

STOW BEDON & BRECKLES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Stow Bedon & Breckles Parish Council on Monday, 19 September 2016 at 7.30 p.m. in Caston Village Hall.

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

It turned out that the Breckland Local Plan Working Group decided to call the meeting at which their view of the future of the Stow Bedon Settlement Boundary was decided before the date which it had previously agreed that this Council would meet to agree its position. The August meeting therefore did not take place.

- 1 **Apologies for absence.** It was **resolved** to accept the reasons for apology offered by Councillor White.
- 2 **Declarations of interest.** None
- 3 **Dispensations.** None.
- 4 **Public participation session.**
 - 4.1 **Stow Bedon Church.** Mrs Machorton reported that work on the church was nearly completed. They would be holding an Open Day on 10 December between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. She also asked for volunteers to help to get the churchyard into order on 15 October.
 - 4.2 **Breckland Council matters.** District Councillor Phil Cowen pointed out some details about the *Breckland Local Plan Preferred Sites and Settlement Boundaries Consultation 17 September - 31 October 2016* (item 7.10), and urged the Council and parishioners to look at this and make their views known. He anticipated that the Plan would be sent to the Planning Inspectorate in February/March 2017, and could be adopted towards the end of that year. He also said that his Council was in the process of setting up a housing company to look into investing in houses to rent.
 - 4.3 **Prince of Wales Lodge.** A member of the public pointed out that a report on the Great Crested newt had been submitted on this application. The Clerk said he would look at this and stress the Council's objections to the application.
 - 4.4 **County Council matters.** County Councillor Ian Monson reported on the results of the Devolution Consultation, to which only a very small number of people responded (see item 7.7). He said that on 3 November his Council was going to vote on whether to approve the scheme, but there was real concern that the Government would still try to push it through. his Council had agreed to accept 50 Syrian refugees, so as to show that the County was doing its bit to help these distressed people.
- 5 **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, 18 July 2016 were **confirmed** and **signed**.
- 6 **Matters arising.**
 - 6.1 [4 Minutes of 20 June 2016] **Highway matters.** County Councillor Ian Monson has spoken with the NCC Highways Engineer about the Pingo Trail lay-by, but with no success. He is now hoping that the Norfolk Trails department will commit to undertake some more work. Cleaning the drainage gullies at Church Cottage has been programmed, but that has been said before. The Department was unable to locate any damage to the verge near Shropham Hall, nor been able to find a missing sign at Spinney Corner. Councillor Howe was able to provide more information, which the Clerk will send to Highways.

- 6.2 [12 Minutes of 16 May 2016] **Pingo Trail lay-by**. The Clerk reported that, as he had recently been successful in persuading Breckland Council to locate a wheelie waste bin in a lay-by in Wretham, he had asked for the same thing to be done in the Pingo Trail lay-by. This was now *in situ*, but when he first saw it, the chain securing it to the “Please take your litter home with you” sign had slipped down the post, and the bin was lying flat on its back. He has reported this to Breckland Council and suggested that they find a way of securing the chain in the appropriate position to prevent this happening again.

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

- 7.1 Silson Communications: *BWSC East Anglia Limited - Snetterton renewable Energy Plant*.
- 7.2 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Community Account Statement - 1-29 July 2016*.
- 7.3 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Active Saver Account Statement - 1-29 July 2016*.
- 7.4 Breckles Parochial Church Council: *Letter of thanks for grant*.
- 7.5 The Wayland Partnership Development Trust: *A Place for Nature in your Community?*
- 7.6 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Community Account Statement - 30 July - 31 August 2016*.
- 7.7 CPRE Norfolk: *URGENT - Norfolk and Suffolk Devolution Consultation*. The Clerk pointed out that apparently only 1% of residents responded to the recent consultation, and 53% of these were against. However, the principal Councils involved were planning to put their proposals for implementing this (including a Mayor of Norfolk & Suffolk) to the Government. They are apparently not intending to make the same mistake that David Cameron did with the EU, and allow the people to vote on the matter. CPRE Norfolk suggests that everybody should Email the MP dealing with this at andrew.percy.mp@parliament.uk and make their view clear. The Council voiced its objection and asked the Clerk to make its view clear to the Government.
- 7.8 Norfolk Citizen’s Advice: *Appeal letter*.
- 7.9 *Clerks & Councils Direct - September 2016*.
- 7.10 Breckland Council: *Breckland Local Plan Preferred Sites and Settlement Boundaries Consultation 17 September - 31 October 2016*. The Clerk distributed a note directing members to the most relevant sections of this document, and said he would add it to the agenda for the next meeting for discussion. Councillors Hayward and Morfoot each took a copy of the document, and other members who want to see a paper copy should ask them to see it.

