

STOW BEDON & BRECKLES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Stow Bedon & Breckles Parish Council on Monday, 16 November 2015 at 7.30 p.m. in Caston Village Hall.

Present: Councillors: Phil Childs (Chairman), Paul Howe, Andrew Hayward, Dawn Jessett, John Morfoot, Jonathan White. Julian Gibson (Clerk)

- 1 **Apologies for absence.** It was **resolved** to accept the reason for absence offered by Councillor Pilkington.
- 2 **Declarations of interest.** None.
- 3 **Dispensations.** None.
- 4 **Public participation session.**
 - 4.1 **Norfolk County Council matters.** Councillor Ian Monson said that his council had launched a consultation tagged 'Reimagining Norfolk', about the very difficult budgetary decisions which had to be taken, as they were anticipating further cuts in the Government grants to be announced next month. He invited parishioners to comment. He then said that his council had taken the decision to go ahead with the Northern Distributor Route north of Norfolk, but the delays meant that the cost had escalated. Locally, he said that he had asked the Trails officers if they would help with cutting back trees round the Pingo Trail lay-by (see item 9). He also said that, following the views raised by this Parish Council, the Officers had decided not to propose imposing a 50 mph speed limit on the A1075 between Wretham and Breckles, although they were still proposing this from Stow Bedon to Watton. A consultation on the revised proposal would come out shortly. In answer to questions he confirmed that, despite his Council's invitation to parishes to contribute to the cost of repairing pot-holes, it was NCC that was fully responsible for maintaining the public highways. He said that the existence of this proposal under the Parish Partnership scheme there would be no impact on what repairs were undertaken in parishes which did not participate, or on the timescale for these repairs.
 - 4.2 **Speed Awareness Message device.** The Clerk reported that he had been asked by Caston Parish Council if Stow Bedon & Breckles would be interested in joining with them in a bid under the NCC Parish Partnership Scheme for a SAM2 device to be shared between the parishes. There were a number of things to be sorted out (notably whether there were suitable and acceptable locations in the parish), but if he could negotiate a suitable agreement the Clerk said he would bring it to the next meeting for the Council to make a decision.
- 5 **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 19 October 2015 were **confirmed** and **signed**.
- 6 **Matters arising.** [4.1] Abandoned cars. It was reported that the two cars had now been removed after the Clerk had reported them.
- 7 **Correspondence.** The following correspondence was **received**:
 - 7.1 East Anglian Air Ambulance: *Grant Application.*
 - 7.2 Norfolk Association of Local Councils: *Notice of AGM and Constitution changes.*
 - 7.3 Norfolk County Council: *Re-imagining Norfolk - Strategic and financial planning 2016/2019.*
 - 7.4 Norfolk County Council: *Norfolk Minerals Site Specific Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD): Single Issue Review of Silica Sand - Preferred Options Document.*

- 7.5 Norfolk County Council: *Potholes - Stow Bedon & Breckles Parish Council.*
- 7.6 *Clerks & Council Direct* - November 2015.
- 7.7 Breckland Council: *Parish Precept Requirement 2016-17.*
- 7.8 Breckland Council: *Parish Grant Allocation 2016-17 to 2019-20.* The Clerk advised that, once again Breckland Council has decided to try to hold on to the Council Tax Relief grant monies it receives from central government, although in the past it has reluctantly complied with Government instructions that this should be passed on to Parish Councils. He had written to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to ask whether the Government still believed that this should be passed on, and what he would do about it if Breckland persisted in retaining this funding for its own benefit. Receiving no reply, he sent a chaser which he copied to Liz Truss MP, and she had responded saying she has taken the matter up with the Minister.
- 7.9 Breckland Council: *Guidance for setting parish/town precepts 2016/17.*
- 7.10 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Community Account Statement* - 1-30 October 2015.
- 7.11 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Active Saver Account Statement* - 1-30 October 2015.
- 7.12 Norfolk County Council: *Better Broadband for Norfolk Information Sheet 22* - 3 November 2015.
- 7.13 Breckland Councillor Philip Cowen: *Broadband.*

8 Planning.

- 8.1 **3PL/2015/0975/F: Heath Farm, Breckles Heath, Stow Bedon.** Proposed Mobile Home. Notice that the application had been withdrawn dated 22 October was **received**.
- 8.2 **3PL/2015/1254/F: Heath Farm, Breckles Heath, Stow Bedon.** Application for Proposed mobile home for use as annexe. It was **resolved** that the Council had no objections.

9 Pingo Trail lay-by and Car Park.

David Jacklin, NCC Highway Engineer, had written confirming that he had no intention of doing anything to improve safety in this lay-by nor the adjacent Car Park. However, he gave his Council's permission to clear vegetative matter from the rear of the lay-by to improve security there and within the car park. It was **agreed** to wait until county Councillor Ian Monson came back with the response from the Trails officers to see if they would be prepared to do anything to maintain this County asset, and then, if necessary, to arrange a working party.

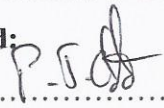
10 Finance.

- 10.1 **Other.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100680 for £792.00 (£660.00 + £132 VAT) to Harry Stebbing Workshop be signed, in settlement of their invoice no. 2226 for the refurbishment of the four parish notice boards. (Local Government Act 1972 s. 111)
- 10.2 **Budgets.** It was **agreed** to vire £340 from the Audit and Election costs and £300 from the Contingency budget lines to Other, to cover the bulk of the cost of refurbishing the notice boards.
- 10.3 **Monthly Financial Report.** The report for the month ending 31 October 2015 was **received**.

11 Matters for consideration at next meeting.

- 11.1 SAM2 agreement.
- 11.2 Budget 2016/17.
- 11.3 Precept 2016/17.

12 **Next meeting.** The next meeting of the Parish Council, was **confirmed** as **Monday, 14 December 2015** at 7.30 p.m. in Caston Village Hall.

Confirmed: 
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Phil Childs, Chairman

14 December 2015

Scheduled future Meeting dates:

Monday, 14 December 2015 Monday, 15 February 2016

Monday, 18 January 2016* Monday, 14 March 2016

*If needed