



LITTLE BLAKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall on
Tuesday, 17th January 2023 at 7.30pm.

Present:

Councillors: W Binder (Chairman)
S Wright
J Latham
B Palmer
L Keen

In Attendance C Chambers – County Councillor
J Blackburn – Clerk
Sian Watson/Ruby Shepperson (Reclaim the Rain)

LB90/22/23 – TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr Field.

LB91/22/23 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None had been received.

LB92/22/23 – TO RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION

None had been received.

LB93/22/23 – TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 15TH NOVEMBER 2022

It was AGREED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 15th November 2022 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

LB94/22/23 – PUBLIC FORUM

There were four members of the Public present.

A resident asked the Clerk for an update on the speed monitoring carried out by the Police in recent months, which she confirmed she would obtain. **Clerk to action.**

Another resident queried the planning applications on the Agenda in relation to the hedgerows being made denser for DC/22/06288 and the truck movements in relation to SCC/0036/21MS.

He also asked about an update on the Greenhouses to which Cllr Wright stated that he had nothing to report.

LB95/22/23 - TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – CLLR JOHN FIELD

Cllr Field was not present at the meeting. His report was circulated prior to the meeting and would be published on the village website.

LB96/22/23 – RECLAIM THE RAIN

Sian Watson and Ruby Shepperson gave an update on the Reclaim the Rain initiative and reported the importance of community involvement within the project.

They confirmed that a drop-in session would be held in the Village Hall on Thursday, 19th January 2023 at 6pm until 7.30pm.

Ruby Shepperson explained that six communities across Suffolk and Norfolk would be taking part in the initiative with Little Blakenham being one of those areas.

Climate change affected the water in the area and the objective was to re-use excess water rather than flooding occur. Surveys were being undertaken which would help understand how much water there was in the area and what opportunities could be taken to reuse the water and reduce flooding.

A brief Questions and Answers session took place along with suggestions of how best to publicise the project within the community.

LB97/22/23 - TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY CUNICILLOR'S REPORT – CLLR CHRIS CHAMBERS

Clr Chambers' report was circulated prior to the meeting. He briefly went through the main points. The full report would be published on the village website.

LB98/22/23 – TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported that she had received an email in relation to the cracked pole on which the Beeches streetlight stood. It had been confirmed that the crack was not a danger but once funds were available to replace the pole then it would be replaced.

The Grass Cutting Agreement from Mid Suffolk District Council for 2023 had been received.

It was AGREED: That the Grass Cutting Agreement for 2023 be approved.

b) TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk's Financial Report had been circulated prior to the meeting. It showed the Council's current financial position and movements since the last meeting with the balance in the accounts on 11th January 2023 being £6,700.08.

c) TO AUTHORISE PAYMENTS AND NOTE RECEIPTS

The Finance Report showed the following payments to be authorised:-

Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Pay (Dec - outstanding)	13.93
N Edrupt	Cleaners Pay	72.00
HMRC	PAYE to 5th Jan	72.00
EON	Village Hall Electricity	34.02
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Pay (Jan)	£254.20
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Office Allowance/Exp (Jan)	£45.84
MSDC	Grass Cutting - 2022	£463.87
EON	Village Hall Electricity	£25.11

It was AGREED: That payments totaling £488.98 be authorised and actioned by the Clerk.

It was noted that the following receipts had been received:

M Kenningale	Transfer of donation to Village Sign	£300.00
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d) **BANK RECONCILIATION**

It was AGREED: That the Bank Reconciliation be approved.

e) **FINAL BUDGET FOR 2023/24**

It was AGREED: That the Final Budget be approved.

f) **PRECEPT FOR 2023/24**

It was AGREED: That the Precept for 2023/24 of £7,150 be approved. **Clerk to action.**

LB99/22/23 – PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Ref: **DC/22/06288** - Hybrid Planning Application

1. Full Planning Application. Erection of 3no warehouses and new vehicular access. Extension of estate roads, boundary landscaping, nature reserve and SUDS.

2. Outline Planning Application. (Access and Landscaping to be considered) for further estate roads and 6no warehouse plots. - Port One Business and Logistics Park, Bramford Road, Little Blakenham (Part in the Parish of Great Blakenham)

Members were concerned about the design of the application and stated that having a second entrance would increase the traffic hugely. As the two access points would be major junctions they felt it would be a danger and could result in accidents.

It was AGREED: That the Parish Council Object to the application due to the volume of traffic. **Clerk to action.**

Ref: **SCC/0036/21MS** - Restoration and reprofiling of the former quarry using onsite materials and imported top soils. Restoration and reprofiling of the former quarry using onsite materials and imported top soils - Blood Hill Quarry, Somersham Road, Bramford

Members, whilst not objecting to the application, were concerned that vehicles from the site would use Pound Lane. Therefore, they wished to record that under no circumstances should traffic from this site be allowed to use Pound Lane. **Clerk to notify Suffolk County Council.**

It was AGREED: That the Parish Council had no objections to the application. **Clerk to action.**

LB100/22/23 – PLANNING DECISIONS

None had been received.

LB101/22/23 – UPDATE ON VILLAGE SIGN

Cllr Chambers was thanked for his £2,500 locality funding for the project.

Michele Kenningale reported that now most of the funding had been confirmed the company could make the sign March/April of this year. They had confirmed that it would be free of VAT and they would deliver the sign to the village free of charge.

Cllr Palmer agreed to build a concrete base for the sign when needed.

LB102/22/23 – UPDATE ON PLAY AREA

The Clerk reported that funding was yet to be confirmed for the replacement swing.

Cllr Chambers asked the Clerk to send a quote which would then release the funds. **Clerk to action.**

LB103/22/23 – UPDATE ON VILLAGE HALL REFURBISHMENT

It was reported that Cllr Binder was still in the process of obtaining updated quotes and the Clerk was in the process of applying for various funding.

LB104/22/23 – MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

- Speed of Amazon drivers around village

LB105/22/23 - DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was AGREED: That the next meeting be held at the Village Hall on Tuesday, 21st March 2023 at 7.30pm.

The meeting finished at 8.45pm.

Chairman: Dated: