

## LITTLE BLAKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting of Little Blakenham Parish Council on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020  
at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall.

Present: Wally Binder (Chairman), Stephen Wright, Linda Keen, John Latham.  
Clerk to the Council – Janet Gobey

The Chairman opened the Meeting at 7.31pm.

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence.

None.

2. Declarations of any pecuniary and non pecuniary interests.

a. Councillors declaration of interest appropriate to any item on the Agenda.

None.

b. To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interest (if any)

None.

c. To grant any requests for dispensations as appropriate.

None.

3. Open Forum.

a. To receive reports from District and County Councillors, if present.

Councillors noted the County and District Councillor's written report.

b. 15 minute Open Forum during which parishioners may ask questions and raise issues on matters that are not Agenda items. Councillors and parishioners will be able to ask questions and raise issues with District and County Councillors, if present.

4. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2020.

Councillors unanimously approved the Draft Minutes and the Chairman signed them as a true and correct record of the Meeting.

5. To receive the update on Action Points.

Councillors noted this

6. Planning

a. To consider any planning applications.

None. Councillors noted this.

b. To note any planning determinations.

None. Councillors noted this.

c. Any other planning matters to note.

None. Councillors noted this.

d. To note any update on SnOasis Reserved Matters.

Councillors noted there had been no contact from the developer's agents about a meeting or any indication of when work will start.

e. To note any update regarding the EA Windfarm construction work

The project remains behind schedule.

f. To note any update regarding the Sterling Suffolk greenhouses project.

There has been no decision from Planning on the application for the new greenhouse.

7. Village Hall

a. To note the Village Hall Usage and Financial Report.

Councillors noted this. Use of the Hall maintains very low.

b. To receive an update on progress with completion of the lease.  
The Clerk advised that there had been no response from Suffolk Legal. ACTION: Clerk to chase up.

#### 8. Governance

a. To consider any donations to be made under LGA 1972 S137.

Councillors approved a donation of £1000.00 to the Somersham Community Shop to assist with the extra costs being incurred during the Covid-19 pandemic.

b. To note the Internal Audit Report Action Plan for 2018/2019.

Councillors unanimously approved this.

c. To consider the following training request – Cllr. Keen - SALC Councillor training course. Cost £135.00 plus VAT.

Councillors approved this request. Face to face training has been cancelled because of Covid-19 regulations, so this will be carried forward until courses are being run again.

d. To resolve to continue payments by direct debit to Anglian Water Business for the Village Hall water supply.

Councillor unanimously approved this.

e. To review the Council's compliance with GDPR, including the use of Councillors' private email addresses.

Councillors agreed to continue with the current arrangements, as the amount of personal data handled by the Council remained very small.

#### 9. Village maintenance

a. To consider the annual inspection report for the play area behind the Beeches.

Councillors noted this.

b. To consider the email from a resident requesting a "no rubbish dumping" sign behind the Beeches.

Councillors agreed that this is a growing problem, but as it is private land, there is nothing the Council can legally do. ACTION: Cllr. Latham to discuss putting up signs with the landowner.

c. To consider making a complaint about the state of roads in the village and poor maintenance standards with SCC Highways.

Councillor agreed that the recent roadworks on Somersham Road had not been carried out to an acceptable standard. There was also a complaint about a road sign that had been left on the corner of the Beeches. It had been reported but had not been removed. ACTION: Clerk to contact Highways.

#### 10. Finance

a. To receive the Clerk's Financial Report.

##### PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MARCH 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

##### PERIOD 1/1/2020 to 24/2/2020

##### CHEQUES SIGNED SINCE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 21/1/2020

None

##### PAYMENTS MADE BY DIRECT DEBIT PERIOD 1/1/2020 to 24/2/2020

27/2/2020	EON Village Hall electricity	£17.09	LGA 1972, s.133
24/2/2020	EON Village Hall electricity	£14.99	LGA 1972, s.133

#### **BANK BALANCES (at end of February 2020)**

##### **Treasurers Account**

Receipts - £60.00 (Election – VH hire)

Payments - £828.73

**24/2/2020 - £8948.66**

##### **Deposit Account**

**9/5/2019 - £2933.87**

## GENERAL RESERVE

50% of the Annual Precept, plus one month's running costs.

18/19 Annual Precept 50% = £2956.

One month's average running costs (18/19) = £600.

**TOTAL - £3556**

## EARMARKED RESERVES

Replacement of electricity poles and replacement of light fittings with LED lights.

Approximate total cost of project = £9574.01

**£2000** is set aside as an Earmarked Reserve towards these costs.

Glebeland lease legal costs - **£2500**

Contribution towards Village Hall upgrade costs - **£2000**

**TOTAL EARMARKED RESERVES - £6500**

**TOTAL RESERVES - £10,056**

Councillors noted the report and Cllr. Latham signed the report to confirm that the stated bank balances agreed with those on the paper statements from the bank.

b. To approve the list of payments to be approved and cheques to be signed.

### MARCH 2020 MEETING - PAYMENTS TO BE APPROVED & CHEQUES TO BE SIGNED

MSDC	Grass Cutting 2019	£424.80	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10
Clarke & Simpson	Glebeland rental 11/10/2018 to 22/7/2020	£183.60	Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10
Suffolk Highways	Street lighting 1/4/2019 to 31/3/2020	£349.59	Highways Act 1980.s.301
SALC	GDPR training	£27.00	LGA 1972, s.111
Annual renewal of Microsoft Office licence	Janet Gobey	£59.99	LGA 1972, s.111
Information Commissioner's Office	Annual Data Protection fee	£40.00	LGA 1972, s.111

Councillors unanimously approved the making of these payments.

## 11. Correspondence

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 by email. Response from SCC Highways regarding flooding on the B1113.

21<sup>st</sup> January 2020 by email. Response from SCC Highways regarding an additional light for the B1113 junction.

25<sup>th</sup> January 2020 by email. Information from Scottish Power regarding closure of Bullen Lane.

12<sup>th</sup> February 2020 by email. Suffolk Constabulary survey.

4<sup>th</sup> March 2020 by email. Information from SCC about the 2020 Grass Cutting Programme.

Councillors noted these items of correspondence.

## 12. To note the date of the next meeting and any items for the Agenda.

Date of the next Meeting - 19th May 2020. No items were put forward for the Agenda.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 8.16 pm.