8 **Planning.**

- 8.1 **3PL/2016/0901/F: Waters Edge, Mere Road, Stow Bedon**. Application for Erection of bespoke energy efficient house and garage. It was **noted** that the Clerk has objected to this and the following application on behalf of the Council on a number of grounds, including that it is contrary to Policy CP14 and to the emerging Policy PD05B, Policies DC01 and DC16, and Paragraph 58 of the NPPF. For the full objection see the Breckland Council website.
- 8.2 **3PL/2016/0892/F: Waters Edge, Mere Road Stow Bedon**. Application for Erection of two single story 2 bed dwellings and one 3 bedroom single storey dwelling with integral cart lodge accommodation. See item 8.1 above.
- 8.3 **3PL/2016/0371/F: Moat Farm Caravan and Camp Site, Low Road, Breckles**. Erection of dwelling. Planning Permission dated 29 July 2016 was **received**.
- 8.4 **3AG/2016/0005/A: Whews Farm, Caston**. Erection of agricultural building (permitted development). Notice dated 9 June 2016 that no prior permission is required was **received**.

8.5 **3PL/2016/1004/LU: Oakglen, Caston Road, Stow Bedon.** Application under Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) to Construct hard standing base & erect steel framed storage building. Notice that this application has been withdrawn dated 16 September 2016 was **received**.

9 **Breckland Local Plan Working Group.** In the absence of Councillor White it was **agreed** that this item be deferred to the next meeting.

10 **Village Appraisal.** Councillor Jessett said that she had prepared the questionnaire, but needed to arrange another meeting of the organising committee.

11 **Dog waste bin.** Councillor Jessett proposed that the agreed dog waste bin be placed on the verge of Mere Road adjacent to the entrance to the public footpath Stow Bedon FP1 leading to Waters Edge. This was **agreed**, subject to the Clerk being able to obtain the agreement of both Norfolk County and Breckland Councils. The Clerk will now order the bin and the necessary post, etc. Volunteers will then be needed to install it.

12 **CPRE Norfolk Campaign.** A letter from headed *Join us in opposing damaging new housing targets* was **received**, and it was **agreed** to give support to the campaign to ensure that no new sites are allocated for house building in revised local plans to 2036 until all existing allocations in current core strategies have been developed. The Clerk will sign and return the pledge letter to CPRE.

13 **External Audit.** The Clerk reported that the External Auditor's report for the year ended 31 March 2016 had been returned. This included comments which were inaccurate and misleading, so the Clerk had complained. It was **agreed** that the report should be returned to Mazars for amendment.

14 **Clerk's Salary.** The Chairman reported that he had carried out an Annual Appraisal of the Clerk's performance, assessing it as being fully satisfactory, and recommended that, in accordance with his contract, w.e.f. 20 September 2016 he is awarded an additional Spinal Column Point to take him to SCP 21, which would increase his pay rate by 36.4p/hour or £87.36 p.a., making the total salary £2,487.12 p.a. This increase within the planned budget was **agreed**. The Chairman thanked the Clerk for his work.

15 **Finance.**

15.1 **Clerk's Salary.** It was **resolved** that cheques number 100705 & 100706 to the Clerk and HM Revenue & Customs totalling £698.81 (salary for 1 July 2016 to 30 September 2016: £602.61; Mileage Allowance Payment for 11 June 2016 - 1 September 2016: £96.20) be signed. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 112(2)*)

15.2 **Clerk's reimbursement.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100707 for £23.12 (Postage & Telephones) to the Clerk be signed, as reimbursement for items paid on behalf of the Council for 11 June 2016 to 1 September 2016. (*Local Government Act 1972 s. 111*)

15.3 **Training.** It was **resolved** that cheque number 100708 for £12.50 to Norfolk Association of Local Councils be signed, being this parish's share of the cost of the Clerk attending the Autumn Conference on 10 November 2016. (*Local Government Act 1972 s 111*)

15.4 **Monthly Financial Report.** The report for the month ending 31 August 2016 was **received**.

16 **Matters for consideration at next meeting.**

16.1 Use of the telephone kiosk.

16.2 Breckland Local Plan Preferred Sites and Settlement Boundaries Consultation.

16.3 Future meetings venue.

16.4 Graffiti on bus shelter.

17 **Next meeting.** The next meeting of the Parish Council was confirmed as Monday, Monday, 17 October 2016, at 7.30 p.m. in Caston Village Hall.

Confirmed:



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Phil Childs, Chairman

Monday, 17 October 2016

Scheduled future Meeting dates:

Monday, 17 October 2016

Monday, 14 November 2016

Monday, 12 December 2016

*If needed

Monday, 16 January 2017*

Monday, 20 February 2017

Monday, 20 March 2017