

## **LITTLE BLAKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall on  
**Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 7.30pm.**

### **Present:**

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

In Attendance C Chambers – County Councillor  
J Fields – District Councillor

### **LB39/22/23 – TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from the Parish Clerk, Jennie Blackburn and Cllr Latham.

### **LB40/22/23 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Wright declared an interest in Item 6 on the Agenda.

### **LB41/22/23 – TO RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION**

None had been received.

### **LB42/22/23 – TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY AND 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2022**

**It was AGREED:** That the minutes of the meetings held on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> May and 21<sup>st</sup> June 2022 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

### **LB43/22/23 – RECLAIM THE RAIN – *Tom Mann***

Tom Mann from Norfolk and Suffolk County Council's joint Reclaim the Rain project explained the DEFRA funded initiative was to develop suitable rain and flood water re-use schemes, with the aim of influencing future National policy.

He emphasised that it was an initiative for small rural sites, and was not about the project imposing solutions, but was about helping the communities identify and find solutions relevant to their own area.

The lead, Ruby Shepperson, would be looking to set up a workshop of between three and eight people in August to start the process in Little Blakenham.

The Parish Council were keen to support the project.

Leaflets were distributed to those present at the meeting and Suffolk residents could find out more or become involved by emailing [littleblakenhampc@outlook.com](mailto:littleblakenhampc@outlook.com) or [reclaimtherain@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:reclaimtherain@suffolk.gov.uk)

### **LB44/22/23 – PUBLIC FORUM**

There were four members of the public present.

In connection with previous issues of speeding in the village, it was reported by residents that the police had recently been seen checking vehicle speeds on Somersham Road.

A member of the public reported that the Bridle sign in Valley Road was still missing and asked if there was any progress in getting it replaced.

A member of the public asked if the draft minutes of the Council meetings could be placed on the website within 14 days of the meeting, in line with Best Practice.

#### **LB45/22/23 - TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – CLLR CHRIS CHAMBERS**

Cllr Chambers' report was circulated prior to the meeting would be published on the village website.

Cllr Chambers reported back that with regards to the Pound Lane HGV problem reported at the previous meeting, it was possible to have a Traffic Regulation Order that would ban HGVs but would still allow farm vehicles to access the adjacent fields. With regard to the policing of the Order, photographic evidence, including the vehicle registration, would result in the first instance of a written warning, after which any further contravention would result in a fine.

He stated that the Traffic Regulation Order would cost the Parish Council between £5,000 and £10,000 to put in place.

It was suggested that:

- the Parish Council ask Somersham and Offton Parish Councils to contribute, as Pound Lane was also used by residents of those parishes
- The District and/or County Cllrs for support from their locality budgets.
- Cllr Chambers would email the necessary forms to the Clerk; and
- Cllr Chambers would also investigate the lorry park issue and report back at the next meeting.

#### **LB46/22/23 – TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – CLLR JOHN FIELD**

Cllr Field's report was circulated prior to the meeting and would be published on the village website.

He briefly went through his report.

#### **LB47/22/23 – TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT AND FINANCIAL MATTERS**

##### **a) CLERK'S REPORT**

There was nothing to report.

Cllr Binder reported that changes to the bank accounts were ongoing and soon the Clerk would be able to access all accounts.

##### **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 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022 being £11,060.55.

##### **c) TO AUTHORISE PAYMENTS AND NOTE RECEIPTS**

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

Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Pay (Jun)	£240.27
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Office Allowance/Exp (Jun)	£39.50
EON	VH Electricity	£18.72
EON	VH Electricity	£40.68

N Edrupt	Cleaner's Pay (April-Jun)	£72.00
HMRC	PAYE (to end 5th July)	£40.60
Pride Plumbing and Heating	Fix leak in Village Hall	£72.00
Hiscox Insurance	Insurance Renewal	£879.39
MSDC	Bin Emptying	£297.86
Trevor Brown	Internal Audit for 2021/22	£120.00
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Pay (Jul)	£240.27
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Office Allowance/Exp (Jul)	£44.54
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Pay (Aug)	£240.27
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Office Allowance/Exp (Aug)	£26.00

**It was AGREED:** That payments totaling £2,092.33 be authorised and actioned by the Clerk.

It was noted that the following receipts had been received:

HMRC	Vat Reclaim 2021/22	468.27
Charity Gaming	Hall Hire (Jan to May)	80.00
AF & JH/CA Berry	Hall Hire	20.00
Jennie Blackburn	Overpayment (Clerk's Pay May)	0.20

d) **BUDGET MONITORING REPORT**

**It was AGREED:** That the Budget Monitoring report be approved.

e) **BANK RECONCILIATION**

**It was AGREED:** That this be deferred to the next meeting.

f) **INSURANCE RENEWAL**

**It was AGREED:** That the Insurance renewal of £879.30 be agreed.

**LB48/22/23 – PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**Ref: APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION WITHOUT COMPLIANCE OF CONDITION(S) - DC/22/03301** - Application under S73a for Removal or Variation of Conditions following approval of DC/21/06472 dated 08/04/2022 Town and Country Planning 1990. Change of use and conversion of curtilage listed barn from agricultural to 1no residential dwelling. To vary Condition 2 (Approved Plans and Documents) Amendments as per revised drawings and Planning Statement - Elm Farm, Somersham Road, Little Blakenham

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

**Ref: SCC/0073/22/MS/SCOPE** - EIA Scoping request for a proposed solar farm on a restored landfill. EIA Scoping request for a proposed solar farm on a restored landfill - Masons Landfill, Bramford Road, Great Blakenham

**It was AGREED:** That the Parish Council were in support of the application. **Clerk to action.**

**Ref: DC/22/03568** - Application for Advertisement Consent - Erection of 4No. internally illuminated signs (2No. on Unit 3 and 2No. on Unit 4) - Land At Blackacre Hill, Bramford Road, Great Blakenham

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

#### **LB49/22/23 – PLANNING DECISIONS**

The following decisions were noted:

**Ref: DC/22/02385** - Full Planning Application - Change of Use of land from Agricultural to Residential to serve barn conversion approved under DC/21/06472 - Elm Farm, Somersham Road, Little Blakenham – **Granted**

#### **LB50/22/23 – VILLAGE SIGN**

Two draft plans and costings had been circulated prior to the meeting. Members preferred the second drawing with frame design 1. Delivery would be in the region of 12-15 months from the date of the order and the cost would be £5,965.

Contributions from the County and District Councillor's locality budgets would be sought as would Lady Blakenham and Port One.

Cllr Palmer kindly offered to do the plinth.

**It was AGREED:** That Michele Kenningale provisionally book the sign's construction by the Village Sign People.  
That Cllr Keen seek contributions from the County and District Councillors locality budgets.  
That Michele Kenningale liaise with Lady Blakenham for a contribution.  
That the Parish Council seek a contribution from Port One.

#### **LB51/22/23 – PLAY AREA**

Following a brief discussion...

**It was AGREED:** That a toddler's seat for the play area swing be purchased using locality funding from County Cllr Chambers, who would send the relevant forms to the Clerk.

#### **LB52/22/23 - VILLAGE HALL REFURBISHMENT UPDATE**

Cllr Binder reported that there had been little progress on the refurbishment as there was some difficulties in accessing funds.

#### **LB53/22/23 – VILLAGE HALL HIRING PROCEDURES**

Cllr Keen confirmed to members that she had taken over the role of Bookings Clerk from Nathan Elvin.

During a brief discussion members felt that a formal booking application sheet should be produced. Cllr Keen would also liaise with the Clerk over the collecting of payments for the hall hires. She would also check and update the inventory.

The Parish Council wished to thank Nathan Elvin for his help with bookings and the Village Hall.

**It was AGREED:** That Cllr Keen design a formal booking sheet.

**LB54/22/23 - MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Nothing had been raised.

**LB55/22/23 - DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**It was AGREED:** That the next meeting be held at the Village Hall on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 7.30pm.

The meeting finished at 8.50pm

Chairman: ..... Dated: .....