

**MINUTES OF THE LITTLE BLAKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY 19th MARCH 2019 AT 7.30 PM IN LITTLE BLAKENHAM
VILLAGE HALL**

PRESENT: Wally Binder (Chairman), John Latham, Steven Clarke, Mary Whurr, Stephen Wright

County and District Councillor John Field.

Janet Gobey (Clerk).

One member of the public was present.

The Chairman opened the Meeting at 7.30pm.

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence.

The following apologies were presented:

Cllr Mehra - business.

Cllr. Palmer - holiday.

Councillors unanimously agreed to accept these 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.

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

Cllr. Field presented his report. Budgets for the next financial year are being finalised. There will be cuts across the board Forecast overspend is going down.

Northern bypass - there has been no decision yet on which of the three possible routes will be selected. A decision should be made by the end of the year.

School transport - parents now have to opt in.

SnOasis - Planning are intending to set up a local liaison group, which will only involve the parishes which border the site, rather than the full group of SPA member parishes. No date has been set for this yet.

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.

The Chairman expressed his regrets that three Councillors had decided not to stand in the upcoming election and thanked them for all their service to the Parish Council and the village.

The bank in the widened area of Pound Lane has now been stabilised and posts installed to prevent any more damage by cars. The footpath through the greenhouses site needs attention. Cllr. Field agreed to chase this up.

The issue of flooding at the bottom of Pound Lane was raised. Cllr. Field will speak to Highways again about this. The speed limit along the B1113 will remain at 50mph from Broomvale to the Water Park. A resident asked when the signage, hatchings etc for the entrance to the greenhouses site would be installed as there are clearly road safety issues there. Cllr. Field said that the work has to be done by Highways, but he would chase them up.

4. To approve the Draft Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council on 20th November 2018.

The Draft Minutes were approved unanimously, 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.

Appeal Ref: APP/W3520/W/18/3204723

Land adjacent to Arden House, Leather Bottle Hill, Little Blakenham, Ipswich IP8 4NG.

Appeal allowed.

Application no. DC/18/05227

Address: Leather Bottle Cottage Leather Bottle Hill Little Blakenham Ipswich

Suffolk IP8 4NG

Proposal: Full Planning Application - Conversion of domestic garage to holiday let and erection of decking area.

Refused.

Councillors noted these determinations.

d. To note any update on SnOasis Reserved Matters.

The Chairman reported to Councillors that he believes that there are still considerable details of Reserved Matters to be supplied or clarified by the developer and that the SPA were concerned that this would now be delegated to officers. Planning had said at the Committee meeting for Reserved matters that Onslow Suffolk had sold the site and were no longer involved in any way. However, Planning had refused to disclose who the new owner was,

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

This is now months behind schedule. Some of the ducting is still waiting to be installed.

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

Phase 2 of construction will start in 2020. Phase 3 (the northern site) is scheduled to start three years after that. Packing will eventually be done on site, rather than the tomatoes being sent away.

Group visits to the site will be offered in the future, but at the moment the site is on lockdown because of a new tomato virus being reported in Europe.

7. Village Hall

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

Councillors noted this. There are still very few bookings, although there may be a new regular hire.

b. To receive an update on progress with the new lease.

The Clerk reported that the Diocese had not made any comment or queries on the list of work planned which she had supplied them with. There has been no other communication from them and the draft lease had not been received.

8. Village Maintenance

a. To consider the future use of the phone box in Little Box Meadow.

Councillors agreed that the phone box could be used as a village information centre with details of footpaths etc., but this could not be set up until the damp problem inside had been sorted out.

b. To consider repairs and maintenance of the phone box in Little Box Meadow
Councillors agreed that the phone box should be repainted and the damaged glass repaired.
After that the level of damp inside would be reassessed and consideration given to installing
some ventilation if necessary.

ACTION: Clerk to find out what type of paint should be used and the costs.

9. Governance

a. To approve the Council's Risk Assessments.

Councillors unanimously approved these

b. To appoint SALC Internal Audit as internal auditor for the Council's accounts 2018/19.

Councillors unanimously approved this.

c. To consider possible involvement with the Tree Charter

Councillors agreed that the Council should become a member of the Tree Charter.

ACTION: Clerk.

10. Finance

a. To receive the Clerk's Financial Report.

BANK BALANCES (at end of February 2019)

Treasurers Account

Receipts – £103.20 (HMRC refund)

Payments - £841.38

31/2/2019 - £6826.01

Deposit Account

Receipts - £0

29/6/2018 - £2932.55

RESERVES

GENERAL RESERVE

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

18/19 Annual Precept 50% = £2900.

One month's average running costs (17/18) = £500.

TOTAL - £3400

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 - **£1725**

TOTAL EARMARKED RESERVES - £6225

TOTAL RESERVES - £9625

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

MARCH 2019 MEETING - PAYMENTS TO BE APPROVED & CHEQUES TO BE SIGNED

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|---|--|---------|--------------------------------------|
| Annual street lighting | Suffolk County Council | £432.49 | Highways Act 1980.s.301 |
| Annual renewal of Microsoft Office licence | Janet Gobey | £59.99 | LGA 1972, s.111 |
| Six month payroll service | SALC | £27.60 | LGA 1972, s.111 |
| Information Commissioner's Office | Annual Data Protection registration fee | £40.00 | LGA 1972 s. 111 |
| Grass cutting 2018 | MSDC | £411.60 | Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10 |

Councillors unanimously approved these.

11. Correspondence

To note and consider any response to the following correspondence.

- a. Email - Briefing Note by the Community Liaison Officer - East Anglia One
 - b. Email from BMSDC containing the Nomination Process and Nomination Papers for Parish Elections 2nd May 2019
 - c. Email from SALC regarding the pre-election period.
 - d. Consultation on Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service (by email from SALC 12th March 2019)
- Councillors noted these items of correspondence.

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

Councillors noted the date of the next meeting - 21st May 2019 which will be the Annual Meeting of the Council. No items were put forward for the Agenda.

The Chairman closed the Meeting at 8.33pm with thanks to all attending.