

**Minutes of the meeting of Great Bealings Parish Council held on
Thursday 27th July 2023 at Bealings Village Hall**

Present: Sue Prentice (Chairman) (SP), Colin Hedgley (CH), Sally Johnson (SJ), John Carter-Jonas (JCJ), Regan Scott (RS),

In attendance: Mrs Dee Knights (DPK) - Clerk to the Council, Dan Clery (DC) – District Councillor

WELCOME

SP welcomed DC who was attending his first meeting since being elected as District Councillor in May

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Trevor Harris (TH) and Caroline Saunders (CS)

2. Declarations of Acceptance of Office

RS and SJ signed their Declarations, the forms will be delivered to CS and TH

3. Declarations of Interest

Non-registerable Interest (NRI) - District Cllr – CH.

4. Declarations of Lobbying and Responses to Lobbying

None

5. To approve the Minutes of the Annual PC Meeting held on 9th May 2023

The minutes were approved and signed

6. Clerk/Councillor Updates not on agenda:

Annual Fete – SP reported that 9th June 2024 had been provisionally agreed for a joint village fete and a volunteers meeting will be held in the autumn

7. Public Participation Session

No members of the public present

8. Reports by:

(i) County Councillor Elaine Bryce – No report has been received

(ii) District Councillor Colin Hedgley –

A report had been circulated to Cllrs and a full copy is attached to the minutes on the website. CH verbally reported on the discussion he had with the Head of Planning regarding the number of houses in a “Cluster” – apparently there is no limit. He also advised that the Planning Referral System is going to change and he outlined the new system which is a great improvement. He confirmed that to make a verbal representation to the Planning Committee, registration must be made on the website at least 24 hours in advance.

(iii) District Councillor Dan Clery –

DC had circulated reports for June and July which are attached to the minutes on the website. He verbally spoke about the recent Community Partnership Meeting that both he and SP had attended which gave rise to a discussion on various ideas that had been put forward regarding some activities. SJ volunteered to speak to a local resident about this.

9. Planning Applications:

(i) DC/23/2127/FUL – Land North of Lavender Cottage –Build single storey stable room and storage room for hay and tools

Councillors unanimously **RESOLVED** to strongly object to this application

- (ii) **DC/23/2787/VOC – Barn C, Former Woodbarn Cottages, Seckford Hall Road –**
Variation of plans re Cartlodge

It was **RESOLVED** that there are no objections to this application.

- (iii) **Any other applications – None**

- (iv) **Decision Updates :**
DC/23/1149 – 14 Grundisburgh Road – permitted by ESC

10. Other Planning Matters:

- (i) **Report re ESC Planning Forum 7th July**
SP advised members that, under the Environment Act 2021, Biodiversity Net Gain is a mandatory requirement from November 2023. She read out some statistics re ESC planning application approvals and specifically mentioned that for appeals – the national average is 42% success whereas for ESC it is only 29%. ESC Enforcement Matters that are upheld are very few.
- (ii) **Enforcement Matters**
ENF/22/0069/USE – Water Meadow, Lower Street – The ESC Enforcement Officer has concluded his investigation and reports that a number of non-permitted items have been removed from the land and it has been determined that sufficient compliance has been achieved. Cllrs will continue to monitor this site
- (iii) **Review of Neighbour Plan**
SP reported that the text of the revised NP is being proof-read and it is now at the pre-statutory consultation stage.
- (iv) **Neighbourhood Plan Policy Usage Statistics**
SP reported that ESC have amended these and the figures will be provided on a monthly basis
- (v) **Consultation on Shire Hall, Woodbridge**
RS reported on the proposals regarding the future of the Shire Hall. Cllrs felt that the PC should not comment on this consultation
- (vi) **Other Planning Matters - None**

11. Highways and Footpaths

- (i) **SAVID – CH** said that SAVID are pressing ahead with helping other PCs purchase a SID
- (ii) **Replacement SID – DPK** confirmed that the insurance claim has been successful and £2975 has been received from Zurich. Cllrs discussed the two quotations which had been received and decided to proceed with Westcotec, to align with neighbouring parishes. There is a shortfall of £450 and CH will apply for this amount from his Enabling Communities Fund.
- (iii) **Footpaths – RS** is liaising with the Footpath Officer for LtB with regard to cutting back giant hogweed

12. Environmental Issues

- (i) **Trees – JCJ** is in contact with the representative of Lord Cranworth regarding a site for a copse
- (ii) **Report from Deben Water Testing Meeting 14th July** – in the absence of CS, this will be deferred to the next meeting
- (iii) **Other matters – Contractors** have been engaged by Nigel Rolph to deal with the broken tree branch in Lodge Road

13. Review of Risk Assessment – Cllrs have reviewed this and decided that no changes are necessary

14. Finance and Admin:

(i) **Authorisation of payments** – The following payments were authorised; proposed by SJ and seconded by CH

Chq No	Payee	Description	Amount £
-	Mrs D P Knights	Office expenses	18.85
-	Mrs D P Knights (dated 28.07.23)	July salary	281.34
31	HMRC (dated 06.08.23)	July PAYE	70.20
-	Mrs D P Knights (dated 28.08.23)	August salary	281.34
32	HMRC (dated 06.09.23)	August PAYE	70.20
-	East Suffolk Council	Uncontested election expenses	78.54

(ii) **Other Finance and Admin matters**

- (a) The Bank Reconciliation was approved and signed
- (b) Other matters - none

15. Correspondence

- (i) **D-Day 6th June 2024**.- as this is so close to the date for the annual fete, it was decided against commemorating this event
- (ii) **Reports re Drone** – CS has received reports of a drone regularly flying around the village that is causing privacy concerns. It was mentioned that farmers use drones, and that much more evidence is required re dates and times before any action can be considered.
- (iii) **Accident on Lodge Road** – a significant accident had recently occurred on Lodge Road, and Cllrs reported their concern about the speeding at this site.

16. Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday 5th September at 6.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.

Signed.....
Chairman