

BEIGHTON WITH MOULTON ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 12th September 2023, 7.30 pm at Beighton Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Joe Wright, Valerie Mack, Sophie Young, Edgar Matthews, Allan Wright, Jessica Jennings (Clerk) Grant Nurden, District Councillor

1. Attendance:

Apologies: None

Absent: Cllr Kate Ashcroft, County Cllr Lana Hemsall

2 Declaration of Interest and Dispensations:

None

3 Public Forum

3.2 District Councillor's Report – Grant Nurden

- Grant explained that the Council had declared a Climate Emergency on 27th July, although he did not support this as no information was given as to what the impact on residents would be. Grant would like to see how measures for Carbon could be done and what affects any measures would have on local businesses. This will be discussed again later in the month at Committee.
- The By-Election in Thorpe St Andrew saw a victory for Conservatives and a regained seat.
- Town / Parish Council Forums for Clerks & Councillors – Grant encouraged attendance at these.
- He reminded the Parish Council that Thorpe Lodge was giving away unwanted items of office furniture and equipment, which would be available to anyone who was interested.
- Cluster meeting on 21st September - GN to attend.

3.3 Village Hall Report – Ed Matthews

- The one regular hirer of the Hall, Saxability, has decided to stop using the Hall, so there will be a loss of a regular hire income coming from them.
- The running costs to keep the Hall open, from standing charges alone, is £1,527 p.a. Although Bingo is popular, the income from it will not be enough to meet those costs.
- Bingo, during the last year, has made £3,194 but with standing charges and just utilities bills at £1,700 it is difficult to see how it can stay financially afloat. If the Bingo lost popularity, it would lose its main income.
- There is a general malaise in the Community, with very little interest in using the Hall. There is a small core of people who have kept it running but apart from them, there is no discernible interest from the Community to keep it going, despite approaches to gauge interest.
- If nothing changes, then the income cannot be generated which will ultimately mean the Hall will have to close.
- Ed pointed out that the Hall is used by Broadland District Council as a polling station in Elections and also that the Police will be using the Hall next year for a one day one-off event. These are very limited bookings and not sustainable.

- Cllr Alan Wright thanked Cllr Mack for coming to a Village Hall Committee meeting to discuss the deeds.
- Cllr Mack said the issue of declining Village Hall popularity is a village-wide predicament and reflects a change in culture.
- It was decided that this should be put on the next Agenda for further discussion.

3.4 Public Participation

- Peter Howell added to Cllr Matthew's report that the Hall will struggle financially, even with grass cutting costs removed and the cancellation of the bins. He also stated that the Hall is old and will need a lot of repairs to keep it in a good, functional condition.
- Mike Spinks said how speed is a continuing issue, with people going down Southwood Road at ridiculous speeds. He asked if it might be possible for a SAM2 post to go near World's End.
- Moulton parishioner said that the problem of speeding in Moulton is bad, with the speed signs being obscured by overgrown shrubs and are also dirty so not as visible as they should be. With no pavements and concealed driveways, it is dangerous when coming out of them. They also raised the issue of very large commercial vehicles coming through the village which exceed the speed limit.
- Where the school bus picks up and drops off school children, there is very little visibility for them to cross the road safely.
- The road markings at Peacock Corner with the junction to Morley Road are very faint and drivers are often in the wrong position in the road as it's not clear what the junction marking are.
- The issue of traffic diversions due to the building of the new dual carriageway at Burlingham, with traffic being diverted along the backroads was also raised. It has already been difficult with large vehicles being made to go along small country lanes and over the bridge near Jolly's Lane but with the Cantley sugarbeet Campaign due to start soon, then the roads will not be able to cope. There is also the issue of local people not following the diversions and using even less suitable routes.

4 **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 11th July 2023 were agreed to be a true and accurate account and it was resolved that the Chairman sign them.

4.2 Matters Arising:

8.1 *Circular Memorial Bench in memory of Queen Elizabeth / King Charles III's Coronation.*

Cllr Joe Wright confirmed that he has spoken to Isaac Wright who is willing to help with this project but he is yet to speak to Jamie Mack.

