

STOW BEDON & BRECKLES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Stow Bedon & Breckles Parish Council on Monday, 18 May 2015 at 8.00 p.m. in Caston Village Hall.

**Present: Councillors: Phil Childs (Chairman), Paul Howe, Dawn Jessett, John Morfoot, Lee Pilkington.
Julian Gibson (Clerk)**

There being no urgent business to discuss, the meeting scheduled for 20 April 2015 did not take place.

As the previous Annual Parish Meeting overran, the start of this meeting was delayed.

Before the start of meeting, the newly elected Councillors present signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office forms, and the Clerk reminded them of the need for them to update their Disclosable Pecuniary Interests & Other Registrable Interests forms if necessary.

- 1 **Election of Chairman.** Mr Childs was **elected** Chairman.
- 2 **Chairman's Declaration of Acceptance of Office.** Mr Childs signed the declaration, which was **received**.
- 3 **Election of Vice Chairman.** Mr Pilkington was **elected** Vice Chairman.
- 4 **Apologies for absence.** It was **agreed** to accept the reason for absence offered by Councillor White.
- 5 **Declarations of interest.** None.
- 6 **Dispensations.** None.
- 7 **Public participation session.** A member of the public spoke of his objections to the planning application which was the subject of item 11.3 on the agenda, and put forward a number of specific points.

*It was **agreed** to bring items 11.3 and 12 up the agenda to this point.*

- 11.3 3PL/2015/0461/F: Land forming a part of the Sandwade Estate, Stow Bedon.** Application for Construction of a 2 storey dwelling, ancillary external works & detached Cart Lodge & integral store. It was **resolved** that the Council objected on the grounds that this site was put forward for potential development during the LDF process, and rejected as being 'Unreasonable'. This was confirmed in the Stow Bedon Adopted Plan 2012, which shows it being outside the Settlement Boundary, and no extenuating circumstances had been put forward to justify this deviation from Policy. The application appears to be for two properties rather than one, as it specifically includes mention of a "potential future plot", and if these two were to be permitted, a request for infill development on the orchard between this site and Beech House would surely follow. The proposed dwelling is at the entrance to the village, and completely out of character. Whilst Mere Road contains a varied mix of developments (including 1, 1½ and 2 story buildings) there are none that remotely resemble this proposed design. The Council feels that the application is disingenuous, as it refers to a two-story dwelling, when it is in fact three stories, the ground floor being only partly buried by excavation. Doubtless this is why a flat roof is proposed (which would be unique among the pitched roofs of the rest of the village), to keep the overall height nearer (but not close) to that of other dwellings. The Council felt that if permission for this dwelling to be constructed outside the Settlement Boundary, there would be no shortage of other applications to do the same thing.

- 12 **Casual Vacancy.** It was proposed that Mr Andrew Hayward be co-opted to fill the vacancy on the Council resulting from there being insufficient nominations at the recent election. This was **agreed**.

Mr Hayward signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office form, and joined the meeting. The published agenda was then resumed.

- 8 **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 16 March 2015 were **confirmed and signed**.

- 9 **Matters arising.** [6.1.1, meeting dated 16 February 2015] **B1111 past Breckles Church.** The two blocked gullies have at least been cleared and appear to be working satisfactorily.

- 10 **Correspondence.** The following correspondence was **received**:

- 10.1 BT: *Adopt a kiosk for as little as a £1.*
- 10.2 The Pensions Regulator: *Act now: you have new legal duties.*
- 10.3 Campaign to Protect Rural England: *CPRE Norfolk Light Pollution Survey, Guidance Note and Conference.*
- 10.4 Norfolk Association of Local Councils: *Subscription Form 2015/16.*
- 10.5 Norfolk Association of Local Councils: *Election of members of the Norfolk Association of Local Councils Executive Committee.*
- 10.6 Department for Communities and Local Government: *Changes to the smaller authorities' local audit and accountability framework: a guide.*
- 10.7 Information Commissioner's Office: *Certificate of Registration.*
- 10.8 Came & Company: *Council Matters - Spring 2015.*
- 10.9 Breckland Council: *Payment Remittance Advice.*
- 10.10 Norfolk County Council: *Highways and community Ranger Visit.*
- 10.11 Barclays Bank Plc: *Community Account Statement - 28 February - 31 March 2015.*
- 10.12 Barclays Bank Plc: *Active Saver Account Statement - 28 February - 31 March 2015.*
- 10.13 Breckland Council: *Recycling Payment 2014-15.*
- 10.14 Norfolk County Council: *Stow Bedon: Watering Farm. (Copy letter from Senior Engineer, Highways Development Management to Planning, Breckland Council).*
- 10.15 Norfolk County Council: *Email concerning proposal to introduce 50 m.p.h. speed limit between Watton and Wretham.*
- 10.16 Norfolk County Council: *Better Broadband for Norfolk Information Sheet 20.*
- 10.17 Norfolk Association of Local Councils: *Annual Joint Summer Conference.*
- 10.18 Jason Parker: *Housing in the Village.*
- 10.19 Barclays Bank Plc: *Community Account statement - 1-30 April 2015.*
- 10.20 Barclays Bank Plc: *Active Saver Account statement - 1-30 April 2015.*
- 10.21 Breckland Council: *Open Space and Play Space Provision and Improvement.*
- 10.22 *Clerks & Councils Direct.*
- 10.23 Breckland Council: *Recycling Credit advice.*

