

**Minutes of the meeting of Great Bealings Parish Council held on  
Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at Bealings Village Hall**

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

**In attendance:** Mrs Dee Knights (DPK) - Clerk to the Council

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Elaine Bryce (EB) and Dan Clery

**2. Declarations of Interest**

NRI, District Cllr – CH.

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

None

**4. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14th November 2023**

The minutes were approved for signature.

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

Flooding – RS reported that he had raised a Freedom of Information request to SCC regarding the specifications for work relating to flooding prevention agreed in the new Highways contract with Milestone Infrastructure.

**6. Public Participation Session**

No members of the public present

**7. Reports by:**

- (i) **County Councillor Elaine Bryce** – A report has been received by CH and will be circulated to Cllrs and attached to these minutes on the website.

(ii) **District Councillor Colin Hedgley**

(iii) **District Councillor Dan Clery**

Reports have been circulated to Cllrs and full copies are attached to the minutes on the website. CH verbally clarified that in its response to the National Grid Sealink Consultation, ESC is pressing for undersea cables. He advised that ESC propose to increase next year's Council Tax by just under 3%.

**8. Planning Applications:**

(i) None

(ii) **Decision Updates :**

DC/23/2887/FUL – Little Oaks and DC/23/3783/FUL – Seckford Rise have both been permitted by ESC. 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

**9. Other Planning Matters:**

(i) **Local Validation List – Consultation** – The PC has no comments on this

(ii) **Review of Neighbour Plan**

SP reported that this is still with ESC. CH confirmed that it is currently included with the items for decision making

(iii) **Other Planning Matters** –CH reported that the flooding on Martlesham Road by the new building is being looked at by ESC.

## 10. Emergency Plan

SP had circulated some guidelines which had been provided by the SCC Emergency Plans Officer. Discussion took place as to the merits of a formal document. It was decided that a local Facebook page would be the best way forward. CS will produce an “idiots guide” to signing up to a Facebook page, that can be circulated via FLN.

## 11. PC Website

It was suggested that when our website administrator is away, anything timely like planning applications, minutes etc can be posted on to the GtB Community Facebook page in order to meet the Transparency Code.

## 12. Village Fete 2024

This has been confirmed to take place on 9<sup>th</sup> June from 12.00 – 4.00pm and will be a joint event with LtB. Money raised will be donated to the fund for the new roof and doors at the Village Hall. SP will submit an item for the February edition of FLN. Several suggestions were made for various stalls and CS recommended getting the Primary School involved.

## 13. Highways and Footpaths

- (i) **SAVID/SID** – CH advised that some more SIDs have been obtained, gradually every village is getting one. JCJ confirmed that ours is still working well but he has not yet progressed with obtaining a dedicated laptop.
- (ii) **Damage to Boot Street Bridge** – a resident has reported to SCC that there has been vehicle impact to the bridge causing damage to the brickwork. SCC have inspected the bridge and have noted some damage to the SW wingwall, but stated that the parapet wall remains stable and there is no requirement for any immediate repairs or other temporary measures.
- (iii) **Other matters** – CH will remind EB about the requested bend sign by the SID, in the meantime JCJ will investigate whether the PC could purchase one.
- (iv) **Footpaths** – RS confirmed that several matters, including the broken stile, have been reported on the SCC reporting tool.

## 14. Environmental Issues

- (i) **Trees** – JCJ has had an enquiry from a person who may be interested in having them all. RS also knows someone who would like some.
- (ii) **Litter and Fido Waste Bin Policy** – The PC has no comments on this

## 15. Finance and Admin:

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

Chq No	Payee	Description	Amount £
-	Mrs D P Knights	Office Expenses	11.40
-	Mrs D P Knights (dated 28.01.24)	January salary + back pay for April-October	433.86
<b>38</b>	HMRC (dated 06.02.24)	January PAYE	108.40
-	Mrs D P Knights (dated 28.02.24)	February salary	300.38
<b>39</b>	HMRC (dated 06.03.24)	February PAYE	75.00
-	Fynn Lark News	Magazine postage for Clerk	8.00
-	Phil Holmes	Website Domain registration fee	35.99
-	SAVID	Annual fee	50.00

**(ii) Budget and Precept for 2024/25**

A draft budget for £7870 and provisional precept amount had been previously discussed at the PC meeting in November. It was proposed by SP, seconded by CH and unanimously agreed that this budget be adopted for 2024/25

It was **RESOLVED** to implement a precept of £8000, which would cover the budget and include a small amount for start-up costs for the fete. This represents an increase of 8p per week for a Band D property.

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

- (a) The Bank Reconciliation was approved for signature
- (b) Other matters - none

**16. Correspondence:**

**Fynn-Lark News** – a letter had been received from the editor relating to the financial position of the magazine. This had been discussed under item 15(ii) where it was decided against increasing the PC’s annual contribution

**17. Date of Next Meeting** – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March at 6.30pm

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Signed.....  
Chairman