

**Minutes of the Meeting of Beeston With Bittering Parish Council held at Beeston Village Hall  
on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at 7:00pm.**

**Present:** Jim Pitt, Chairman  
Natalie Arnold  
Mandy Hall  
Peter Cook  
Natalie Gould, Clerk

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

**1 Talk from Gabriella Crittenden, Community Enabler at Breckland Council**

Gabriella came to speak about the Inspiring communities service, which is a collaboration with key stakeholders to develop a community-led approach to enhancing the lives of Breckland residents. Over time, this service has shifted its focus from sports and leisure to wellbeing and mental health, particularly after the effects of COVID and the lockdowns.

They have four key priorities which are domestic abuse, isolation and loneliness, mental health & early intervention. Their welfare officers team are there to give direction and to signpost anyone to the right support needs.

The communities team inbox can be used for referrals and the help on offer is designed on a case by case basis.

The team also help community groups to find funding, grant support & help with community activities etc.

Mindful courses are being offered, free of charge, to equip those in the community to support residents. The current offerings are grief and bereavement training and youth mental health. If enough people are trained within the community (5 members of the community for a small village), you can become a mindful village with accreditation.

**ACTION** - Check if we are on the communities mailing list.

**2 Public Forum**

Mr White spoke, who is the recent purchaser of Chinook. He stated that the current driveway has no issues for use with Chinook according to Highways.

Mr White has been looking for information about who has the right-of-way to use Town House Drift.

**ACTION** - The Parish Council will ask Cllr Kiddle Morris about who has right of way over it.

**3 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Scott, Cllr Greene and Cllr Tucker.

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

No declarations of interests were declared.

**5 Approve minutes of meeting 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

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

**6 Norfolk District/County Report**

Key highlights from the reports are:

- A £46m budget gap at Norfolk County Council, which will be filled by both a transformation project to create savings, as well as an increase in council tax. This is due to pressure from both adult and children's social care expenditure and the failure of the government to implement the promised fairer funding review.
- Visual inspections for RAAC concrete numbered 28 inspections on 25 different sites. The conclusion from this exercise was that none of the maintained schools in the Norfolk County Council area contained RAAC.

## **7 Planning**

### **a) Applications received**

#### **3PN/2023/0017/PNE – No Comments Required**

1 The Cottages, Drury Square  
Prior Approval.

#### **3PN/2023/0025/PNE – No Comments Required**

2 The Cottages, Drury Square  
Prior Approval.

#### **3PL/2023/0828/EU – Evidence Request only and has already been responded to**

Woodfield House, Herne Lane  
Certificate of Lawfulness for Existing use - Storage of agricultural machinery

These applications were noted and none required comments.

### **b) Applications received since the publication of the agenda**

None received.

### **c) Planning decisions**

The following planning decisions were noted.

#### **3PL/2023/0622/VAR**

The Shrublands, Herne Lane  
Variation of Condition No 2.  
Approved.

#### **3PL/2023/0618/HOU**

Nirvana, The Street  
Removal of gable roof to existing bungalow and erection of new first floor extension. Conversion of existing garage block to form new lounge. Erection of single storey flat roof rear extension to form new dining room. Alteration to existing front gable to form new entrance and remodelling of the existing ground floor layout. Alteration to existing front garden to form additional vehicular access onto the highway  
Approved.

#### **FUL/2023/0018**

Bittering Quarry  
Installation for a temporary period 288 photovoltaic solar panels with surrounding 1.2 metre high post and wire fence within the plant site

Approved.

3PL/2023/0833/F

New Farm, Fransham Road

Construction of rural workers dwelling and double cart port

Approved.

**d) Planning decisions received since publication of the agenda**

No further planning decisions were issued.

**e) Enforcement updates**

**8 Correspondence**

The correspondence list was noted.

Local plan submissions – the list has been circulated, put in the noticeboard and is available on the website.

The Breckland Council planning meeting offered a QR code giving access to the plan to look through if you wish.

The bin has now been removed from the Millenium Lakes, which was overflowing with dog waste. This location is not possible for an official dog poo bin site, as it is away from the highway and located on parish council land. The edge of the industrial estate was suggested as a potential future location.

The Parish Council have been informed that a sign has been removed from a footpath along watery lane. **ACTION** - Highways are to be informed.

**9 Finance**

**a) To note Bank Reconciliations**

The bank reconciliation was noted

**b) To note Accounts**

The banking payments were noted.

**c) To approve items for payment:**

N. Gould	Salary (2 months)	£360
HMRC	Income tax (2 months)	£90
N. Gould	Expenses	£178.60
Beeston Village Hall & Playing Field	Hedge Cutting Donation	£100.00

Cllr Arnold proposed that the payments were agreed and Cllr Cook seconded. All were in favour.

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

There were no additional invoices.

**10 Action Log**

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

A letter will be going out soon to all residents that currently receive the fuel charity payment to check that they would still like to receive it.

A survey is being put together for local residents to complete covering their views on the needs of the parish. This will be on survey monkey but paper copies will also be available from the village hall & the pub.

The planning applications letter has been put together which will go out to immediate neighbours of properties with planning applications.

### **11 Fuel Charity Land Options**

Due to the outcome of the preliminary land valuation and the current contract terms, it was confirmed that no changes will be made at this point to the fuel charity land. There is also a lengthy process to go through if the land was to be sold, with getting out of contract and making changes within the charity commission.

### **12 Hedge Cutting Agreement**

Four people took on the task of cutting the overgrown hedge at the entrance to the playing field, along the alley. This work was completed in exchange for a donation to the playing field committee. They have also agreed to do this every year. Cllr Arnold proposed a £100.00 donation, Cllr Cook seconded this and all agreed.

### **13 Village survey**

The survey will give a mandate as to what everyone wants for the village. It comprises of 32 questions, and the qr code will go out in a future edition of the Church & Village magazine, to help guide the direction of the village.

All Cllr's in attendance agreed that survey responses could be dropped off with them. The addresses will be passed on to Cllr Cook for inclusion. There will be a prize given to one lucky submission and a payment will be needed for survey monkey to run up to 1000 responses. The payment will be agreed at the next meeting.

### **14 Remembrance Sunday Organisation**

A wreath is laid at the church memorial, followed by the church service, then a wreath is laid at the American war memorial, followed by tea and refreshments at the village hall.

**ACTION:** Two wreaths need to be ordered, along with the food for the reception.

The Ploughshare is willing to supply wine on a sale or return basis. A team of people will be needed to help at the village hall as well as covering the memorials. **ACTION:** Cllr Pitt will create a plan.

Xmas lights – Typically, a handful of people turn up the Christmas light switch on at the village green. This year, the parish council would like to consider working with the school to join in with the decorating, and combining a switch on with a potential Christmas fair.

D-day 80 years – Next year marks the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-day and a UK wide celebration will be put together with Beacons being lit across the country. Approximate costs to purchase a

portable beacon is £590 +VAT, plus the cost of gas. **ACTION:** further costings will be brought forward for both purchase and hire options.

**20 Agenda items for meeting in October 2023**

- Plant an oak tree to commemorate the coronation – reminder
- Speed watch/SAM2 Update
- Village Survey
- potholes

Finally, it was noted that the SAM2 speed sign went up on Saturday, giving awareness to road users of the speed on the road and to gather information of the speed used.

Meeting closed at 8:10pm.

**Date of next Parish Council meeting: 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 at 7:00pm**