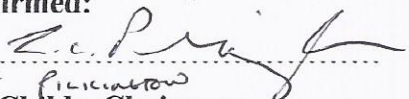
- 11 **Planning.**

- 11.1. **3PL/2015/0081/F: Stone Leigh, Cottage Mere Road, Stow Bedon.** Erection of detached cottage style dwelling. Planning Permission dated 19 March 2015 was **received**.
- 11.2. **3AG/2015/0012/AG and 3AG/2015/0013/AG: Breckles Farm Site, Breckles Heath.** Applications under The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995 for Erection of Poultry Arcs. The Council **noted** that the Clerk has responded under his delegated authority, reinforcing the Council's objections to these developments. The Council found this position very unsatisfactory, and the Clerk was asked to place an item on the next agenda so that other action could be considered.

- 11.3. See above after item 7.
- 12 See above after item 7.
- 13 **Change of Parish Name.** It was **noted** that on 26 March 2015 Breckland Council sealed a Notice under Section 75 of the Local Government Act, 1972, changing the name of the parish from the *Parish of Stow Bedon* to the *Parish of Stow Bedon and Breckles*. The Clerk will lodge a copy of this Notice at the Norfolk Record Office, and also keep one in the files.
- 14 **Receipts & payments account.** The Receipts & Payments Account 2014/2015 was **approved** by the Council and **signed** by the Chairman.
- 15 **Report of the Internal Auditor.** The report of the Internal Auditor on the year ended 31 March 2015 was **received**.
- 16 **Annual Return.** The Accounting statements and Annual governance statement in the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2015 were **approved** and **signed** by the Clerk and the Chairman on behalf of the Council. The Bank reconciliation and the Explanation of variances were **agreed**. The Clerk confirmed that the *Notice of appointment of date for the exercise of electors' rights* would now be posted on the notice boards.
- 17 **Internal Auditor.** It was **resolved** that Mr Peter Cotes be reappointed as Internal Auditor for the year 2015-2016. It was **agreed** that the Clerk should purchase a gift voucher to be sent with the Council's thanks.
- 18 **Stow Bedon Fuel Allotment.** It was **agreed** to re-appoint Messrs. Philip Childs, Matt Cunningham and Kenny Stone as Trustees of this charity for a further period of four years.
- 19 **Finance.**
- 19.1 **Maintenance of the burial grounds.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100667 for £150.00 to Stow Bedon Parochial Church Council be signed as a grant towards the cost of maintaining the burial ground at St Botolph's. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 214(6)*)
- 19.2 **Maintenance of the burial grounds.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100668 for £150.00 to Breckles Parochial Church Council be signed as a grant towards the cost of maintaining the burial ground at St Margaret's. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 214(6)*)
- 19.3 **Subscriptions.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100669 for £97.42 to Norfolk Association of Local Councils be signed, being the Annual Subscription for 2015/16. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 143*)
- 19.4 **Subscriptions.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100670 for £32.75 to the Society of Local Council Clerks be signed, being this parish's share of the Clerk's Annual Subscription. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 143*)
- 19.5 **Monthly Financial Report.** The Clerk reported that there was no Financial report, as the Council had not met since the start of the financial year, so no transactions had taken place.
- 20 **Matters for consideration at next meeting.**
- 20.1 Further action regarding Peddars Way developments.
- 20.2 Pingo Trail lay-by and Car Park.

21 **Next meeting.** The next meeting of the Parish Council, was **confirmed** as **Monday, 15 June 2015** at 7.30 p.m. in Caston Village Hall.

Confirmed:


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Phil Childs, Chairman VICE-CHAIRMAN

15 June 2015

Scheduled future Meeting dates:

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Monday, 20 July 2015 | Monday, 19 October 2015 | Monday, 18 January 2016* |
| Monday, 17 August 2015* | Monday, 16 November 2015 | Monday, 15 February 2016 |
| Monday, 14 September 2015 | Monday, 14 December 2015 | Monday, 14 March 2016 |

*If needed