

**Minutes of the Meeting of Beeston With Bittering Parish Council held at Beeston Village Hall  
on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023 at 7:30pm.**

**Present:** Toni Townshend, Chairman  
Robert Scott  
Mark Greene  
Jim Pitt  
Natalie Arnold  
Suzie Tucker  
Mandy Hall  
Peter Cook  
Jimmy Miller, Locum Clerk  
Natalie Gould, Clerk

**Also present:** Five members of the public.

**1 Election of the Chairman**

Cllr Pitt put himself forward to be considered for the position of Chairman. Cllr Pitt moved to the area 2 years ago and loves it. He would like to be considered as the new chairman to help to make more of the Parish. This nomination was proposed Cllr Greene and seconded by Cllr Scott. All were in favour and there were no other nominations.

Thanks was given to Toni for her longevity and tirelessness in the role. Toni Townshend had completed nearly 20 years on the Parish Council and will be enjoying taking a break now.

**2 Public Forum**

An introduction of the parish councillors was given to the public.

Cllr Scott stated that Rory Hart has put forward the s-bends with Norfolk County Council for a roadside nature reserve as he has notice the flora/fauna there is significant. The verges can still be cut in autumn, but it must be outside of the summer cutting period. It is believed that it can be cut if the height becomes a safety concern.

Rory has also offered up one of his own grown trees for placement on the village green to replace the one that had to be removed.

**3 Election of the Vice Chairman**

Mark Greene offered to be the vice chairman, this was proposed by Cllr Hall, seconded by Cllr Scott and all agreed in favour.

**4 To receive and approve apologies for absence**

There were no apologies.

**5 Declarations of interest for items and applications for dispensations**

There were no declarations of interest.

**6 To confirm the Standing Orders for 2023/24**

Cllr Scott proposed that he was happy as they were for the next year, Cllr Arnold seconded and all were in favour.

**7 To confirm the trustees of the Fuel Allotment Account**

It was noted that the parish counsellors all act as trustees on the fuel allotment account. All were in favour of continuing this arrangement.

#### **8 To confirm the Norfolk ALC representative**

No counsellors wished to take on this role. Cllr Pitt proposed and Cllr Scott seconded that the clerk continue to pass on information from NALC accordingly instead.

#### **9 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

Cllr Greene proposed that the minutes be approved; Cllr Scott seconded. Unanimous decision in favour.

#### **10 Annual return 2022/23**

- a) The AGAR was noted
- b) The annual governance statement was noted
- c) The annual accounting statement was noted
- d) The exemption from external audit was declared

The reserve amount was questioned. It was suggested that the general reserve should be between 3 months and 1 years' worth of expenses at a minimum.

#### **11 To confirm which insurance quote will be purchased**

Cllr Greene proposed that the council go with the lower of the two quotes. This was seconded by Cllr Arnold and all were in favour.

#### **12 Planning**

##### **a) Applications received**

##### **(i) 3DC/2023/0144/DOC**

Shalee, Drury Square, PE32 2NA

Discharge of Conditions No 3 & 5 On 3PL/2022/0110/F. (Discharge Conditions)

##### **(ii) FUL/2023/0018**

Bittering Quarry, Reed Lane, NR19 2QS

Hybrid planning application for full planning permission for the installation of 288 PV Panels and a post and wire fence within the plant site and application for non-compliance with condition 1 (time limits) of planning permission C/3/2018/3009 to allow mineral extraction to cease and all mineral processing plant to be removed on or before 31 December 2041, waste and soil imports and deposits to cease and all related plant and equipment to be removed on or before 31 December 2042 and the site to be restored by 31 December 2043.: McLeod Aggregates Ltd

Cllr Greene proposed that BBPC submit that they have no comment on the two applications; seconded by Cllr Hall. Unanimous decision in favour.

