



LITTLE BLAKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall on
Tuesday, 19th September 2023 at 7.30pm.

Present:

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

In Attendance J Blackburn – Clerk
 County Cllr C Chambers
 District Cllr A Marriott
 Four members of the public

LB43/23/24 - TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

Apologies had been received from Cllr Wright and Cllr Brown.

LB44/23/24 – DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None had been received.

LB45/23/24 – TO RECEIVE APPLICATIONS FOR DISPENSATION

None had been received.

LB46/23/24 – TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 18th JULY 2023

It was AGREED: That the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 18th July 2023 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

LB47/23/24 – PUBLIC FORUM

Four members of the public were present at the meeting and the following items were raised:

- Drainage on Bramford Road. Highways had been contacted but no works had been undertaken to rectify the problem. It was explained that the main drain that went to the Gipping had damage therefore causing water to spurt out of the drain during wet weather. Cllr Chambers asked that photographs be sent to him of the problem so he could address it with the Highways department.
- Noise and planning issues – Lukes Meadow, Little Blakenham. Residents had raised concerns about constant noise pollution from the site and also there had been concerns that construction had taken place without planning permission being sought. Cllr Marriott stated that she would look at the site and look into the issues.
- Port One – large mountain of soil on the site was causing a slurry to form during wet weather. The slurry would then make its way down from the site and if it was not managed it would eventually run towards the dual carriageway. Cllr Chamber stated that he would make contact with Port One in relation to this issue.

- Bee Orchids were present on the Port One site, at the wooded area to the right of the brow of the hill on Pound Road – they needed to be protected. Cllr Chambers stated that he would also raise this with Port One.

LB48/23/24 - TO RECEIVE THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR’S REPORT – CLLR CHRIS CHAMBERS

Cllr Chambers reported that the current RAAC concrete issues within schools had badly affected Claydon High School which had resulted in them closing 14 classrooms. They had arranged for some mobile classrooms to be put in the car park area to use on a temporary basis.

He added that five school in Suffolk had been affected by the RAAC problem.

Outstanding issues for Little Blakenham:

- ‘Village Hall’ directional sign for Valley Road – Cllr Chambers reported that he had spoken with Highways but the sign would not be a priority and would be extremely expensive.
- Pound Lane – HGVs – Cllr Chambers reported that following conversations with the Highways Department, the best way forward initially, would be to enlarge the ‘unsuitable for HGVs’ signs.

Cllr Palmer stated that if HGVs continued to use Pound Lane, it would damage the highway which would then be a much larger job for the Highways team to repair.

LB49/23/24 – 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 went through her report, which contained the following items:

- Pride in your Place
- Recruitment Fairs
- MSDC Council Meeting
- Solar Farms
- National Grid Pylons
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Review of Local Elections
- Locality Awards
- Cil Bids

LB50/23/24 – TO RECEIVE THE CLERK’S REPORT AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) **CLERK’S REPORT**

The Clerk had nothing to report other than what was on the Agenda.

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 14th Sept 2023 was £13,649.01.

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

The Clerk reported the following payments be authorised:-

Jennie Blackburn	Clerk’s Pay (Aug)	254.20
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk’s Office Allowance/Exp (Aug)	26.00
CFB IT Solutions	Mailbox Hosting (Aug)	6.00
Jennie Blackburn	Clerk’s Pay (Sept)	254.20

Jennie Blackburn	Clerk's Office Allowance/Exp (Sept)	40.40
EON	VH Electricity (August)	38.26
EON	VH Electricity (July)	37.53
CFB IT Solutions	Mailbox Hosting (Sept)	6.00
MSDC	Election Charges	£131.32
Clarke & Simpson	Rent - The Glebe	£200.00

It was AGREED: That payments totaling £993.91 be authorised and actioned by the Clerk.

LB51/23/24 - PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Ref: DC/23/03605 - Planning Application - Completion and alteration of approved garage/workshop building to form 1No detached dwelling - Broomvale Farmhouse, Bramford Road, Little Blakenham

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

LB52/23/24 – PLANNING DECISIONS

The following decision was noted:

Ref: DC/23/01763 - Full Planning Application - Change of use of land to equestrian use, Construction of a manege (Retention of) - Land Opposite Inghams Farm, Nettlestead Road, Little Blakenham - **Granted**

Ref: DC/23/00639 - Full Planning Application - Erection of 3No dwellings and new vehicular access (following demolition of barns previously approved under Class Q DC/22/01800) - Elm Farm, Somersham Road, Little Blakenham - **Granted**

LB53/23/24 - VILLAGE HALL REFURBISHMENT UPDATE

The Clerk reported that the Port One planning application would be heard ay Planning Committee early November, so until the decision of the application had been made refurbishment to the hall would need to be put on hold.

She explained that she had liaised with the Diocese and also the Solicitors that dealt with the Lease of The Glebe Land about permission for the works to go ahead and also for a five year extension to the Lease.

The Clerk confirmed with members that a solicitor would need to act on behalf of the Parish Council for the Lease extension. **All Agreed.**

LB54/23/24 – PLAY AREA

The Clerk reported that the replacement swing had been ordered and was awaiting delivery.

LB55/23/24 - MATTERS TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

No matters were raised.

LB56/23/24 - DATE OF NEXT MEETING

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

The meeting finished at 8.15pm.

Chairman: Dated: