

**Minutes of the Meeting of Beeston With Bittering Parish Council held at Beeston Village Hall
on Monday 24th July 2023 at 7:00pm.**

Present: Jim Pitt, Chairman
Robert Scott
Mark Greene
Natalie Arnold
Suzie Tucker
Mandy Hall
Peter Cook
Natalie Gould, Clerk

Also present: One member of the public.

1 Public Forum

There were no requests to speak.

2 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies.

3 Declarations of interest for items and applications for dispensations

Cllr Scott declared an interest in any local plan items being discussed.

4 Approve minutes of meeting 19th June 2023

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved. This was proposed by Cllr Scott and seconded by Cllr Hall. All were in favour.

5 Norfolk District/County Report

Although the district/county Councillor was absent, a written report had been provided. The council reviewed these points, which included a potential devolution deal for Norfolk County Council which will be decided in December along with the governance model at the county council being amended and a new chief executive being appointed from within. Finally, it was noted that the long awaited A47 improvements are expected to start construction towards the end of this year, following the recent rejected judicial review at court recently. However it was noted that the amount of housing expected to be added in the outer Norwich area, following the western link road connection, is very large at 49,000.

6 Planning

a) Applications received

3PL/2023/0622/VAR

The Shrublands, Herne Lane

Variation of condition number 2 on 3PL/2023/0212/F

This seemed to just be an amendment to the parking plan. No concerns were raised. The council decided to make no comment on this proposal. Cllr Greene proposed this, with Cllr Arnold seconding.

FUL/2023/0018

Bittering Quarry, Reed Lane

Installation for a temporary period 288 photovoltaic solar panels with surrounding 1.2 metre high post and wire fence within the plant site: McLeod Aggregates Ltd.
(The applicant withdrew the element of the original application that sought an extension of time to the life of the quarry)

The council agreed that this was a good, green, conservation friendly project on a brownfield site. This response was proposed by Cllr Arnold and seconded by Cllr Hall.

b) Applications received since the publication of the agenda

None received.

c) Planning decisions

The following planning decisions were noted.

3PL/2023/0466/LU

4 Hampton Close

Proposed rear single storey flat roof extension – certificate of lawfulness – proposed use.
Approved.

3DC/2023/0144/DOC

Shalee, Drury Square

Discharge of conditions no 3 & 5 on 3PL/2022/0110/F
DOC – Complete.

3PL/2023/0119/F

New Farm, Fransham Road

Proposed lake for the purposes of biodiversity enhancement.
Approved.

3PL/2023/0128/F

The Bungalow, Herne Lane

Proposed refurbishment & extension of former dwelling
Refused.

d) Planning decisions received since publication of the agenda

No further planning decisions were issued.

e) Enforcement updates

No updates have been received from the enforcement team, even after being chased.

A letter had been received by the parish council recently confirming that the pathway through to the Hamptons estate has been closed to members of the public and only usable by those living in the immediate vicinity. The contents of the letter has been passed to Cllr Kiddle Morris to review. Some of the local residents can't actually use the path anyway as they have mobility scooters which won't go through the swing gate.

7 Correspondence

The correspondence list was noted.

8 Finance

a) To note Bank Reconciliations June

The bank reconciliation was noted

b) To note Accounts June

The banking payments were noted.

c) To approve items for payment:

N. Gould	Salary	£160
HMRC	Income tax	£40
Creative Penguin	Village Sign	£702.00

Cllr Hall proposed that the payments were agreed and Cllr Tucker seconded. All were in favour.

d) To approve payment of invoices received since the publication of the agenda

There were no additional invoices.

9 Action Log

The action log was reviewed and the following updates were noted.

Fuel Charity Land Review – Cllr Scott took a look at the current tenancy agreement and the land in question. It is a protected tenancy, with a rent review possible every 3 years, but with at least 12 months notice needed of any changes. Given the current market, his advisement is to leave it as is.

AGENDA ITEM – To consider the option for selling the land, or putting it forward for the local plan.

Local Plan Document – Cllr Greene has produced a document to show each of the parcels of land that have been put forward locally to the local plan. This will go in the noticeboard.

Parish Council Suggestion Box – The pub is happy to host one. It was suggested that a qr code is included on the outside, linking to the survey monkey, along with the web address. However, the council also discussed signposting viewers to our contact details rather than a box. No decision will be made on this until the survey has been put out.

Community Asset – The application for the old shop to be set as an asset of community value had gone in that day.

10 Mobile Surveillance Camera's

It was noted that there has been further destruction of the new child's seating at the playing field again. The playing field committee could consider putting this area forward for mobile surveillance out of hours, however this is for them to discuss.

It was decided that there would be no real benefit sought from putting Beeston forward for this mobile camera trial.

11 To consider the point of principal that the PC actively contacts and engages with those immediately effected by planning applications

After discussing the pros and cons of additional engagement, the council put forward three options. This would be to continue as is and speak with neighbours on planning applications as

and when necessary; to send letters to the immediate neighbours; or to make visits to the immediate neighbours.

The council decided to engage a bit further and provided some additional details of planning applications via a form which would be posted through doors of neighbours. This will be led by Cllr Pitt, but can be assisted by all councillors as and when appropriate.

ACTION – Cllr Pitt to draw up the document, which will state the basic details of the planning application.

12 Village aesthetics – what do we want to see?

The council would like to see the new building developments stay in keeping with the rural environment. Green space inclusions are noticeably lacking and there are a very mixed bag of design builds already in place throughout the village.

The parishioners are to be asked what they would like to see in the survey, in order to put forward a uniform village view.

13 Neighbourhood Plan Information

A neighbourhood plan would help to describe how the village should grow and would give guidance to Breckland when planning applications are put forward.

This item may be discussed further following the review of the results of the survey.

14 Noticeboard & potential costed options

As previously noted, Bittering noticeboard has broken in the wind. The lock is broken and the legs have rotted and snapped off, but the box itself is still in good condition.

ACTION – Cllr Scott and Cllr Pitt are to speak with the bittering residents about their need for a noticeboard.

15 Survey Monkey – what do you want to find out and what questions should you ask?

Questions are to be put together to form the survey, covering communication questions, along with those about the village aesthetics.

ACTION – Cllr Cook is to lead and organise a meeting to put together the questions.

The 22nd August was chosen at 7.30pm.

16 SAM2 sign update/ Speed Gun

Litcham Parish Council have offered to lend us their SAM2 sign. The council would like use of the sign during term time, so a date of the 25th September was suggested. Ideally this is to be kept for two weeks at this site. There are three positions in total that the sign can be placed, so we will ask if we could have it for a month/ six weeks.

Half of the speed gun application forms have come back, but the others need to be followed up. David Paine's are happy for their road frontage to be used for standing in. The memorial green is also on the list of locations.

ACTION – Check with Cllr Kiddle Morris about permission needed to put up a SAM2 sign.

20 Agenda items for meeting in September 2023

- Fuel Charity Land Options
- Remembrance Sunday organisation
- Hedge cutting quotes

ACTION: Quotes to be gained for hedge cutting – Cllr Pitt and Cllr Greene are to get quotes.

It had been asked if it was possible to walk dogs at the Millenium Lakes site. The Millenium Lakes is maintained voluntarily for the village, by Rory Hart and some sheep, and is used for a natural habitat for conservation. The conservation area has species rich grassland, not suited to dog walking and fowling. It was stated that gate repairs were done last year to keep grazing sheep safe, but there is no sign at present to say no dogs.

Meeting closed at 8:26pm.

Date of next Parish Council meeting: 25th September 2023 at 7:00pm