and seconded by Mrs Wilson. There were no other nominations. It was **RESOLVED:**

- that Mrs Rogers be elected Chairman of the Parish Council.

Mrs Rogers signed the Declaration of Acceptance of the Office of Chairman.

The Chairman asked for nominations for Vice Chairman. Mr Carr was proposed by Mr Wilson and seconded by Dr Rowe. There were no other nominations. It was **RESOLVED:**

- that Mr Carr be elected Vice Chairman of the Parish Council.

2 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

Apologies were received from Mr P Carr, and from County Councillor Peter Bellfield.

There were no declarations of interest, but see item 7 below.

3 Appointments

It was **RESOLVED:**

- that the following be appointed for the forthcoming year:

VHMC representative: Mr Carr
SALC representative: Mrs Rogers
SNT representative: Miss Williams
Footpath and Tree Warden: Mrs Jennifer Cook
Webmaster: Mrs Jenny Shaw

- that the appointment of a SORR representative be considered should any meeting of SORR be proposed.

4 Adoption of Standing Orders

It was **RESOLVED:**

- that The National Association of Local Councils Standing Orders (2010), revised first version be adopted, including the amendment

to delete 'permanently' from Standing Order 32(b).

5 Minutes of the Meetings Held on 5 March and 30 April 2012

These were signed as a true record of the meetings.

6 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

7 Police

PCSO Justin Moss reported that:

- since May 2011 there had been 14 crimes recorded in the parish, compared with 13 the previous year.
- Parking at the School: This had been within acceptable limits with only the occasional word of advice needed.
- Parking in Holly Lane: This had been an issue during the construction of a new dwelling, but was apparently resolved following words of advice.
- Community Speed Watch Scheme: Following concerns about speeding traffic from some residents, PC Brett had now identified a site in Martlesham Road and a site in Playford Road where volunteers could use hand held radar devices if the parish wished to join the Scheme. However, after joining, a full health and safety risk assessment of the sites would need to be carried out by the Roads Policing Sergeant before it was possible for any speed checks to be undertaken.
- No Cold Calling Zone: In respect of the establishment of a zone within the parish, the Trading Standards office had advised that a zone would only be set up where there were a high number of related crimes. The police were not aware of any specific incidents, but a more general concern given the demographics of the parish.

In respect of Parking at the School Mr Wilson declared a personal interest in this matter as the owner of a private vehicular track adjacent to the Angela Cobbold Memorial Hall, which also comprised the routes of Footpaths Nos 7 and 8A, and was partly the route of the Fynn Valley Walk.

In respect of Parking at the School Mr Rufford declared a personal interest in this matter as a resident with a private vehicular right to use the same track

It was noted that some parents at the school had taken to driving along and turning on the track and that the increased use was damaging the surface, including for walkers. A meeting had been arranged by Mr Wilson with the Area Rights of Way Officer to deal with this. As there was no public right for vehicles to use the track, PCSO Moss agreed to speak with the Rights of Way Officer to try and help address this issue.

In respect of the Community Speed Watch Scheme it was noted that the cost of joining a scheme operating nearby (to avoid the capital cost of purchasing a radar device and safety clothing) was estimated to be about £1.50 per household, around £300. In view of the cost and uncertainty as to whether there were volunteers to participate in the scheme it was **RESOLVED**:

To consider the matter further at a future meeting if there were sufficient representations about speeding traffic from residents and volunteers to operate the radar device

In respect of the establishment of a No Cold Calling Zone it was **RESOLVED**:

- to contact PCSO Moss if any specific incidents occurred which raised concerns.

8 Highways

Footpath Nos 6 and 8A

SCC had added the repair of these two footpath signs, near the Playing Field, to its schedule.

Verge Footpath to the Playing Field

SCC had advised that it was not possible to prevent damage by the installation of more robust reflector posts or kerbing and that replacement as necessary would therefore continue.

Parish Paths Partnership Scheme (P3)

It was noted that SCC had funded this scheme on the same terms as last year and footpath cutting would therefore again be carried out by Mr Ball during 2012.