4.3 Clerk's Report:

- The signpost at World's End has now been replaced.
- The document that was collected from Kent & Co Solicitors in Acle was the Tenancy Agreement between the Parish Council and Ronnie Myhill, dated 25th August 1992. The

Clerk questioned if there should be one for Shearings too; it was confirmed that there should be. Clerk responded that this was not given to her or in her possession.

- SAM2 Data collection – Clerk requested that data is passed to her for filing and passing to Police if necessary. Requested that she is advised on what software is needed to be able to analyse the data.
- Received confirmation from Broadland District Council that CIL money could be used for spending on a new noticeboard and / or replacement wooden bollards at the Village Hall.

5 Correspondence of Note

Cllr Eleanor Laming, Member for Brundall Ward, BDC:

Information regarding Postwick Park and Ride and advertising material for it. Forwarded to Councillors for information and also put on to the Website and Facebook.

Email from Moulton Resident:

Concerns regarding speeding at Peacock Corner. Forwarded to Councillors for information and was discussed during the meeting (Public Participation & Item 8.3)

6 Planning

None received.

7 Finance

Balance as at 31st July £ 9,932.55

Payments made:

Jessica Jennings	Microsoft Subscription	£ 59.99
Jessica Jennings	Clerk's Fees (August)	£ 186.56
HMRC	Tax (August)	£ 37.80
Norfolk Pension Fund	Clerk's Pension (August)	£ 60.88
Beighton Village Hall	Meeting Hire (////)	£ 20.00
Jessica Jennings	Clerk's Fees (September)	£ 186.56
Norfolk Pension Fund	Clerk's Pension (September)	£ 60.88
HMRC	Tax (September)	£ 37.80
Beighton Village Hall	Meeting Hire x 2 (Sept: PC + Cluster Meetings)	£ 40.00

Total: £ 690.47

Payments received:

Lloyds Bank	Interest (August)	£ 10.05
Lloyds Bank	Interest (September)	£ 12.69
Broadland D.C.	Precept 2 nd Instalment	£ 3,567.00

Total: £ 3,589.74

Bank Balance as at 30th September £12,831.82

Business Account Balance £13,584.43

TOTAL FUNDS:

£26,416.25

8 Items for Discussion

8.1 Churchyard Grants: Beighton & Moulton St Mary, grass cutting.

Councillors agreed to pay a grant of £380 to each of the churches for grass cutting costs, which is the same as last year. Clerk to make payments.

8.2 Land at Village Hall: car park bollards

Councillors considered the current state of the bollards, which are rotting away, and that they need replacing as they act as a barrier to the playing field. Cllr Alan Wright to look into costs of replacing these (and will also look at costs of replacing the noticeboard). The Clerk had already confirmed that CIL money can be used towards this expense.

8.3 Speeding in Moulton at Peacock Corner

Following on from discussion in 3.3 Public Participation, councillors asked the Clerk to contact the Police to carry out a Speedwatch Check. Clerk to also contact Paul Sellick at NCC Highways Department regarding the lack of visibility of signage and also the faded road markings at the junction with Morley Road.

8.4 Accounts Software

Clerk requested the purchase of an Accounts Software package to assist with the Annual (and General) Accounts, including Year End, Budgeting, VAT etc. Councillors had been forwarded details of Semata by email. Cllr Alan Wright had also suggested looking into what NALC could provide as a software package. All Councillors agreed that Clerk could purchase accounting software; full details to be provided once known.

8.5 Cluster Meeting

Details of the Cluster Meeting (Beighton, Freethorpe, Halvergate and Reedham) were confirmed, along with items to raise. Beighton PC will be hosting the meeting and providing the Agenda.

9 Items for Next Agenda / Information:

- Village Hall Finance

With no more business to discuss, the meeting was closed at 8.20 pm

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 14th November 2023, 7.30 pm, Beighton Village Hall

Signed:

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J. Wright (Chairman) Date:

