

Minutes of the meeting of Great Bealings Parish Council held on Monday 3rd March 2025 at Bealings Village Hall

Present: Sue Prentice (Chairman) (SP), Colin Hedgley (CH), Rachel Lamb (RL), John Carter-Jonas (JCJ), Regan Scott (RS), Trevor Harris (TH)

In attendance: Mrs Dee Knights (DPK) - Clerk to the Council; Elaine Bryce (EB) – Suffolk County Cllr
3 members of the public

- 1. Apologies for Absence** – Caroline Saunders (CS)
- 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 13th January 2025**
The minutes were approved and signed
- 5. Clerk/Councillor Updates not on agenda:**
 - (i) .Gov.uk email addresses** – Cllrs all confirmed that their new email addresses were working satisfactorily. The Clerk had to have technical assistance to solve a problem with hers.
 - (ii) Other** - none
- 6. Public Participation Session**
The agent for the planning application for Bealings House gave a brief presentation of the details of this scheme and questions were answered by both himself and the applicants
- 7. Reports by:**
 - (i) County Councillor Elaine Bryce** – EB’s report was received after the meeting and is attached to these minutes on the website. She gave a verbal summary in which she brought Cllrs up to date regarding SCC’s budget of £803.7m which has been approved. She said that 77p in every £1 has to be spent on statutory services to protect the vulnerable, leaving 23p for all other services. Additional Govt. money has been requested for flood prevention. She confirmed that Suffolk Libraries are to be taken back ‘in-house’ and all 45 libraries will remain open and mobile libraries will be upgraded. Funding for the libraries will come from the Public Health budget. She also mentioned that funding has been made available for a safer, healthy and accessible traffic plan. She talked about Devolution and SCC’s preference for a One Suffolk unitary authority as the most effective way to reduce costs and bring public services together.
 - (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 spoke about the Air Quality Management Areas in East Suffolk which have now all been removed following significant improvements in air quality. He mentioned that the recent by-elections in ESC did not change the electoral set-up.
- 8. Planning Applications:**
 - (i) DC/25/0547/FUL and DC/25/0548/LBC – Bealings House, Lodge Road – Partial remodelling of an existing barn into a two-bedroom residential annexe**
Following discussions with the applicants and their agent, the PC **RESOLVED** unanimously to support these applications, which they considered to be a sympathetic conversion which will enhance the existing structure.

(ii)Any other application – none

(iii)Decision Updates- DC/24/4098/FUL re Fambridge House has been permitted by ESC

9. Other Planning Matters:

- (i) **Quarry** – SP reported that a “STOP THE QUARRY” banner has been put up at the junction of Grundisburgh Road and Boot Street. Concerns were expressed about the impact the HGV traffic will have on the clean air status, especially at the Westerfield railway crossing. The developers have answered in great detail all the points raised during the scoping study objecting to this scheme, but have given no assurances that there will not be a subsequent application to extend the quarry. They state that at the end of the scheme, there will eventually be a net biodiversity gain.
- (ii) **Other Planning Matters** –RS reported that he had attended a recent ESC Planning Forum at which was explained a new Planning Charter for developers.

10. Village Fete 2025 – The date has been confirmed as the 31st August and an appeal for volunteers to assist has been made.

11. Highways and Footpaths

- (i) **SAVID/SID** – deferred to next meeting
- (ii) **Scottish Power works access opposite Waveney Cottage** – JCJ reported that the entrance to the field has been re-opened and the PC needs to request that it be made permanent. He said that Scottish Power should be asked to provide two new village gates on Lodge Road as they damaged one, and also some reflector bollards
- (iii) **Other matters** – Reflector posts have been purchased and installed around the triangle by Rosery Lane
- (iv) **Footpaths** – nothing to report

12. Environmental Issues – RS has contacted Anglian Water about the clean water which is processed by the sewage station, and has asked about the treatment of the high levels of Phosphorus in the River Lark. He has expressed concern that there is no storm overflow facility at the site.

13. Finance and Admin:

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

Chq No	Payee	Description	Amount £
-	Mrs D P Knights	Office Expenses	9.40
-	Mrs D P Knights (dated 28.03.25)	March salary	317.63
-	HMRC (dated 06.04.25)	March PAYE	79.20
-	Mrs D P Knights (dated 28.04.25)	April salary	317.63
-	HMRC (dated 06.05.25)	April PAYE	79.20
-	Phil Holmes	Web Hosting	Approx.£30.00
-	Bealings Village Hall Trust	Room/Hall hire 2024/25	61.50
-	SALC	Councillor Training	38.40
-	John Carter-Jonas	Reflector Posts	96.80
-	FowlerWeb	Work on PC laptop	130.00

(ii) WhatsApp Group for emergency alerts– update by Rachel Lamb

RL and CS have been investigating using a laptop owned by the PC to administer the WhatsApp group and it appears that a link to a mobile phone number is required. SP has a spare Android phone which could be used and the Clerk will arrange to purchase a cheap Pay As You Go SIM card. It is hoped to get this sorted in time to present the details at the Annual Parish Meeting in May.

(iii) Other Finance and Admin matters

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

14. Correspondence – none

15. Next meeting – Arrangements were made for the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday 21st May at 7.00pm

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed.....
Chairman