Permissive Path to Great Bealings

It was noted that the recent heavy rain had left the surface of this low lying route very wet and Gt Bealings PC was asking SCC if woodchip could be used to improve it.

Emergency Bridge Closure

It was noted that SCC had recently closed a footbridge on the Fynn Valley Walk footpath in Gt Bealings which had been displaced by flood water. Repairs were in hand.

Turning Off Lights at Martlesham Park and Ride

It was noted that Mr Bellfield had said that a consideration of this would take place within SCC's larger scheme to decrease street lighting.

9 Planning

Applications and Enforcement

East Anglian Offshore Windfarm Cabling Route

The response of the applicant to the Council's objection and comments made by SCC, SCDC and SPS had been circulated to Councillors, together with notes of the meeting with the applicant held on 4 April and attended by the Clerk and Chairman, Mr Fryatt and the Chairman of Gt Bealings PC. It was noted that Gt Bealings had now resolved to object to

the cabling route, but that it was also identifying projects for which mitigation funding could be requested from the developer.

As a result of the meeting held on 4 April the applicant was preparing a report for the Council, to justify the choice of route through Gt and Lt Bealings. The report would be ready on 23 May. It was **RESOLVED**:

- that, provided the report was capable of being considered by Councillors in time and did not require expert interpretation, the implications thereof would be considered at a meeting of the Council to be held at 7.30pm on Monday 28 May 2012 at Bealings Village Hall, subject to confirmation of the availability of the Committee Room
- to send a copy of the report to SCDC and make it available to residents via the Council's website.

Motorbikes at Sunfield Farm

No reply had been received from SCDC Planning Enforcement in respect of use of the site for a competitive event on 8 January 2012, but an officer had advised Mr Fryatt that a club event would not in itself constitute a competitive motor sport event on the land. Thus the land would benefit from 28 days use of the land for motor sport. The owner had stated that there had been 19 days use last year. SCDC would only take further action if more than 28 days use occurred this year. It was **RESOLVED**:

- that a record of the dates on which events occurred be kept for future action if necessary

ALL

C/12/0006 – Finches Hill, The Street – Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a swimming pool enclosure

Mr Fryatt advised that SCDC had not yet determined whether the development was permitted development and the matter was with one of its solicitors. It was **RESOLVED**:

- to ask SCDC for a decision to be made as soon as possible.

C12/0484: 1 and 2 Wood Barn Cottages, Seckford Hall Road, Gt Bealings – Erection of two dwellings and provision of associated drainage and car parking facilities (existing cottages and agricultural barns to be demolished) change of use from agricultural to residential curtilage

It was noted that the tenant of the agricultural barns, who also had farmland and buildings in Lt Bealings, had contacted the Council and SCDC and advised that he had received notice to vacate the buildings. He was enquiring whether, if the application was approved, he would be able to increase his farm building supply in Lt Bealings to compensate, including by the provision of a modern grain store with drying facilities.

It was also noted that Gt Bealings Parish Council had objected to the application, on the grounds that the replacement dwellings were not 'like for like' being two large detached houses, and the barn replacement was tantamount to a new dwelling in the countryside. It was concerned that permission would set a precedent for the replacement of agricultural barns by new dwellings.

After discussion it was **RESOLVED**:

- to object to the application and support Gt Bealings Parish Council's grounds for objection to the application and based on the implications for development in Little Bealings
- to request that SCDC send a copy of any reply sent to the tenant to the Council

Neighbourhood Planning and Village Review

It was noted that despite circulation of the LDF Core Strategy and Development Management Policies document to Councillors, the parameters of a Village Review aimed at producing Supplementary Planning Policy Guidance for the parish were not easy to establish.

After discussion it was **RESOLVED** that:

- the feasibility of establishing a Working Group to advise the Council should be investigated as an expedient way to make progress
- membership of a Working Group should include local residents as well as Councillors and Mr Fryatt.

It was agreed to alter the order of the Agenda to consider the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations as the next item.

