

Minutes of the Meeting of the Beeston with Bittering Parish Council held on **Monday 28th November 2022** at Beeston Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

Present

Councillor T Townshend (Chair)
Councillor R Scott
Councillor J Pitt
Councillor M Greene

3 members of the public along with Ben Mattock, Senior Forest Consultant for Silviculture were present. The clerk was in attendance.

Public Speaking Time

A member of the public queried whether the parish council had further information about the withdrawal of planning application no. 3PL/2022/0758/F and expressed a view that the parish council could be more supportive of this type of application. The parish council advised that it had no further information about the reasons for withdrawal and reminded the resident that, having raised 3 issues for consideration with the application, it supported the application with their resolution. The resident then went on to express his view that additional affordable housing was needed in the village for local young people.

Min 162/22 **Apologies for Absence.** Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Cllr Mullenger (work commitments) and Cllr Wiseman (parental responsibilities). County/District Councillor Kiddle Morris had advised that he would not be attending any parish council meetings in his wards until the New Year

Min 163/22 **Declarations of Interest.** Cllr Scott advised an interest in agenda item 7.5 and advised that, with his interest, he would not wish to attend the meeting covered in that item.

Min 164/22 **Minutes of the Meeting Held on 24 October 2022.** 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 165/22 **County/District Councillor Reports.** A report from the county councillor had been circulated. There were no questions arising from its content.

The chairman closed the meeting to allow public contributions to the next item.

Min 166/22 **Silviculture Forestation Project.** Ben Mattock confirmed the answers that he had provided to questions previously raised by the council (see min 128/22). He moved on then to advise that this was a new process of approval for the project with the Forestry Commission. His previous contact with the parish council had formed part of an informal consultation on the project with local stakeholders and statutory consultees. A formal consultation would be undertaken by the Forestry Commission in early 2023 and he would advise at the earliest opportunity when the consultation was live in the Forestry Commission Public Register. The tree species to be used were advised and the growing habit of the non native species Paulownia, which formed 70% of the planting proposal was explained. Questions of detail were raised by those present and answered by Mr Mattock. The parish council agreed that it would contact those residents directly affected when the consultation went live. Mr Mattock was thanked for his attendance and information provided.

At this point, the chairman reopened the meeting when Mr Mattock and members of the public had left

Min 167/22 **Millenium Lakes.** The clerk advised that correspondence with Breckland Council had confirmed that the footpath from the new development on Here Lane was to be publicly accessible and it has taken up the matter with the developer Cllr Scott

advised that he would be removing the litter bin from the site later in the week.

The reports were **NOTED**

Min 168/22 **Village Sign.** No progress had been made with establishing the artist for the original picture on the sign. The item was **DEFERRED**, Subsequently, it was agreed that Cllr Pitt would take over responsibility for steering this project

Min 169/22 **Defibrillator at the Church.** The clerk confirmed that he had written to Mrs Scott but, at the time of the meeting, he had not received a response. Cllr Scott **AGREED that he would follow this up**

Min 170/22 **Xmas Lights Switch On.** Arrangements were **FINALISED for the event**

Min 171/22 **Planning Withdrawal.** The following withdrawal was **NOTED**

3PL/2022/0758/F The Bungalow, Herne Lane

Min 172/22 **Planning Decisions.** The following decisions were **NOTED**

3PL/2022/1044/HOU Hardy Cottage, Dereham Rd - approved

3PL/2022/501/F Primrose Farm, Water End Lane - refused

Min 173/22 **Bus Services Review.** It was **AGREED that a response would be made to (i) retention of the currently suspended Tuesday operation on service 25 and (ii) to make the more general point that connectivity with the main services that run along the A47 should be investigated as this would provide a link with the frequent services that run on the Excel routes between Norwich and Peterborough**

Min 174/22 **Rural Mobility Services.** It was **AGREED that no response to this survey was needed.**

Min 175/22 **Breckland Local Plan Update.** It was **AGREED that Cllrs Townshend and Greene would represent the council at the update meeting on 20th December**

Min 176/22 **Highways Reports.** The following had been actioned - All outstanding potholes from the summer survey conducted by Cllr Pitt. However the clerk had complained to highways that the repairs outside his house were substandard. These were under review by highways. The pothole in the passing place on Mileham Rd was awaiting repair and a new pothole on Salters Lane had been reported.

Min 177/22 **New Reports.** There were no new reports

Min 178/22 **Balances and Cheques for Authorisation.** The financial statement at the end of September and budget summary were reviewed. Cheques for payment were **AUTHORISED by Cllrs Townshend and Pitt**

Balances :-

Bank of Ireland Treasurers' Account

Balance at 30 09 22	17326.79
Income	<u>NIL</u>
	17326.79
Less Cheques authorised	<u>2334.57</u>
Balance at 31 10 22	14992.22
Outstanding Cheques 24 10 22	<u>115.90</u>
Cash Book Balance at 31 10 22	14876.32

Cheques for authorisation: Total value = £ 2231.51

Amount available for Section 137 : 481 x £8.82 = £ 4242.42

Spend to Date = £ 0.00

687	Beeston Playing Field Comm	Room hire 06-10/22	80.00
688	Beeston Playing Field Comm	Donation towards playing field maintenance 2022	500.00
689	Peter Cross Help at Hand	Annual grounds maintenance at village green and Millenium Lakes	1000.00

690	T Townshend	Refreshments for Remembrance Sunday	138.61
691	C Brindley	Clerks salary 11/22	181.90
692	HMRC	Income Tax 11/22	42.60
693	J.A.C.S (UK) Ltd	Grit bin for Chapel Lane	188.40

Min 179/22 **BUDGET 2023/24.** It was **AGREED** that in addition to the regular requirements, budget provision should be considered for dredging of the Millenium Lakes (£4000) and refurbishment of the village sign (£1000)

Min 180/22 **Clerk's Salary 2022/23.** It was **AGREED** that the clerk's salary should be increased with effect from 1 April 2022 in accordance with the recently agreed nationally negotiated pay scales

Min 181/22 **Matters for the Next Meeting.** Precept/budget 2023/24, Wig Wag signs (school representation to be present), Hedge Planting at playing field, Norfolk Household Support Fund

Min 182/22 **Date of the Next Meeting.** It was agreed as Monday 23 January 2023 at Beeston Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.16 pm.