

Minutes of Bradenham Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 22nd August 2023 in the Village Hall.

Mr C Allhusen, Mr J Reading, Ms T Frost, Steven Parker, Lisa Johnstone with the Clerk Mrs D Ruppert and Helen Crane (District Councillor) plus 4 Residents.

APOLOGIES – Ed Connolly (County Councillor), Peter Bate (District Councillor) & Michael Bell-Unwell

The minutes of the last meeting were signed by the Chairman as a true record.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare any interest in the following items on the agenda.

Chris Allhusen declared an interest in the Permissive Footpath and the Cricket Club Lease renewals.

Dispensation is granted to all Parish Councillors in order to discuss the Precept and other financial matters. - Chris Allhusen declared an interest in the permissive paths and the Cricket Club Lease

PUBLIC SESSION

Helen Crane – District Councillor

Alexa-A new service via the Alexa smart speaker has been launched which will enable Breckland residents to find out more about local council services, including which bin is next due for collection. This new function is the first to be delivered by a Norfolk Council and embraces the latest technology and will develop over the months ahead to give more information. It is another way of residents being able to communicate with their council.

Local Government Chronicle awards-Breckland Council won the Health and Social Care category on 8th June. This is for the councils 1 million£ inspiring communities programme which launched in 2020 setting out a new partnership with NHS, Charities and other partners. Together support has been given to some of the district's most vulnerable residents, including those who have experienced domestic abuse, isolation and loneliness and people in need of mental health support.

The Council has also been shortlisted for 2 other awards promoting excellence in frontline services. Business waste-The business waste has seen its 250th customer. This service is not a one size fits all and is tailored to meet the individual needs of our business waste customers.

Mental Health support-The Breckland build together Families programme will deliver interactive workshops and support for up to 100 young people and their families who are on local mental health waiting lists.

Car Parks-Breckland Council has surveyed all of its 32 public car parks. The last survey was done in 2016 and the council wants to understand how the car parks are being used and support our 5 Market Towns.

Local Plan Partial Review-The inspector has "considered the review on its own merits, this specific review has evolved in response to the complex mix of local circumstances, alongside which the Council has shown that it has undertaken substantive work on its full update of the local plan which is expressed clearly in the published Local Development Scheme. On balance the focused approach to the partial review is both pragmatic and justified." The full report can be found on the website.

Breckland 2035-Carbon Audit report came to cabinet. The carbon footprint shows a positive direction of travel. There has been a 10% reduction since the previous year and a 17.5% reduction since the baseline year 2019/20. We have seen good progress in scopes 1 and 2, these are which are within our control. There are challenges with scope 3 for things out of our control such as SERCO waste collection, contracted cleaning, Equipment procurement etc.

Decarbonisation of Leisure Centres-Cabinet recommended that up to £530k be released to deliver destratification fans at both sites along with lagging improvements and optimisation of heating systems. Thetford would also see replacement of single glazed windows. This will see a reduction in total carbon emissions of 175.55 tonnes.

I have visited Oxburgh Hall to see the site where in partnership with the National Trust we will plant 2,400 trees.

Helen was asked will the car parks stay free of charge. Helen could not confirm, but there will be a public consultation.

Peter Bate – District Councillor – Report was read out by Chris Allhusen

On 10th July I attended the veteran's workshop at Dereham memorial hall. Organisations present were SSAFA, Royal Marines Association, British Legion, On the wire, RAF benevolent fund, Breckland district council, NHS, and the bridge from Kings Lynn. The Bridge is a drop-in centre for veterans where they can participate in arts and crafts and various other activities or if they want, just have a chat. They will also reach out to lonely veterans in old people's homes and then do visits do keep them company. They can be reached by emailing contact@thebridgeforheroes.org.

On the 17th of July I took part in a housing policy workshop. The main takeaway from this being that we have a huge number of people who need accommodation and very few spaces to put them. The purpose of the workshop was to discuss whether we used the best policies to ensure that housing goes to the most deserving.

There was a full council meeting this month the most contentious part being, Breckland Bridge and whether it is the best way to decide the use of council land. The governing party felt it was and the opposition felt that it did not consider value other than monetary enough. The governing party won the recorded vote.

MATTERS ARISING

Village Green Bylaws – This has been refused due to duplications of existing laws. This will be resubmitted.

Highways – Ford sign on School Road, lettering faded, Highways will replace. Pavement on School Road will also be cleared. Rusting poles around the village at present do not need replacing.

Grass Cutting – We have asked highways to mow 34 Hale Roads verge, at present they haven't. Clerk will write to Ed Connolly- County Councillor The grass verge near the pub also needs cutting, it's been now done but very badly.

The pound will now be cut regularly by TTSR. At the cost of £25.14 per cut. This was agreed via email with the PC.

Speed Signs – Two extra posts have been requested for Mill St and School Rd. Resident confirmed that these have already been installed. The one on Mill St is behind the electricity pole so the Sam2 sign won't be noticeable by traffic which also seems to be too close to the edge of the verge. We also need to order 4xbrackets for the new posts. The Clerk will contact Highways and order the brackets from Westco

Mr Phil Hayward is able to get speed data from the Sam2's, but will need access to a windows laptop. In order to get an overall picture of speeds above the 30mph limit. If it turns out that there is a significant problem with speeding, this could then be submitted to the authorities to target some action. Lisa Johnstone volunteered to try obtain a Windows laptop for the duration of the data collecting period.

Cricket Club Lease – This is with the club for them to agree and sign

Sign and Camera's – The cameras on the green are not able to pick up the whole green, so Chris Allhusen contacted TPI security (Farm Watch have creased trading) for an extra camera system. Once the quote comes in, we can discuss further.

CORRESPONDENCE

Footpath Agreement – This was agreed for another 5 years. Sign by the Clerk and Chris Allhusen witnessed by Steve Parker.

Ford Clearance – The ford is again overgrown with weeds and a couple of trees, this will cause a problem for drivers and flooding. The Clerk approached Highways but they cannot see a problem. The Clerk will write to Ed Connolly – County Councillor

Play Area Inspection – The following items need to be looked at, which Chris Allhusen will do this. Gaps between impact mats, Chains of outer swings and the flat seat and perishing. The swings in fenced area need the chains checks. The Climbing Frame in the outer area needs impact mats but this is only a recommendation.

BCG- The group had asked who the land behind the village hall belong to. This is the Village Hall so any requests should be made through them.

APPLICATION :- Proposed single storey side and rear extension, internal alterations and new detached double garage 20 School Road – Mr & Mrs Ward – **No Objection**
Single Storey Extension To The Rear & Side & A Small Double Storey Extension Above Current Kitchen & New Porch. Erection Of A New Cart shed With Living Space To The First Floor. Walkers Cottage West End by Mr & Mrs Gamble – **No Objection**

APPROVAL :- Demolition of conservatory. Renovate and re-clad single storey lean-to, add additional insulation and replace the current array of UPVC windows.by Mr & Mrs Roberson High Farm 28 Southend – **No Objection**
Variation of Condition 5 on 3PL/2013?0399/F by Edward Sorrell 25 Hale Road **No Objection**

Proposed single storey side and rear extension, internal alterations and new detached double garage 20 School Road – Mr & Mrs Ward – **No Objection**

REFUSED:- Proposed Dwelling by Mr Shaun Mower Garden Lane number 3 - **Objection**

FINANCE:-

Opening Balance Lloyds - £10906.18

Expenditure		Income	
TTSR Ltd – Grass Cutting	1334.03	VAT Refund	2307.96
TTSR Ltd – Grass Cutting	1194.05		
Clerk's Wages	191.15		
Tax	42.60		
Westcotec – Battery	100.80		
Heartbeat – Pads	68.34		
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	£2930.97		£2307.96

Balance £10283.17

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Grit Bin – Clerk advise that the bin on Mill Hill's lid is broken and I have asked Glasdon if we can get a replacement. Price to be advised. The PC were happy for the Clerk to order this.

Resident mentioned that the 30mph sign near Michael Tufts is covered by the hedge. Teresa Frost will have a look.

NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 21st November 2023

MEETING ENDED: - 8.31pm