

BEIGHTON WITH MOULTON ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 10th November 2020 via Zoom at 7.30 pm

Present: Joseph Wright (Chairman), Ivan Cator, Valerie Mack, Kathleen Ashcroft, Edgar Matthews, Allan Wright, Sophie Young, Jessica Jennings (Clerk)

Plus Grant Nurden (District Councillor) Lana Hemsell (District Councillor) and 1 member of the public.

1. Attendance

Brian Iles not in attendance. No apologies received.

2. Declarations of Interest and Dispensations: None

3. Public Forum

3.1 County Councillor's Report – none received

3.2 District Councillor's Report

- Grant introduced Councillor Lana Hemsell, the Cabinet Portfolio Officer for Planning at Broadland District Council and who would be available to answer any questions regarding planning.
- Community Heart Lottery has recently been launched. First tickets will be on sale from 12th January 2021. Any Broadland based club, society or charity can register an interest in taking part (look at BDC's website / contact Communities Team) as it is a reliable and free way of raising funds.
- The £500 Members Grant is available for use by community groups eg for equipment. The method and structure by which these grants are issued remains unchanged.
- BDC's budget discussions are likely to take place in November or later.
- All BDC's Council meetings can be watched live or on catch-up via their Youtube channel.

3.3 Lana Hemsell introduced herself and explained that she is currently District Councillor for Acle and also the Planning Portfolio Holder. She will also be the candidate to replace Brian Iles (County Councillor) when he stands down next year. She is interested to know what the issues are in the Parish, how she can help and how Norfolk County Council is serving us. She is hoping to do a survey of residents at the start of 2021. She is interested in how the dualling of the A47 may affect Beighton.

3.3 Potential Land for Playground (behind Hopewell Gardens) – the Parishioner who had joined the meeting could not be heard so the Clerk read out an e'mail that she had already sent the Clerk and also an e'mail from another Parishioner, which represented the views of 5 households from Hopewell Gardens which was also read out. The main points from both e'mails were:

- Concerns about potential noise and consequent adverse effects on mental health and quality of life such as ability to enjoy gardens peacefully.
- Waste of public money as likely to be underused.

- The 5 households do not have young children and their gardens are big enough spaces for grandchildren to play in.
- The land has not been managed well in the last few years and would prefer to see it sold for agricultural or community allotments.
- There was a play area at the current playing field at the Village Hall but was never used and fell into disrepair.
- The only access is between Nos. 9&10 – not big enough for a tractor to get into cut the grass.
- Concerns about vandalism, drug taking and drinking.
- The cost to the Parish Council and any knock-on rises to the Council Tax.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 8th September 2020 were agreed to be a true and accurate account and it was resolved that the Chairman sign them.

4.2 Clerk's Report

- Clerk reported that the Shelroy Trust are no longer distributing Christmas hampers, due to difficulty in getting volunteers to help. She has sent a letter of thanks from the PC for their generosity over the years to people in the Parish.
- Received acknowledgement from Lloyds Bank that the change of contact details and signatories have been actioned for the Pools Allotments.
- BDC has confirmed that CIL money can be used in the 50% payment the Parish Council would make if it entered, and was successful in, an application to NCC for the Parish Partnership Scheme.
- Clerk has requested more Dog Poo signs to put up around the village. Notices regarding picking up after dogs have been put on the Website and Facebook page.
- Standing Orders have been updated to reflect method of dealing with planning applications as per September's meeting.
- Two poppy wreaths were ordered for Remembrance Sunday. Payment to be organised.
- Clerk responded on behalf of PC to the consultation on the Planning White Paper.

5. Correspondence of Note

Clerk highlighted the road closure at The Green & Palmers Lane in Freethorpe with revised dates from 2nd November to 18th December, due to drainage works. Notices have been put on both the Website and Facebook page.

Highways Rangers will be in the Parish from 9th November

6. Planning

Application No. 20202067

Rear Lean to extension including balcony and associated works and three new windows in north facing roof of garage wing.

Bower House, 53 Chapel Road, Beighton, NR13 3LF

No objections

Application No.20202065

Loft Conversion to create bedroom and shower room, including insertion of dormer window, skylight and window to gable end.

Poplars, Acle Road, Beighton, NR13 3AP

No objections. Address should be Moulton St Mary and not Beighton – Clerk to raise with Planning at BDC.

