



LITTLE BLAKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall on
Tuesday, 18th July 2023 at 7.30pm.

Present:

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

In Attendance J Blackburn – Clerk
Cllr A Marriott
Four members of the public

LB29/23/24 - TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from County Cllr Chambers.

LB30/23/24 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None had been received.

LB31/23/24 – TO RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION

None had been received.

LB32/23/24 – TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 16th MAY 2023

It was AGREED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 16th May 2023 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

LB33/23/24 – PUBLIC FORUM

Four members of the public were present.

It was reported that the 30mph speed sign along from the entrance to The Beeches was damaged. The pole was present, but the sign itself was laying in the grassed verge. **Clerk to report.**

LB34/23/24 - TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – CLLR CHRIS CHAMBERS

Cllr Chambers was not present at the meeting and his reported had been circulated prior to the meeting and would be published on the website.

LB35/23/24 – TO RECEIVE THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT – CLLR ADRIENNE MARRIOTT

Cllr Marriott's report had been circulated prior to the meeting and would be published on the website.

She briefly updated members on the Enso Energy Solar Farm.

LB36/23/24 – TO RECEIVE THE CLERK’S REPORT AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) **CLERK’S REPORT**

The Clerk reported that the setting up of the online banking arrangements was ongoing with some form completion needing to be repeated.

b) **TO RECEIVE THE CLERK’S FINANCIAL REPORT**

The Clerk reported on the Council’s current financial position and movements since the last meeting. It was reported that the balance in the accounts on 11th July 2023 was £10,355.70.

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

The Clerk reported the following payments be authorised:-

Jennie Blackburn	Clerk’s Pay (Jun)	254.20
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk’s Office Allowance/Exp (Jun)	32.30
HMRC	PAYE to end 5th Jul	33.00
N Edrupt	Cleaner’s Pay	90.00
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk’s Pay (Jul)	£254.20
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk’s Office Allowance/Exp (Jul)	£38.60
CFB IT Solutions	Mailbox Hosting (June)	£6.00
CFB IT Solutions	Mailbox Hosting (July)	£6.00
EON	Electricity for Village Hall	£31.82

It was AGREED: That payments totaling £746.12 be authorised and actioned by the Clerk.

d) **BANK RECONCILIATION**

It was AGREED: That the Bank Reconciliation be approved.

e) **BUDGET MONITORING REPORT**

It was AGREED: That the Budget Monitoring report be received.

LB37/23/24 - PLANNING APPLICATIONS

None had been received.

LB38/23/24 – PLANNING DECISIONS

The following decision was noted:

Ref: DC/23/01426 - Full Planning Application - Creation of 1 no. new dwellinghouse by way of: conversion and extension of existing domestic annexe, and erection of detached garage - Leather Bottle Cottage, Leather Bottle Hill, Little Blakenham - **Refused**

LB39/23/24 - VILLAGE HALL REFURBISHMENT UPDATE

A meeting had taken place on 13th July between members of the Parish Council, Port One representatives and an Officer from the District Council.

Discussions too place in relation to Port One offering help with the refurbishment of the Village Hall.

Port One indicated that they would be happy to undertake the refurbishment of the village hall and meet any shortfall for costs not secured through CIL or Community funding.

The project would involve:

- Removal of all asbestos within the building and the cladding on the outside
- New double-glazed windows and doors. Would take the opportunity to place more windows looking out towards the playing field and less along back of the building to maximise the outlook and lighting. Double doors to open out onto the playing field
- New roof and ceiling
- New floor
- New kitchen
- New heating system – probably not heat source pump as intermittent usage means not best suited to that form of heating
- Additional/improved toilet facilities
- New car-parking spaces (3/4) to include disabled car parking on Mid Suffolk District Council land at the front of the village hall
- Solar PV panels (Port One to provide)

The actions required would be:

- The Parish Council would need to seek permission from the Diocese (landowners) to make the changes to the building as they were different to those already agreed.
- Port One to draw up plans and share with the Parish Council for their comments. Once plans had been finalised and agreed Port One would develop costing schedule
- The Parish Council needed to submit CIL application for next funding round (March Cabinet)

Members were delighted with the proposals and were all in agreement for the changes to go ahead.

LB40/23/24 – PLAY AREA

The Clerk reported that she had received the confirmation letter for £300 locality funding to purchase the replacement swing for the play area.

Once the money had been received in the bank the Clerk would order the swing.

LB41/23/24 - MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

- Confirmation of Cleaner's pay (hourly rate) – next Agenda

LB42/23/24 - DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was AGREED: That the next meeting be held at the Village Hall on Tuesday, 19th September 2023 at 7.30pm.

The meeting finished at 8.02pm

Chairman: Dated: