

## **Minutes of Little Bealings Parish Council meeting held in Bealings Village Hall at 7.15pm on Monday 1 November 2021**

### **Present:**

Mr I Ransome (Chairman), Mr C Cheeseman, Mr M Garnham, Mr D Hunter, Ms H Saagi and Mrs M Wilson

### **In attendance:**

Mrs C Ramsden, Clerk to the Council

### **Also present:**

District Councillor Colin Hedgley, the Reverend Gary Jones and two residents.

The Chairman welcomed those present and asked if anyone was recording the meeting. One resident confirmed that he was not.

## **1. Apologies, Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Requests**

Apologies were received from Ms D Head who had a work commitment. It was **RESOLVED:**

- to accept the apologies for absence.

The Chairman declared a personal interest in item 8.2 on the Agenda, DC/21/4620/FUL Alterations and Extension to existing dwelling: Ascalon, Playford Road.

Declarations of a personal interest in item 12 on the Agenda, concerning The Admiral's Head, were made by Mr Garnham, Mr Hunter, Mr Ransome, Ms Saagi and Mrs Wilson as they had all pledged to buy community shares in the pub. Ms Saagi also declared a personal interest in the item as a member of Fotah.

Apologies were also received from County Councillor Elaine Bryce.

## **2. Public Participation Session**

### **War Memorial: Funding for Works and Insurance**

The Rev Jones updated the Council on the PCC's application for a Faculty to enable the War Memorial works to proceed, and thanked all those involved in the project.

### **Minutes of the Meetings Held on 6 September and 4 October 2021**

A resident stated that he did not consider the Council's minuting of the public participation session provided sufficient transparency.

The Chairman advised that the minutes complied with national guidance.

### **The Admiral's Head**

A resident stated that he did not support the Council excluding the public for the discussion of this item, other than when commercially justified.

### **Co-option of Parish Councillor**

A resident stated that he may be available in the future.

## **3. Minutes of the Meetings held on 6 September and 4 October 2021**

It was **RESOLVED**:

- to approve the minutes of these meetings as drafted.

## **4. Clerk and Councillors' Updates**

The Clerk reported:

- Anglian Water had confirmed that the Admiral's Head was a 'connectable property' for the new sewer, at the owners' cost. When a design was complete Anglian Water would want to meet with the Council and then with residents in the area. Installation was planned for 2024.
- The role of Village Recorder was still vacant.

### **4.1 Woodbridge and District Anti-Social Behaviour**

No one had been available to attend the meeting on 21 October.

### **4.2 ESC Community Partnership**

The Chairman had attended the meeting on 11 October.

### **4.3 ESC Community Partnership Road and Traffic Safety Workshop**

The Chairman and Mr Garnham had attended to discuss the different Road Safety and Traffic issues in rural villages as opposed to in towns. A new representative could be appointed when the Community Partnership topic for 2022 was known.

### **4.4 SALC Area Meeting and Forum**

Mr Hunter reported on his attendance at the Area meeting on 30 September. The Chairman had attended the meeting on 21 October, at which the survey carried out by Theberton and Eastbridge Parish Council into satisfaction with ESC Planning Services had been discussed. Representations would be made to ESC.

### **4.5 Village Hall Management Committee Meeting**

In Ms Head's absence the Chairman reported discussion of a possible increase in fees, new Covid guidance, possible additional Trustees and updating of the safeguarding policy.

### **4.6 SAVID**

Mr Garnham reported that he had not been able to attend the last meeting, but the SID rota had been changed to enable it to be displayed in the village in November, during School term time.

### **4.7 Queen's Platinum Jubilee Joint Celebration with Gt Bealings**

Ms Saagi reported that the first meeting of the group would be on 3 November.

## **5. Co-option of Parish Councillor**

Following advertisement of the vacancy, ESC had advised that there was no request for an election and a new Councillor should be co-opted. A co-option application form had been received from one resident and circulated to Councillors for consideration and it was **RESOLVED**:

- to co-opt Christopher Cheeseman to the Council

Mr Cheeseman signed the Declaration of Acceptance of office and was welcomed to the Council.

