

**LITTLE BLAKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY 18th JULY 2017 AT 7.30 PM IN LITTLE BLAKENHAM
VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Wally Binder (Chairman), Stephen Clark, Mary Whurr, Barry Palmer, John Latham.

Janet Gobey (Clerk).

County and District Councillor John Field. District Councillor Kevin Welsby.

One member of the public.

The Chairman opened the Meeting at 7.30 pm with a welcome to those attending.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from:

Cllr. Mehra – business trip. Councillors resolved to accept the apologies.

Cllr. Wright – other meeting. Councillors resolved to accept the apologies.

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

Cllr. Field presented his report. The amount of development – already approved and in the planning process – is causing local concern in several areas of the District and there are increasing demands for infrastructure improvements to help communities cope with this. No date has yet been set for BMSDC Councillors to consider the SnOasis Reserved Matters application.

Cllr. Welsby said that there was money available in the District Councillors Locality Budget to assist with costs of projects for the benefit of the community. Any applications must be in by October.

A member of the public said that he thought that the EAW construction companies and Sterling Suffolk should fund some work to benefit the environment of the village, such as clearing footpaths and litter picking.

4. To approve the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on 16th May 2017 and the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meetings on 5th June 2017, 20th June 2017 and 5th July 2017.

These Minutes were approved by Councillors and signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the Meetings.

5. To receive the update on Action Points.

The Clerk reported that she had emailed Rev. Seggar about the portacabin, but had not received any response.

ACTION: Clerk to contact Rev. Seggar again.

The Chairman said that he had visited the two individuals who had been identified as persistently speeding on Valley Road and they had noted the points he made, especially about child safety in Little Box Meadow.

Village Hall electricity meter. The amount being charged per month has reduced.

ACTION: Clerk to continue to monitor

Partially dead tree near the Village Hall. The Clerk reported that SCC Highways had responded to her request that they establish who the landowner was. They confirmed that it was not Highways land, but probably belonged to the District Council.

ACTION: Clerk to contact BMSDC

Other action points to be covered under Agenda items.

6. Planning

a. To consider any planning applications.

None received

b. To note any planning decisions.

Application Number: 1412 /17

Proposal: Erection of a single storey rear extension.

Location: Vanquish House, The Common, Little Blakenham IP8 4JX

Granted.

Councillors noted this.

c. Any other planning matters.

d. To note any update on SnOasis Reserved Matters

The Chairman informed Councillors about the response by the SnOasis Parish Alliance to the latest set of Reserved Matters documents. The SPA had put together comments from members on the whole range of Reserved Matters, clearly stating the many questions that still remained about the details of the application and also highlighting the concerns and requirements of the member Parishes. This had only been produced because of the hard work put in by the members and some outside experts who had volunteered to help. The SPA had sought a meeting with BMSDC Planning to work with them on the application and had received what the SPA considered to be a less than positive response. The SPA had then sent a reply to make their frustration with this clear and were waiting for a response.

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

Councillors noted the work on Paper Mill Lane to create the accommodation area. They will be about 150 workers resident there for the duration of the construction work. Also, the Information Centre will be there, but there is no news on the date that this will be open.

7. To note progress regarding the refurbishment of the Beeches play area.

The Clerk informed Councillors that work was due to start on Friday 21st July and would last for approx. five days, depending on weather conditions. There had been a problem with access for the van to the site, but this had now been resolved with the aid of Cllr. Latham.

8. To note progress regarding the request for a longer term rental agreement for the Glebeland.

The Clerk reported that there had been no response from Clarke and Simpson to her emails requesting a fifteen year lease, rather than a ten year one. Councillors agreed that a monthly email should be sent to Clarke and Simpson.

ACTION: Clerk.

9. Finance

a. To receive the Clerk's Financial Report.

JULY 2017 FINANCIAL REPORT: PERIOD 29/4/17 to 28/6/17

CHEQUES SIGNED SINCE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON 8/5/17

20/6/17	Came and Company (insurance)	£972.41	LGA 1972, s. 111
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PAYMENTS MADE BY DIRECT DEBIT 28/4/17 to 18/7/17

29/5/17	EON Village Hall electricity	£18.44	LGA 1972, s.133
28/6/17	EON Village Hall electricity	£19.60	LGA 1972, s.133
13/7/17	EON Village Hall electricity	£6.69	LGA 1972, s.133

July 2017 MEETING - PAYMENTS TO BE APPROVED & CHEQUES TO BE SIGNED

18/7/17	J Gobey- Salary April to June	£420.00	LGA 1972, S.111
18/7/17	N Edrupt - Salary April to June	£90.00	LGA 1972, S.111
18/7/17	HMRC	£105.00	LGA 1972, S.111
18/7/17	MSDC Dog and Litter bin emptying	£162.00	LGA 1972, S.111
18/7/17	Anglian Water Business	£10.56	LGA 1972, S.133
18/7/17	SALC Internal audit fee	£162.00	LGA 1972, S.111

BANK BALANCES

Treasurers Account

Receipts - £229.40 (VAT Reclaim 15/16)

Payments - £306.73

28/6/17 - £9675.07

Deposit Account

Receipts - £0.37 (Interest)

9/6/17 - £2931.10

Councillors noted the Financial Report. The bank balance figures were verified against the paper bank statements and signed as correct.

b. Payments to be approved and cheques to be signed.

These payments were approved unanimously.

c. To note the quarterly budget review.

The Clerk presented the Budget Review. This was noted by Councillors.

10. Governance

a. To approve the Draft Model Publication Scheme.

This was unanimously approved.

b. To approve the Draft Health and Safety Policy.

This was unanimously approved.

c. To consider replacing the use of the Clerk's home phone with a mobile phone for Parish Council business.

This was unanimously approved.

d. To approve the purchase of a mobile phone and a pay as you go contract for the above purpose.

The quote obtained by the Clerk was unanimously approved. Councillors resolved that a Direct Debit be set up as necessary.

11. Correspondence

To note and consider a response to the following correspondence.

The briefing pack and the slides relating to Phase 2 of Boundary review for Mid Suffolk District Council.

Councillors noted this and agreed that they would make no comment at this stage of the process.

The Meeting was closed at 8.23pm, with thanks from the Chairman.