

STOW BEDON & BRECKLES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Stow Bedon & Breckles Parish Council on Monday, 18 July 2016 at 7.30 p.m. in Caston Village Hall.

Present: Councillors: Lee Pilkington (Vice-Chairman), Andrew Hayward, Paul Howe, Dawn Jessett, John Morfoot, Jonathan White. Julian Gibson (Clerk)

In the absence of the Chairman the Vice Chairman took the Chair.

1 **Apologies for absence.** None.

2 **Declarations of interest.** None

3 **Dispensations.** None.

4 **Public participation session.**

4.1 **Broadband.** Karen O’Kane, Programme Director, Better Broadband for Norfolk, gave a detailed presentation, explaining how BBfN was going to be rolled out and its impact on the Parish. She stressed that she worked for Norfolk County Council and not BT. The contract for phase 2 would be signed shortly, and it will then be possible for residents to go on-line (assuming they currently have sufficient service to do so) and see exactly when it is intended for them to be connected to a fibre cabinet or in some other way. This should be completed by the end of 2018, and there are only 15 properties for which they have no plans at all as yet. However, the speed which will be available is directly linked to the distance from the cabinet. Those living right next to a cabinet can expect up to 80 mbs, but at a distance of 1 km this drops to 24 mbs, and by 3 km it will be down to under 2mbs, so no better than what is possible currently. The slides of the presentation will be displayed on the Parish Council website (www.parish-council.com/StowBedon).

4.2 District Councillor Phil Cowen spoke about the current state of the “devolution” question now that his council and three other districts had voted not to be involved, but that Norfolk County Council were still pushing ahead with a very slanted consultation in favour. Clearly the EU Referendum result and the subsequent changes will also have an impact on the Government’s interest in pursuing this idea. He then spoke about the Local Plan Working Group meetings (see item 9), stressing that it was important that local people attended and expressed their views. He was asked why Breckland had decided that their preferred option was to remove the settlement boundary in spite of the very strong desire of residents that this be retained, and he explained the criteria on which decisions regarding Settlement Boundaries were to be taken.

5 **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 20 June 2016 were **confirmed** and **signed**.

6 **Matters arising.**

6.1 [10, Minutes of 14 December 2015] **Painting Village Sign.** Councillor Morfoot confirmed that Mr Julian Sims was prepared to carry out the necessary work repainting the Stow Bedon Village Sign.

6.2 [16, Minutes of 16 May 2016]. **Transparency Fund.** The Council’s application has been successful and the grant of £753.84 received.

6.3 [4] **Blocked gullies outside Breckles Church.** It was pointed out that despite County Councillor Ian Monson’s assurance at the last meeting that he would again take up

this matter with Highways, nothing had happened. The Clerk said that he had heard nothing from Councillor Monson, and was asked to chase him for a response.

7 Correspondence. The following correspondence was **received**:

- 7.1 Breckland Council: *Local Land & Property Gazetteer incorporating Street Naming & Numbering*.
- 7.2 Norfolk Association of Local Councils: *Summer Seminar* - 28 July 2016.
- 7.3 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Community Account statement* - 1-30 June 2016.
- 7.4 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Active Saver Account statement* - 1-30 June 2016.
- 7.5 *Clerks & Councils Direct* - July 2016.
- 7.6 Barclays Bank Plc: *The Financial Services Compensation Scheme*.
- 7.7 Came & Company: *Change of Trading Style*.

8 Planning.

- 8.1 **3PL/2016/0748/F: Peels Farm, Whitings Lane, Rocklands.** Application for Proposed expansion to existing pig rearing unit to provide 5 additional pig rearing sheds. It was **resolved** that the Council had no objection, but had concerns about the resultant increase in traffic passing through Lower Stow Bedon in particular.
- 8.2 **3PL/2016/0787/F: Mere House, Mere Road, Stow Bedon.** Application for Proposed single storey detached dwelling and detached garage. It was **resolved** that the Council objected on the grounds that it is outside the Settlement Boundary, creating development right up to the junction of Mere Road and Caston Road, and also because of the resultant increased flood risk.
- 8.3 **3PL/2016/0649/HOU: Breckles House, Sandy Lane, Breckles.** Front single storey extension. Planning Permission dated 28 June 2016 was **received**.
- 8.4 **3PL/2012/0707/F, etc.: Watering Farm Applications.** It was **noted** that all five applications have been referred to Breckland Planning Committee on 25 July with a recommendation to approve. The Council was appalled at the way the applicant is seeking to blackmail Breckland Council by threatening to create more damage to Peddars Way if permission is not granted, and asked the Clerk to give District Councillor Phil Cowen the strongest support when he objects to the Planning Committee.
- 8.5 **3PL/2016/0371/F: Moat Farm Caravan and Camp Site, Low Road, Breckles.** Erection of dwelling. It was **noted** that this application has been referred to Breckland Planning Committee on 25 July with a recommendation to refuse.

9 Breckland Local Plan Working Party. A letter entitled *Invitation to Local Plan Working Group for Interim Site Allocations and Settlement Boundaries Consultation* from Breckland Council was **received**. The Clerk said he had already submitted the views of the Parish Council expressed in May, i.e. to retain the settlement boundary exactly as is, and to oppose all the sites put forward in the Local Plan so far, but it was apparent that this had been ignored, as the officers were recommending that the Boundary be removed. Councillor Hayward said he would also attend the meeting to put the Council's view.

10 Broadband. It was **agreed** that, following the presentation by Karen O'Kane, and although this might not have been what people wanted to hear, there was nothing further that the Council could do to improve matters.

11 Village Appraisal. Councillor Jessett presented the questionnaire proposed by the Village Appraisal Working Group. She asked members of the Council and the Public to provide "did you know ...?" information to be included. The Group hoped to get the questionnaire out by 1 September. It was **agreed** that a final revision should be made, and that this should be emailed to all members to ensure that they were happy for it to go out. It was also **agreed** that

the Group should find a suitable printer and that they could place an order for printing up to a cost of £200. The matter of how to deal with and analyse the responses was still to be decided upon by the Working Group. The Chairman congratulated the Group for the work so far.

12 Finance.

- 12.1 **Maintenance of the burial grounds.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100702 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)*)
- 12.2 **Maintenance of the burial grounds.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100703 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)*)
- 12.3 **Stationery.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100704 for £139.08 (£115.90 + £23.18 VAT) to Viking be signed, in settlement of invoice no. 392521 for stationery supplied. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 111*)
- 12.4 **Monthly Financial Report.** The report for the month ending 30 June 2016 was **received**. It was also **noted** that, so as to avoid misleading apparent overspends, the Clerk has added funding received from grants and elsewhere and corresponding expenditure to the original budgeted figures.

13 Matters for consideration at next meeting. Use of the telephone kiosk.

14 Next meeting. The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as Monday, 19 September 2016, at 7.30 p.m. in Caston Village Hall. **Post meeting note:** Following the Breckland Local Plan Working Group meeting, it has become apparent that in order to meet Breckland's deadlines it will after all be necessary to call a Council Meeting on **15 August 2016**, at 7.30 p.m. in Caston Village Hall.

Confirmed:



Phil Childs, Chairman

19 September 2016

Scheduled future Meeting dates:

Monday, 15 August 2016	Monday, 17 October 2016	Monday, 16 January 2017*
Monday, 19 September 2016	Monday, 14 November 2016	Monday, 20 February 2017
	Monday, 12 December 2016	Monday, 20 March 2017

*If needed