10 Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

Tree Planting at Sinks Pit

Paper 2012/01 by Dr Rowe had been circulated to Councillors, concerning the condition of the site, the location of proposed planting and likely costs. It was noted that the Tree and Footpath Warden supported the project. After discussion it was **RESOLVED**:

- that the Council enters into an agreement with SCC for the planting and maintenance of trees at Sinks Pit to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, subject to the terms and conditions of the agreement being agreed at a future Council meeting and satisfactory insurance being in place
- that budget provision of £100 per year for the next five years be made for the purchase and maintenance of the trees by the allocation of Council reserves to the project
- that, as soon as agreement was reached with SCC, the Council make application to the Woodland Trust for the supply of deciduous trees
- that, following their enquiry about Jubilee events in the parish, the Grundisburgh News be advised of the project.

Joint Jubilee Celebration

It was noted that arrangements by Great Bealings Parish Council and Friends of Great Bealings Church were proceeding, but that Mrs Rogers and Mrs Wilson had not been asked to attend any meetings.

11 Finance

Adoption of Financial Regulations

It was **RESOLVED**:

- that The National Association of Local Councils Financial Regulations Model 2 (England) Financial Regulations dated January 2004 be adopted.

Review of Internal Audit and Adoption of Accounts for 2011/12

The accounts for 2011/12 and the report of the internal auditor were received and the need for review of the effectiveness of financial management and the internal audit considered. After consideration of the scope of the internal audit, the competence and independence of the internal auditor, relationships between the internal auditor, the Clerk/RFO and Councillors, and the arrangements in place for planning and reporting the internal audit it was **RESOLVED**:

- that the current arrangements for financial management and the internal audit were effective and appropriate
- that the accounts for 2011/12 be approved
- that the return to the external auditor for 2011/12 be approved

Income and Expenditure

The Chairman reported that the Council had filed its Employers PAYE Return for 2011/12 and that the quarterly dates for payment of PAYE were mid January, April, July and October. It was therefore **RESOLVED**:

- to amend the quarterly dates for payment of the Clerk's salary to reflect PAYE payment dates as follows:

March (payment for January – March)
 July (payment for April – June)
 September (payment for July – September)
 January (payment for October – December)

The Chairman reported the following income and expenditure:

Income:

The Council's claim for a refund of VAT for £284.20 for 2011/12 had been paid.

Expenditure:

Cheques were signed as follows:

- Donation for 2012/13: Bealings Village Hall: £250
- Donation for 2012/13: Playing Field: £500
- Donation for 2012/13: Benefice Magazine: £150
- Gift to Internal Auditor: Mr P Gardiner: £20
- Clerk's Annual Allowance: £150 and expenses: £14.33
- SALC Annual Membership Fee: £211
- Suffolk ACRE Annual Membership Fee: £25

Bank balance after the above expenditure was £2262.30.

10 Matters Arising from Circulated Items

There were no matters arising from items circulated by paper or email.

11 Correspondence

An update from Dr Poulter, MP, was noted and that he may attend a Fete in Gt Bealings in September.

It was noted that SCDC had arranged and then cancelled Parish and Town Clerk Liaison meetings.

Information on forthcoming events at the Spa Pavillion in Felixstowe was noted.

It was **RESOLVED** to circulate to Councillors:

- SALC Training Information
- Anglian Water – drought information
- SPS Suffolk View for Winter 2011 and Spring 2012
- The Week
- Ipswich Connected Issue 3
- Clerks and Councils Direct Issue 81
- Suffolk Coastal Resource Network Spring 2012 newsletter
- Information and an appeal from Home Start, although it was not considered that the appeal met the Council's criteria for a donation

It was **RESOLVED**:

- Not to respond to SCDC's Scrutiny of Housing Provision in the district as the Council had no relevant information
- That, although no one was available to attend an information event on 29 May, further information be obtained about the Tour of Britain cycle race as it passed through the parish on 9 September 2012

The next scheduled meeting of the Council will be on Monday 2 July 2012, but an extra meeting is provisionally arranged for Monday 28 May (see item 9 above).

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 9.55pm.