

## Minutes of the meeting of Great Bealings Parish Council held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at Bealings Village Hall

**Present:** Sue Prentice (Chairman) (SP), Colin Hedgley (CH), John Carter-Jonas (JCJ), Regan Scott (RS)  
Caroline Saunders (CS), Trevor Harris (TH)

**In attendance:** Mrs Dee Knights (DPK) - Clerk to the Council, Stuart Curtis, Martin Last

### 1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Elaine Bryce (EB)

### 2. Declarations of Interest

NRI, District Cllr – CH.

### 3. Declarations of Lobbying and Responses to Lobbying

None

### 4. To approve the Minutes of the Meetings held on 9<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024

The minutes were approved for signature.

### 5. Clerk/Councillor Updates not on agenda:

Flooding – RS reported that he had received a reply to his Freedom of Information request to SCC regarding the specifications for work relating to flooding prevention agreed in the new Highways contract with Milestone Infrastructure. He reported briefly on it, and will circulate a summary to Cllrs.

### 6. Public Participation Session

On behalf of Stuart Curtis, the applicant for DC/24/0191 – Cherry Tree Cottage, Martin Last handed Cllrs some explanatory drawings regarding the scheme and further explained the current proposals.

### 7. Planning Applications:

- (i) **DC/24/0191/FUL – Cherry Tree Cottage, Seckford Hall Road** – Demolition of existing garage and storage outbuildings and erection of new detached garage/store with games room over.

It was **RESOLVED** unanimously to support this application

- (ii) **DC/23/4799/FUL – Pointers View, Boot Street** – Single storey extension

Revised drawings had been submitted for this application, with the original proposed balcony now removed. It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to support this application

#### (iii) Decision Updates :

The following are all still awaiting decision:

DC/23/2787/VOC – Barn C, Former Woodbarn Cottages, DC/23/0319/LBC and  
DC/23/0363/FUL – Seckford Hall

### 8. Reports by:

- (i) **County Councillor Elaine Bryce**  
(ii) **District Councillor Dan Clery**  
(iii) **District Councillor Colin Hedgley**

Reports have been circulated to Cllrs and full copies are attached to the minutes on the website. CH verbally spoke about the Domestic Loft Insulation scheme which has been re-started by ESC, and the Waveney flood barrier scheme which has had to be halted due to the cost quadrupling. He commented that this would have led to benefits all the way down the coast.

CH updated Cllrs on the recent Community Partnership Meeting at which money was allocated to a new SID for the SAVID group of Councils, and Martlesham Recreation Ground

## 9. Flooding

CH suggested that the PC invites the Flood Resilience officer from the SCC Joint Emergency Planning Unit to speak at the Annual Parish Meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> May. He also said that planning approval has been given for a reservoir to be built at Culpho for Lord Cranworth's purposes and he expressed concern about the provisions in the event of a "failure" or a repetition of Storm Babet. He has reported his concerns to the ESC Planning Department.

JCJ suggested that a river gauge be purchased for the River Lark. This will be discussed at the APM.

## 10. Other Planning Matters:

- (i) **Enforcement Matters – ENF/22/0069/USE – Lower Street** - Following the recent flooding, concerns had been raised about contamination of the land. The ESC Enforcement Officer has made another site visit and concluded that the situation remains unchanged, and any leakage of harmful waste is outside the jurisdiction of ESC. Cllrs will continue to monitor the site and if deemed necessary, will contact the Environment Agency.
- (ii) **Review of Neighbourhood Plan** - SP reported no further progress with this
- (iii) **Report from ESPA Conference 17<sup>th</sup> February** – SP said that it is apparent that the new regulations regarding Planning and Environment are understood by a very small number of people. Consideration is being given to creating a fund in order to get further advice on the Environment Act 2023 and its effect on PCs.
- (iv) **ESC new Planning Committee Member Call-in process** – Details of the new scheme have been circulated and there were no comments on this.
- (v) **Other Planning Matters** – none

## 11. Vacancy for Parish Councillor

Sally Johnson has resigned as a Parish Councillor. SP wished to place on record the Council's thanks to Sally for her long service as a Cllr for over 20 years.

DPK confirmed that ESC have issued the vacancy notices which are on the Notice Boards with a closing date of 4<sup>th</sup> April.

## 12. Social Media Communication

CS explained the WhatsApp Broadcast Channel and suggested this would be a better way to communicate emergency matters such as flooding etc. on an "information only" basis. TH is also familiar with this and will discuss it with CS and they will report to the next meeting

## 13. Highways and Footpaths

- (i) **Speedwatch** – CH reported that two people have recently withdrawn from this, leaving only two whereas four are required. They are needed one week a month for one hour every morning from Monday-Friday. A notice will be put in FLN, the Newsletter and on Facebook.
- (ii) **SAVID/SID** – nothing further to report
- (iii) **Laptop for SID** – JCJ gave details of the laptop he is thinking of purchasing which would cost approx. £460. DPK advised that the remaining amount from the grant is £380 and it was agreed the PC would finance the balance.
- (iv) **Right-hand bend sign** – It was agreed that JCJ could go ahead and purchase this at an approximate cost of £65
- (v) **Footpaths** – the responsibility for the footpath in front of Cherry Tree Cottage was discussed.

**14. Environmental Issues**

- (i) **Trees** – JCJ reported that all the trees have now been collected and contributions promised to the Village Hall Fund. He still has a number of spare tree guards available to donate in return for contributions as before.
- (ii) **Other matters**  
**Water sampling equipment** – SP said that sampling is still continuing and requested approval for the PC to finance the next set of necessary water sampling equipment at a cost of £156.26. This was agreed. RS had some comments on this matter and SP asked him to provide a concise report for the APM.

**15. Village Fete 2024**

SP had circulated an email to all persons who have expressed their willingness to be involved in the Fete. This has included a draft timetable of activities. She confirmed that GtB will host the event for insurance purposes and have allocated some funds to underwrite the initial costs. LtB has also agreed to contribute. Some volunteers have been secured but more are needed.

**16. Finance and Admin:**

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

Chq No	Payee	Description	Amount £
-	Mrs D P Knights	Office Expenses	25.41
-	Mrs D P Knights (dated 28.03.24)	March salary	300.38
<b>40</b>	HMRC (dated 06.04.24)	March PAYE	75.00
-	Mrs D P Knights (dated 28.04.24)	April salary	305.51
-	HMRC (dated 06.05.24)	April PAYE	76.30
-	Phil Holmes	Website Hosting fee	30.0
-	Bealings Village Hall Trust	Room/Hall hire 2023/24	106.00
-		Laptop for SID	Approx. £460
-	Farran Scott	Water sampling equipment	156.26
-		Right hand bend sign	Approx. £65

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

- (a) **The Bank Reconciliation** was approved for signature
- (b) **Other matters – Bank signatory** – Trevor Harris was appointed to take this on to replace Sally Johnson.

**17. Correspondence:**

**Bee Cafe Planter**– a letter has been received from a resident who is asking for a contribution for a Bee Café to be placed on the verge outside the Village Hall. It was decided to leave the Village Hall to take a decision on this, as insurance would be a problem

**18. Arrangements for Annual Meetings on 7<sup>th</sup> May** – the Annual Parish Meeting will commence at 7.00pm in the Village Hall, followed by refreshments. The Annual Parish Council Meeting will follow afterwards.

**19. Date of July meeting**– This will now take place on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July instead of 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Signed.....  
 Chairman