##### **(b) Applications received since the agenda went out**

##### **3PL/2023/0466/LU**

Proposed rear single story flat roof extension – certificate of lawfulness – proposed use

Cllr Greene proposed that BBPC submit that they have no comment on the application; seconded by Cllr Hall. Unanimous decision in favour.

##### **(c) Planning decisions**

**3PL/2023/0212/F**

The Shrublands, Herne Lane, PE32 2NE

Change of use of annex from ancillary habitable accommodation to mixed use: cookery and related courses, holiday-let use and production of artisan products (Full)

Approved

**3PL/2023/0158/F**

Joinery workshop, Herne Lane

Demolition of an existing concrete structure and removal of 2 no. steel containers to allow the construction of a new Sheet Store with Cutting Area with Secure Store and Transit Area to existing workshop.

Approved

The decisions were noted.

**(d) Planning Decisions received since the agenda was published**

None

**(e) Planning enforcement update**

There has been no update from the enforcement team on either enquiry.

**13 Correspondence**

The correspondence list was noted and it was requested that the enquiry from the owner of Chinook is discussed at the next meeting.

**14 Finance**

- a) To note Bank Reconciliations March/April
- b) To note Accounts March/April

The above were noted and approved. Proposed by Cllr Tucker and seconded by Cllr Arnold. All were in favour.

- c) To approve items for payment:

N. Gould	Salary	£200.00
HMRC	Income tax	£50.00
Beeston Playing Field	Village Hall hire	£52.00
N. Gould	Purchase of Parish Council laptop	£418.99
Norfolk ALC	Clerk Training	£108.00
Jim Pitt	Coronation purchases – mugs	£333.30
Deborah Pert	Coronation purchases – hook a duck	£32.95
Kim Wheeler	Coronation event prizes	£24.75
	Parish Insurance (item 10)	

The payments were approved, proposed by Cllr Hall, seconded by Cllr Arnold and all were in favour.

- d) To approve payment of invoices received since the agenda was sent
- None

**15 Review of Coronation event**

It was stated that between 150 and 180 people attended the beautiful coronation picnic on the playing field. All the attendees were thanked for their support. There are lots of mugs left and these will be distributed to the children as far as possible through links with the school.

#### **16 Zig Zag update**

It was noted that the road markings will be re-painted following the re-surfacing work completed on Dereham road.

#### **17 SAM2 sign update**

It was suggested that through the parish partnership fund, highways could be asked for funds towards the purchase of a SAM2 sign.

In the first instance, it was requested that a note goes to all other local parishes with a request to hire their SAM2 sign.

It was noted that there are two potential posts that this sign could be fitted to.

#### **18 Speen gun volunteers update**

The speed gun volunteer group would like to target both the beginning and end of the day as well as school run times. There are 4 volunteers from the school so far, and three others also volunteered during the meeting. The focus of the sights suggested were the war memorial, village green and outside the pub. Cllr Scott agreed to partner Cllr Arnold in this work.

#### **19 Millennium lakes review, including benches**

The council had budgeted to dredge the Millennium Lakes this summer, as water run off hits the bottom ditch next to the lake and drains into it. The ditch is stagnant and hasn't moved. This was last dredged in 2000. The plan was to re-dredge and lower the water levels. This would involve getting quotes for diggers and identifying somewhere to send the water to, with all work to be done pre July. Due to the time constraints, Cllr Scott proposed that the work is put back a year. This was seconded by Cllr Tucker and all were in favour.

The hedge cutting for the area was completed in the autumn and the fencing and gate has been repaired. A few sheep are kept on it every now and again to keep the grass down. The bench has been in place for a few months and is in a good state for visitors to use.

Cllr Scott left the meeting at 8:15pm.

#### **20 Agenda items for meeting in June 2023**

- An update on fibre broadband in the village with Geoff (a resident)
- Fuel fund
- Can we publicise the local plan land submission document
- How to make the parish council more accessible via media

Meeting closed at 8:21pm.

**Date of next Parish Council meeting: 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 7:00pm**