## **6 Appointments**

### **6.1 Woodbridge and District Anti-Social Behaviour Meetings Representative**

It was **RESOLVED**:

- to appoint Mr Ransome as the Council's representative.

### **6.2 ESC Community Partnership Representative**

It was **RESOLVED**:

- to appoint Mr Garnham to represent the Council at the next meeting in January.

## **7 Reports from Local District and County Councillors**

These reports had been circulated to Councillors before the meeting and various items were highlighted by the District Councillor. The reports would be published online.

## **8 Planning**

### **8.1 Policy SCLP5.4: Houses in Clusters in the Countryside**

A response from ESC had been received and circulated to Councillors. It was **RESOLVED**:

- to invite the ESC officer to a Council meeting to discuss the Council's concerns further.

### **8.2 Application DC/21/4620/FUL: Alterations and Extensions to Existing Dwelling: Ascalon, Playford Road**

It was **RESOLVED**:

- that there was no objection to the proposed development, but new fencing and a gate would be drawn to ESC's attention

### **8.3 Update on Applications dealt with under Delegated Authority, Previous Applications and Enforcement Matters**

**DC/21/1714/FUL: Proposed erection of 1No. new residential dwelling with attached garage – Land north of Martlesham Road and adjacent to The Old School House Martlesham Road**

ESC had approved this application.

## **Enforcement**

### **Noise Abatement at Sinks Pit**

The three applications for the variation of conditions remained undetermined. Correspondence from ESC on noise abatement had referred to relevant factors including the operation of the business and the scale and cost of works required to effect a solution, and it was **RESOLVED**:

- to seek clarity from ESC regarding these factors and the timescale for achieving compliance.

The Chairman reported that County Councillor Elaine Bryce had arranged a liaison meeting on 8 December in the Angela Cobbold Hall of SCC, ESC, Environment Agency and the operator and invited the Council to send two representatives. It was **RESOLVED**:

- that it was more appropriate for the local view to be represented by one Parish Councillor (the Chairman) and a local resident
- that the Council meet the cost of the hire of the Hall for future liaison meetings.

### **AP/21/0017/LAWFUL: Appeal against decision of ECS to refuse Certificate of Lawful Use - The Chestnuts Martlesham Road Little Bealings Suffolk IP13 6LX**

ESC had advised that it would be writing to the owner asking them to comply with the refusal within three months. It was **RESOLVED**:

- to ask ESC when the letter would be sent.

## **9 Highways**

### **9.1 SCC Lorry Route Consultation**

It was **RESOLVED**:

- to support the existing weight restricting Traffic Regulation Orders in the area and to check that there was appropriate signage.

### **9.2 Automatic Number Plate Recognition Scheme**

Mr Garnham reported that SCC had said that no new poles were to be installed for this scheme and **RESOLVED**:

- that five locations in the parish where there were existing poles be proposed to SCC for inclusion in the scheme.

### **9.3 Footpaths**

The Chairman reported that the Footpath Wardens had inspected all the paths in September and October and cleared Footpath 16. A connecting route in Playford was still closed for works to the railway crossing. It was **RESOLVED**:

- that due to ongoing flooding problems and confusion as to the precise line of the Footpath 18, SCC be invited to meet the Council on site to see if any improvements were possible.

## **10 Consultation on New Police and Crime Plan**

It was possible that the police would visit the village at School pick up time as part of a Suffolk Constabulary/ESC initiative, to discuss keeping property free from rural crime.

It was **RESOLVED**:

- that the Council respond to the consultation supporting more resource to deal with rural crime.

## 11 Finance

### 11.1 War Memorial: Funding for Works and Insurance

As the War Memorials Trust had offered a grant of 52% of the cost of the maintenance work it was **RESOLVED** that:

- subject to a Faculty being granted the Council would fund the other 48%, being £645.

Information was awaited from the PCC regarding ownership of the War Memorial which would assist with the consideration of insurance. A valuation was in hand.

### 11.2 Review of Banking Arrangements: New Savings Account and Appointment of Banking Signatory

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- A new saving account be opened with Barclays Bank to make it simpler to transfer funds between the current and savings account
- Mr Ransome be appointed a signatory on the Barclays current and new savings accounts and the NS&I account, following of Dr Hopkins' resignation.

### 11.3 Quarterly Internal Control Report for the Second Quarter

This had been carried out by Mr Hunter and no issues had arisen.

### 11.4 Budget for 2022/23

A draft budget which proposed increasing the precept by £1,000 had been circulated to Councillors. The increase would improve reserves and could fund further donations and renew Council IT. It was **RESOLVED**:

- To defer approval of the Budget for 2022/23 to the Council's meeting on 11 January 2022
- To amend the Budget for 2021/22 to include the purchase of a poppy wreath or equivalent value donation for the local Remembrance Day service and for this expenditure to be included in future budgets.

### 11.5 Asset Register Review

A revised draft Register had been circulated to Councillors and it was **RESOLVED**:

- to update the Register as proposed.

### 11.6 Risk Assessments for 2021/22

It was **RESOLVED**:

- to add the Village Hall floodlight and lamppost to the risk assessment, and request that the Bealings Village Hall Trust, which is responsible for it, inspects and reports to the Council on its condition once a year
- that a new salt bin be purchased to replace the wooden one at the Church
- that the Chairman would inspect the salt bins and the old notice board at the Hall Road crossroads and report any concern about their condition to the Council
- that the Clerk would inspect the Council's noticeboards and report any concern about their condition to the Council

### **11.7 Income and Authorisation of Expenditure**

The second half of the precept, £6000 had been received from ESC. It was

#### **RESOLVED:**

- that the following expenditure be incurred, leaving a current account credit balance of £7995.57:

S111 and S112 LGA 1972:

- Clerk's net salary for November 2021: £338.99
- Clerk's expenses: £220.86
- Clerk's net salary for December 2021: £338.99
- Pay As You Earn (PAYE) for October, November and December: £253.80
- CAS Ltd: One Suffolk Website Host fee: £60.00

### **12 Parish Council Christmas Card**

It was **RESOLVED:**

- that, as a card had been provided by a resident at nil cost to the Council, a Christmas Card would be sent to every resident in the parish via the Fynn Lark News Christmas edition.

It was **RESOLVED:**

- to exclude the public from the meeting for consideration of the next item, in accordance with the provisions of the Council's Standing Order 3d and S1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, on the grounds that publicity of the Council's consideration of its participation in the Hearing held on 12 October 2021 and next possible steps, in respect of the owners' appeal against ESC's decision to refuse Change of Use permission for the Admiral's Head, would be prejudicial to the public interest.

### **13 The Admiral's Head**

## 14 Dates of Meetings

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- the Council no longer wished to use the Committee Room for meetings, as a result of Covid19 and the continued need for social distancing
- as the Main Hall may be booked on Monday evenings, the Council would meet at the Hall on:  
Wednesday 12 January 2022 and Wednesday 9 March 2022 (Annual Parish Meeting, followed by Parish Council Meeting) and, subject to further consideration of a venue provisionally on:  
  
3 May 2022 (Annual Parish Council meeting)  
4 July 2022  
5 September 2022  
7 November 2022  
9 January 2023  
6 March 2023
- and in the event additional meetings were required and subject to a decision on the venue, on 7 February, 4 April, 6 June, 1 August, 3 October and 5 December 2022 and 6 February 2023.

The next scheduled meeting of the Council would therefore be at 7.15pm on Wednesday 12 January 2022 in Bealings Village Hall and would need to comply with any 'Covid secure' requirements for attendance in place at that time. If necessary, as a result of business to be transacted, a meeting would also be held on Monday 6 December at a venue to be determined.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8.46pm. The Chairman thanked those who had attended the meeting.