

Minutes of the Meeting of the Beeston with Bittering Parish Council held on **Tuesday 18th January 2022** at Beeston Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

Present

Councillor R.Scott
Councillor M Greene (chairman)
Councillor J Pitt
Councillor D Shutler

County/District Cllr Kiddle Morris and the clerk were in attendance.

Public Speaking Time

There were no members of the public present

Min 001/22 **Election of Chairman for the Meeting.** As the council chairman was absent, Cllr Greene was unanimously elected to be chairman for the meeting.

Min 002/22 **Apologies for Absence.** Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Mullenger (work commitment) and Cllr Townshend (self isolating) .

Min 003/22 **Declarations of Interest.** There were no declarations of interest made.

Min 004/22 **Minutes of the Meeting Held on 23 November 2021.** The minutes were taken as read and it was **AGREED that the minutes were a correct record of the meeting.** The minutes were signed by the chairman.

Min 005/22 **County/District Councillor Report.** Cllr Kiddle Morris reported that NCC would set its budget in February and this would likely include increases of 1.99% on the general rate and 1% on the adult social care precept. Due to high rates of Covid expected, NCC is prioritising minimising staff infection and isolation by having staff working from home and minimising face to face contact. Breckland Council is planning to increase its council tax by £4.95 on a band D property as permitted by previous government permissions. As well as the update required to the Local Plan following the inspector's examination, the council has agreed to carry out a substantive review of the whole plan.

Min 006/22 **Millenium Lakes.** The clerk reported that he had been contacted by the developer who advised that he anticipated completion of the footpath from the Herne Lane development site to Payne's Yard by the end of January. Members **AGREED to meet on site to review the section through the site on Tuesday 15th February at 3pm.** Cllr Scott reported that he was hoping to complete the scrub clearance on the banks of the lakes before the end of February but this would depend on the suitability of ground conditions. The reports were **NOTED.**

Min 007/22 **Trees.** The clerk reported that the additional application to NCC for further packs of hedging had been successful. The small copse trees and fruit trees had been received and the hedging was expected to arrive later in the week. The hedging will be used to fill in the gaps on the playing field boundary with Back Lane. Cllr Scott has heeled in all before planting when convenient for the member of the public who is assisting with this project. The report was **NOTED.** The clerk **AGREED to contact a local specialist about possible removal of one of the cherry trees on the village green that appears to be dying.**

Min 008/22 **Traffic Issues on Dereham Rd.** The clerk confirmed that the application to the NCC Parish Partnership Fund for funding towards wig wag signs for Dereham Rd had been made and acknowledged by NCC who confirmed that a decision would be made in March. The clerk also confirmed that he had spoken to Cllr Kiddle Morris who has committed to making a grant of £750 towards the parish costs from his personal budget should the application be successful. The reports were **NOTED.**

Min 009/22 **Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations.** Members discussed possible events and it was **AGREED that a public meeting would be held on Monday 7th March at 8pm in the village hall to discuss ideas that the community might have as to how to celebrate this anniversary.**

- Min 010/22 **Grit Box at junction of Chapel Lane and The Street.** The clerk advised the council that he had received 3 requests from members of the public for a box at that location in the winter of 2020/21. He had discussed with Cllr Kiddle Morris who advised that it was unlikely to be approved as a location for a box by NCC as it was not on a gritting route. Following a further request in the winter of 2021/22, the clerk contacted the highways engineer who suggested that a formal request should be made to NCC for consideration. This has been done and a response to that application is awaited. The report was **NOTED**.
- Min 011/22 **Planning Application.** The following response was **AGREED**
 3PL/2021/1696/HOU 4 Back Lane - no comment
 3PL/2021/1661/HOU Secret Garden, Drury Sq - to seek an extension of time to enable any response to be made following receipt of any comments from the public.
- Min 012/22 **Planning Decisions.** The following decisions were **NOTED**.
 3PL/2021/1467/F Shalee, Drury Square - refused
 TRE/2021/0333/TPO Development site at Roehampton, Syers Lane - refused
- Min 013/22 **Breckland Council Statement of Community Involvement.** It was **AGREED to respond that for larger applications where large scale drawings were needed, the statement should confirm that hard copies of plans would be available for parish councils where facilities to view and print from on-line documents are not available.**
- Min 014/22 **Highways.** The clerk confirmed that the pothole on Herne Lane opposite Ash Tree farm had been fixed. Hedging issues on Herne Lane had been reported to NCC who have written to the householder. The finger post at the junction of Church Rd and Watery Lane has been completed.
- Min 015/22 **New Highways Reports.** The clerk had already reported a pothole at the junction of Herne Lane and Drury Sq, a blocked gulley at the Church Rd, The Street and Herne Lane junction and a pothole at the Back Lane/Mileham Rd junction. Further issues with the overgrown verge on Chapel Lane between Gouch Close and the council houses and flooding on Dereham Rd by the Anglian Water station would be reported.
- Min 016/22 **Budget 2022/23.** The council considered the report presented by the clerk and **AGREED to set the budget for 2022/23 as outlined in the report and to set a precept demand of £7600 for the year 2022/23**
- Min 017/22 **Balances and Cheques for Authorisation.** The financial statement at the end of December and budget summary were reviewed. Cheques for payment were **AUTHORISED by Cllrs Townshend and Greene**

Balances :-

Bank of Ireland Treasurers' Account

Balance at 29 10 21	14731.40
Income	<u>NIL</u>
	14731.40
Less Cheques authorised	<u>1473.63</u>
Balance at 31 12 21	13257.77
Outstanding Cheques 23.11.21	<u>36.00</u>
Cash Book Balance at 31 12 21	13221.77

Cheques for authorisation: Total value = £ 1576.78

Amount available for Section 137 : 485 x £8.41 = £ 4078.85
 Spend to Date = £ 40.00

646	CGM Group	Grounds maintenance 12/21 - 01/22	85.48
647	Beeston Playing Field Comm	Grant towards playing field maintenance	500.00
648	Beeston PCC	Grant towards churchyard maintenance	400.00
649	Friends of Bittering Church	Grant towards churchyard maintenance	150.00
650	C Brindley	Clerk's salary 12/21 - 01/22	353.10
651	HMRC	Income Tax 12/21 - 01/22	88.20

Min 018/22 **Virement.** It was **AGREED** to transfer £105 from the Xmas Lights Switch On budget to the Training budget to cover the costs of training for new members.

Min 019/22 **Request for Funding.** A request had been received from the Norfolk Citizens Advice. It was **AGREED** to not make a contribution.

Min 020/22 **Matters for the Next Meeting.** Deferred planning application at Min 011/22 above, highways matter Dereham Rd

Min 021/22 **Date of the Next Meeting.** It was agreed as Monday 21st February 2022 at Beeston Village Hall starting at 7.30pm dependent on guidance at the time with regards COVID 19.

The meeting closed at 9.10 p.m.