7. Finance

7.1 The following payments were agreed:

Norfolk Pension Fund	October / November	£ 100.40	Bank Transfer
Jessica Jennings	October / November Wages	£ 318.24	Bank Transfer
HMRC	October / November	£ 66.60	Bank Transfer
Royal British Legion	Poppy Weaths x 2	£ 60.00	Bank Transfer
	Total:	£ 545.24	

Payment made since last meeting:

Jessica Jennings	McAfee Security Renewal	£ 49.99	Bank Transfer
	Total:	£ 595.23	

Receipts:

Broadland DC	Precept 2 nd Instalment	£ 3,531.50	
Lloyds Bank	Interest	£ .22	
	Total:	£ 3,531.72	

Bank Balance as at 30 th September	£ 6,018.14
Outstanding Payments	£ 595.23
Projected Balance	£ 5,422.91
Business Account Balance	£13,584.43
TOTAL FUNDS:	£19,007.34

8. Items for Discussion

8.1 Beighton Church Path – Ivan Cator withdrew his quote as he has other commitments. He felt that the quote from Beighton Builders was similar. There is concern that the area around the path is very wet, especially where the hole was filled in, and it would be worth waiting for it to dry out and settle before starting any work. Decided that the path should be left with hardcore as a surface rather than a light coat of gravel, as it could get washed away. Councillors were happy to accept the quote from Beighton Builders but were concerned that if costs escalated and went above what was quoted (£921 + VAT = approx. £1,052 incl VAT) who would pay the extra. It was established that the Church hasn't got the funds but also felt that the Parish Council shouldn't necessarily meet any extra cost. However, it would be something that would benefit the whole community and not just churchgoers.

It was suggested, as an alternative, to apply for the Parish Partnership Scheme which would mean that Norfolk County Council would pay 50% of costs and the Parish Council the other 50% which would allow more leeway with the amount of money available from the CIL funds. The Clerk pointed out that if she did apply, notification of whether or not the application was successful wouldn't be until March 2021. It was decided to apply for the Parish Partnership Scheme but also to ask Beighton Builders if they would be able to stick to the price they'd quoted if the Parish Council is not successful in its application and has to pay for all works.

8.2 Budget 2021/22 & Precept 2021/22 – the proposed budget was approved and accepted. It was decided to increase the Precept by 1% which equates to an increase of £70.63 which, based on a tax base of 172, should be an approximate increase of 41p per Band D property. The Precept amount to be applied for will be £7,133.63.

8.3 Norfolk ALC – Allan Wright volunteered to become the Parish Council’s representative to Norfolk ALC now that they have become a Co-operative. He will attend occasional virtual meetings, can suggest topics for discussion, can vote on behalf of PC and will receive reports. Clerk to pass his name to Norfolk ALC.

8.4 Play Area – the viability and cost of the potential site behind Hopewell Gardens as a play area was discussed. Currently the area is in a state of disrepair and was previously allotments, as designated by Clarion Housing. Access is via a pathway between 2 of the houses and also a roadway behind (according to a letter from Clarion, although BDC say the road is not Council property and a resident disputes that there is any road access) which would allow for machinery to be brought in. The cost of the land is not yet known but the Parish Council would need to consider whether or not they would be interested in purchasing it and what it would be used for – a play area was just one consideration. It was recognised that if it were to be used as a play area there is a lot of responsibility and cost involved which would likely fall to the Parish Council. There are other people interested in the area being used as allotments. Clarion Housing have said that the Parish Council could have first refusal. If the area were to be used for village fetes then there would need to be toilet facilities available which could potentially be a large expense (and the current playing field is a better existing site for this type of event).

It was agreed that the site is not an ideal place for a play area but the Parish Council will keep an eye on it and put it on a future agenda for further discussion.

8.5 Expenditure – Clerk sought confirmation on who should check invoices against bank statements. It was agreed that Sophie Young would do this. Clerk to arrange to take files over for review. Once meetings take place in person again, this should be done during the meeting.

8.6 Litter Signs – in view of the fact that a lot of rubbish is being left in the Village Hall area, it was suggested that some ‘light hearted’ but to-the-point signs be purchased and put up in the area. Due to Zoom audio problems and not all councillors being audible, this will be carried over to the next Agenda.

8.10 Operation London Bridge – Location for Copper Beech. Item rolled over to next meeting.

9. Items for Next Agenda / Information:

Nothing raised.

With no more business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 8.35 pm

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 12th January 2021, 7.30 pm, Bighton Village Hall (t.b.c.)

Signed:

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J. Wright (Chairman) Date: