

GT. BEALINGS PARISH COUNCIL
(www.greatbealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**The Annual Parish Meeting of Gt. Bealings was held on Wednesday 21st May
2025 at 7.00pm at Bealings Village Hall**

Present: Sue Prentice (Chairman) (SP), Colin Hedgley (CH), Regan Scott (RS), Trevor Harris (TH), Caroline Saunders (CS), Rachel Lamb (RL)

In attendance: Dee Knights, Clerk to the Council (DPK), Peter Prentice (PP) -Bealings Village Hall Trust, Rob Munn (RM), plus 8 other residents

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Norman Porter

2. Minutes of Meeting held on 7th May 2024

The minutes were approved and signed.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes -

There were no matters arising

4. Flood Prevention Update

RM presented an update report on the progress made regarding future flood prevention in the village. Much practical work has been carried out which has already substantially reduced the risk of flooding to properties. It is proposed to install drainage pipes under Lodge Road to reduce the flood plain. RM expressed thanks for the support and guidance received from many people in particular Matt Hullis at SCC and Aaron Dixie at the Environment Agency. A full copy of the report is attached to these minutes on the PC's website.

CH congratulated Rob and his team for their work. SP specifically thanked Rob, Paul Ward, David Munn and Steve Condon on behalf of the village and said that this is good news for all.

RM responded to some questions from the floor.

5. WhatsApp Group for emergency notifications

RL advised the meeting that it is planned to set up a village WhatsApp communication channel for notifications in respect of any emergency situations. Residents will be invited to join. A full explanation of what can be done and how it will work will be circulated in due course via the E-Newsletter and Fynn Lark News. It is felt that this will be the most effective way of prompt communication.

6. Chairman's Report – Review of Year

SP summarised the work that the PC has undertaken during the year including the Gov.uk Domain and new website, Planning matters, Neighbourhood Plan, Emergency Planning and Village Fete, plus issues regarding roads and speeding. She read in full the report provided by Farran Douse which describes the contribution made by Farran, and other volunteers in towns and villages, to the wide ranging study of water quality in the River Deben and Fynn Lark valleys. It is an excellent example of citizen science and SP thanked Farran for her continuing and valued contribution to the programme. A full copy of the Chairman's Report is attached to these minutes on the website.

7 & 8 Councillor Reports

Reports have been received by County Cllr Elaine Bryce, District Cllr Colin Hedgley and District Cllr Dan Clery. All have been circulated to Parish Cllrs and are attached to the minutes on the website.

CH verbally recapped the last 12 months and mentioned the proposed Westerfield quarry, Suffolk beaches, increased number of Parking Apps and contactless payment for parking, fraud team activity, the Well Bus which visited some towns and villages, Operation Camouflage which will run again this year, and the results of the two by-elections. He detailed the grant payments he has made recently to Gt Bealings and he mentioned the current Devolution proposals and outlined some of the ways this may work.

9. Community Reports

(a) Village Hall Trust– PP presented a report for the Bealings Village Hall Trust. He thanked the two Parish Councils for their donations, also the two District Cllrs, together with all other donators and supporters of the various events. The roof and doors project severely reduced reserves, so an expensive expansion and hard surfacing of the car-park was put on hold. However, in April Andy Mayhew volunteered his time and digger free of charge to resurface the car park with road planings which cost £600. PP thanked him for his generosity. He summarised the other events that have been held and the essential work that has been carried out. He expressed thanks to Keith Beaumont and Margaret Wilson for their invaluable assistance and mentioned that there are currently vacancies for Trustees. The full report is on the PC's website.

(ii) Fynn-Lark News Report – A report has been submitted by Norman Porter and was read by DPK. The magazine is continuing to thrive and is regularly over 40 pages. NP discussed the financing problems and thanked the individuals, advertisers, Parish Councils and village organisations for their support. He also thanked the large team of volunteer helpers and paid particular tribute to Tim Llewellyn for putting it all together, and Peter and Vicki Carr for their efficient distribution process. The full report is on the PC's website.

(iii) PCC - A report has been received by Norman Porter, but as this was stated to be a personal view, it was not read. The full report can be viewed on the PC's website.

8 Any Other Business - none

9 Questions

There were no questions and the meeting closed at 8.10pm.

Signature..... Chairman