

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of Bavington Parish Council held on Thursday 2nd February 2023 commencing at 7pm in Great Bavington URC meeting room

Those present: P Acton (Chairman), J Spearman, P Ramsden, C Hogg, R Taylor, C Miller (Clerk)

2023/01 Apologies for Absence

L Robson

2023/02 Disclosure of interests by members regarding agenda items

There were no Disclosure of members interests.

2023/03 Approval of minutes taken at the meeting held 3rd November 2022

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held 3rd November 2022 be accepted as a true record.

2023/04 Trees on unnamed road to Great Bavington

Several trees had been marked, however it was not known when works would commence. P Ramsden had attended the Town and Parish Council Annual Conference in Hexham, where problems with ash trees had been discussed. County Council were to adopt a policy of how they could deal with them, however in the meantime those areas with the greatest danger would be actioned first.

2023/05 To receive update on Ray Wind Farm Fund

The board is represented by Parish Council's and in addition six other members are selected after interview. Three new board members had been appointed, Martin Dickson Green (Bellingham Parish Council) Sarah Lunn (Minister of C&E Churches) and Deb Walton from Otterburn.

2023/06 To receive update on B4RN/B4NTR Broadband matters

The Ray Wind Fund had allocated approximately £67K to B4RN. The DCMS had approved the Barrasford, Kirkwhelpington and Woodburn project for voucher funding, which would be £4,500 per property. The County Council had approved top up funding for the same scheme, approximately £1500/property. The funding principals had been approved and there was no reason the scheme should not go ahead. The information from DCMS contained errors relating to who is eligible for voucher funding.

2023/07 Finance

2023/07/01 To approve payments

- C Miller – annual salary and expenses (including NJC pay award payable for year ending 31/3/22 (received April 2022) and pay award for year ending 31/3/23 (received November 2022) - £771.80; HMRC – PAYE - £147

It was resolved to approve the payments.

2023/07/02 To receive acknowledgement of grant from Tynedale Hospice at Home; Great North Air Ambulance and Thockrington Church

Grant acknowledgements noted.

2023/08 Planning

2023/08/01 Planning Applications received

No planning applications had been received.

2023/08/02 Divet Hill Liaison Committee

Meeting had been held 25/1/23. A list of people to receive a text message informing of blasting had been created. Quarry to place a vibrograph outside of Bavington Cottage, being the closed residential property in Great Bavington to the blasting locations. Contamination of road in Little Bavington had been minimised. The issue of blocked gullies had been raised, with

Breedon to liaise with County Council who had also requested the Parish Council raise the problems with NCC. The largest concern to parishioners is currently the increase in blasting noise. Breedon had given assurances they were measuring the shock through the earth. There is an airshock sufficient to rattle doors, and Breedon attribute this to the fact they are at present within a closed off area, and the noise would lessen in time. A resident was concerned about horses going through the gate due to them being able to see over the bund, and requested mitigation, such as making the mound higher. The next meeting will be held at the quarry in three month's time. Proposal had been suggested for the quarry to take responsibility for the road from B6342 to Great Bavington. Quarry had advised they could provide the materials at low cost or free of charge as a gesture of goodwill, but the road was the responsibility of the County Council. Clerk to convey to Highways, County Council.

2023/08/03 Notice of Planning Application withdrawn

- 22/02901/FUL: Sweethope Loughs, Harle – Installation of drainage on the downstream face of dam, undertaking earthworks to reduce the slope angle of the downstream face.

There were current concerns about the strength of dams, with the Water Authority reducing the level of reservoirs in sequence, and reinforcing dams.

2023/09 Review of Risk Assessment

It was resolved the document was sufficient for the present needs of the Parish Council.

2023/10 Review of insurance policy

It was resolved the current insurance policy was sufficient for the present needs of the Parish Council. Public liability currently £10million and other insurance values included in Risk Assessment.

2023/11 Review Asset Register

It was resolved the Asset Register was an accurate record of the Parish Council assets.

2023/12 Review of internal auditor and internal controls

It was resolved to retain the services of the present internal auditor, D Metcalfe.

It was resolved the current internal controls were sufficient for the present needs of the Parish Council.

2023/13 Any other Urgent Business/Items for Next Meeting

A concern had been raised about a parishioner parking an enormous vehicle improperly on the road, and at times removing a passing place. It was resolved P Acton would take unofficial action. Concern had been raised about sheep in the village. Animals were able to bypass the three cattle grids from the village to B6342 due to cattle grids requiring cleansing. There were also blocked drains which had not been attended to for many years. It was resolved Clerk would request a site visit with County Council and Parish Cllr's. Marking of the King's Coronation to be added to next agenda.

2023/14 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of Bavington Parish Council will be held on Thursday 4th May 2023 commencing 7pm in Bavington URC meeting room.

The meeting closed at 8pm



Claire Miller, Parish Clerk