

Minutes of the Billingford Parish Council meeting held on Monday 15th April at 7.00 p.m. in Billingford Village Hall

Councillors Present:- Cllr A Lake, Cllr S Wilson, Cllr K Crudgington, Cllr P Richardson and Cllr A Cutcher

Other Members Present:- Dist. Cllr G Bambridgr, 5 Electors and Mrs G Hubbard, Clerk

1. Welcome and to receive apologies for absence.

The Chairman welcomed those present. There were no apologies for absence to be received as all the Parish Councillors were present.

2. To declare any Interests re items on the Agenda.

There were no interests received.

3. To confirm and accept the minutes of the meeting held on 19th February 2024

The minutes had been circulated. Cllr Crudgington proposed the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr Cutcher and carried.

4. To discuss any matters arising from the minutes of February (not on the Agenda).

The No-Fly Tipping sign has been put up and the Dog Fouling sign will be put up on the playing field soon.

Matters Raised by The Public

Highways dealt with a pothole but they noticed that hedging was encroaching. It was interfering with the telephone wires. Cllr Richardson reported that in May some work will be done and he will ask if the workmen will be willing to carry out some more work. There are one or two branches that need to be dealt with.

Mr and Mrs Dawson spoke about the building plot behind their property and said they are still waiting for responses to questions they posed to Breckland. Cllr Bambridge offered to get involved and asked Mr and Mrs Dawson to send him the questions. They outlined to him what their concerns were. They have some concerns over some trees and a driveway. There was some discussion regarding the SAM2 sign because it flashes at 27 m.p.h. although it is set at 30 m.p.h.

Cllr Lake wished to thank everyone that helped with the village pick, especially Cllr Richardson's young children.

The owner of the land, south of Festival Road, was in attendance and was given the opportunity to address the Parish Councillors and the Public present, which he did.

5. To discuss any necessary correspondence received

A letter has been received from Mr George Freeman, M.P. because he wishes to attend a Surgery in Billingford on a Friday or Saturday in the near future. The Parish Council agreed

with the idea and thought a Saturday was the best option, so the Clerk will contact him to obtain some dates he has in mind.

6. To receive update re Big Lottery Funding for the repairs to the play equipment.

A grant is going to be applied for to replace the slide and the little climbing frame. An application from Awards For All is going to be completed and sent off in the near future.

7 To authorise any necessary Financial Payments.

Cllr Cutcher proposed the following financial transactions be authorised for payment, seconded by Cllr Crudgington and carried.

Clerk's net salary March and April	£436.92	HMRC tax March. and April.	£49.80
Clerk's expenses for March and April	£58.83	Norfolk P. Training & Supp. Subs	£55.00
Wix. Com 3 year plan	£216.00	Wix. Com 3 year plan	£32.40

8. To discuss the Financial Update and raise any queries.

No one had any questions regarding the document which had been circulated. Cllr Crudgington stated that when the accounts were created, it wished for it to be stated that £600.00 is 'ear-marked' for any necessary work regarding the defibrillator.

9. To receive an update on the bank signatory situation.

There was no update on this situation.

10. To discuss the complaint letter sent to Breckland Council regarding the selling of land in Festival Road

A reply to Breckland Council had been drafted and it will be sent to Mrs Maxine O'Mahony and the Legal Services. The reply was actually a reply to a letter Breckland Council had sent to Billingford Parish Council when they had received the original Complaints letter regarding the selling of the land.

11. To receive an update on forthcoming events at the V. Hall and events that have taken place.

No future events are currently planned. Since the last meeting a quiz had taken place and the XSX team won the quiz. Forty four people took part in that quiz.

12. To receive an update on St. Peter's Church.

The Church is clean and the new windows are to be put in. Sadly some vandalism has taken place. The Priest door needs to be fixed. There is still work to be done and the Church architect said she is happy for it to be opened. The £10,000 donation helping with the repairs to the wall has been ring fenced. The money that has been spent so far has come from different private donations and grants.

13. To receive an update on the old notice board

The Chairman had received a price for rebuilding the notice board, which was £135.00, and the workman will swap the boards over at no cost. Cllr Cutcher proposed this be accepted, seconded by Cllr Crudgington and carried.

14. To discuss the SAM2 sign and Community Speed Watch

One of the batteries is not working properly and may need replacing. The situation will be checked out and reported back to Mrs Leanne Jarrett (SAM2 co-ordinator). The monthly Community Speed Watch had taken place in March and 7 cars were recorded as travelling over the speed limit. Another session will be done tomorrow 16/04/2024. At least two speed checks were carried out by the Police on the top of Holl Lane.

15. To discuss moving the 30 m.p.h. limit to the other side of the S bends near the Billingford Lakes

The Parish Council feel the limit is in the wrong place but there are many restrictions regarding speed limits. Cllr Crudgington thought there is a strong argument to have the 30 m.p.h. restriction moved. Cllr Wilson will contact Highways regarding this situation.

16. To discuss the missing sign at the east side of the village

The Clerk has contacted Highways about this and they have said they will get the situation dealt with and gave her a reference number.

17. To discuss purchasing a paediatric pad for the defibrillator

The pad expired on 2nd April so another one needs to be purchased. Cllr Crudgington will buy one and he will be recompensed at the next meeting.

18. To discuss the Fuel Allotment Trustees

There are now two Trustees because two Trustees have resigned. The charity accounts are now with Lloyds bank. The annual return has now been filed with the Charity Commission. Seventeen winter grants were issued and the spring rent payment has been received.

Cllr Lake wished to record a huge vote of thanks to Mr James Dawson and Mrs Carolyn Lake for sorting out the situation. More Trustees are needed, so Cllr Lake asked people to approach him if they knew of anyone that might wish to join as a Trustee. Cllr Crudgington thought employing a solicitor to look at the legal framework and give advice on the situation was a good idea. (Cllr Lake explained some years ago ^{the trustees} he had consulted a solicitor regarding changing the Trust Deed but it was going to cost a huge amount of money so was considered not worth the expense.) The Deed has not been changed and the Charity Commission has accepted the proposed changes. People willing to become Trustees can be appointed at the May meeting.

19. To receive items for next agenda.

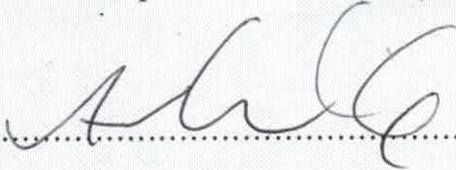
To elect the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council

To adopt the end of year accounts

To discuss the anticipated update on the Breckland Local Plan and New Town option.

20. To set date/ time of next Parish Council meeting, (Annual P. C. Meeting)

The Annual Parish meeting will take place on Monday 3rd June at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall and after its conclusion will be immediately followed by the Annual Parish Council Meeting. There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.15 p.m. and thanked everyone for their attendance.



Chairman

3-6-2024

Date



Clerk

3/6/2024

Date