

STOW BEDON & BRECKLES PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Stow Bedon & Breckles Parish Council on Monday, 12 July 2021 at 7.30 p.m. in Caston Village Hall.

Present: Councillors: Phil Childs (Chairman), John Morfoot, Jonathan White.
Julian Gibson (Clerk).

Absent: Councillors: Dawn Jessett, Lee Pilkington, Hannah Reed.

The planned Meeting of Councillors on 14 June 2021 did not take place.

- 1 **Apologies for absence.** It was **resolved** to accept the reasons for absence offered by Cllr. Jessett, Cllr. Pilkington and Cllr. Reed.
- 2 **Declarations of interest.** None.
- 3 **Dispensations.** None.
- 4 **Public participation session.** Breckland Cllr. Phil Cowen provided a short update on the Covid situation in the District. (See also item 8.5.). Cllr. Sarah Suggitt said she had attended the meeting of the Chairman's Panel at Breckland at which the two applications at Harvesters in Mere Road were discussed with a view to deciding whether this should be called in for determination by the Planning Committee. The Panel was content that the decision should be made by the officers.
- 5 **Minutes.** The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 5 May 2021 were **confirmed**, and **signed** by the Chairman.
- 6 **Matters arising.** [8.2 & 8.3, Meeting on 15 February 2021] **Harvesters applications.**
- 7 **Correspondence.** The following correspondence was **received**:
 - 7.1 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Business accounts - at a glance* - Your balances on 30 April 2021.
 - 7.2 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Community Account* - 1-30 April 2021.
 - 7.3 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Active Saver Account* - 27 February - 30 April 2021.
 - 7.4 Norfolk Constabulary: *Community Update* - May 2021.
 - 7.5 Churchwarden, St Botolph, Stow Bedon: *Letter of thanks for grant.*
 - 7.6 Churchwarden, St Margaret, Breckles: *Email of thanks for grant.*
 - 7.7 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Business accounts - at a glance* - Your balances on 28 May 2021.
 - 7.8 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Community Account* - 1-28 May 2021.
 - 7.9 Barclays Bank Plc: *Changes to our terms and conditions for business accounts.*
 - 7.10 PKF Littlejohn LLP (External Auditor): *Receipt of documents - notification of exempt status, 2021.*
 - 7.11 Breckland Council: *Recycling Payment - Layby nr Pingo Trail* - Glass £299.14 (2020: £183.63).
 - 7.12 Peter Cotes, Internal Auditor: *Letter of thanks.*
 - 7.13 Norfolk County Council: *Delivering local highway improvements in partnership with Town and Parish Councils* - (Parish Partnership scheme).
 - 7.14 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Business accounts - at a glance* - Your balances on 30 June 2021.
 - 7.15 Barclays Bank Plc: *Your Community Account* - 29 May-30 June 2021.
 - 7.16 Norfolk County Council: *Temporary Traffic Restriction,*
 - 7.17 SAM 2 Co-ordinator: *Statistics for June 2021.*
 - 7.18 Director of Planning and Building Control, Breckland Council: *Email regarding conditions applied to Cherry Tree Farm application.*
- 8 **Planning.**
 - 8.1 **3PL/2021/0049/PIP: Land adjacent Millers House, Old Station Yard, Watton Road, Stow Bedon.** Permission in Principle for a Proposed Single Dwelling (Town and Country

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Planning (Permission in Principle) (Amendment) Order 2017). It was **noted** that the Breckland Website shows that this application was withdrawn on 17 March 2021.

- 8.2 **3PL/2020/1479/F: Land Adjacent River Cottage, Lower Stow Bedon.** Proposed Dwelling. Planning Permission dated 26 May 2021 was **received**.
- 8.3 **3PL/2021/0448/VAR: Open grazing land adjacent to Pig Patch House.** Variation of Condition No 2 on 3PL/2019/0897/F - amended design of dwelling. Planning Permission dated 10 June 2021 was **received**.
- 8.4 **3PL/2021/0581/VAR: Pig Patch House, Mere Road.** Variation of condition 10 of 3PL/2019/0456/VAR - Further 12 month "temporary use of cart lodge to dwelling". It was **noted** that, after consulting with members, the Clerk responded "No objections" using delegated power, and Planning Permission dated 15 June 2021 was **received**.
- 8.5 **Cherry Tree Farm.** The Chairman welcomed County Councillor Fabian Eagle (Member for the Brecks Division, and Chair of People and Communities Select Committee), District Cllrs, Phil Cowen (Ward Member and Executive Member for Finance, Revenue and Benefits) and Sarah Suggitt (Ward Member and Executive Member for Planning, Leisure and Contract) to speak about their Council's position regarding application 3PL/2017/0878/F previously granted permission at Cherry Tree Farm, with particular regard to the adverse impact on Stow Bedon, and in particular, Mere Road. Cllr. Cowen said that he and Cllr. Suggitt had met with the Breckland Director of Planning and Building Control, and senior officer, who had explained in more detail the issues regarding the conditions it was possible to impose on application 3PL/2017/0878/F. Cllr Cowen lamented the inaccuracies contained in the plans submitted for this and the other applications on this agenda, and expressed surprise that, having invested so much in the development, had omitted several elements essential for the business to operate and also constructed parts differently to the approved plans. He explained that the submission of multiple applications lead to different officers having responsibility for the different bits, and complete confusion among the residents. Regarding traffic movements, the Chairman said that he had been promised by a Director of the business that they would monitor the trackers on their vehicles looking out for any that strayed through the village. Also, a sign has been erected instructing vehicles leaving the farm to turn left to the A1075. It was suggested that the business be asked to install signage on the A1075 directing traffic for the farm to turn down Sandy Lane, and also to provide a sign at the farm entrance to prevent overshooting. The Chairman said he would do this.
- Cllr Suggitt said that the issues with Cherry Tree Farm (along with those with other applications) had led to a meeting between senior planning officers from Breckland and other planning authorities and NCC Highways where the highway authority was urged to understand that any condition it required had to meet six tests, and that if it did not, then it could not be applied.
- 8.6 **3PL/2021/0931/F: Cherry Tree Farm, Cherry Tree Lane, Stow Bedon.** Erection of agricultural buildings and facilities to include feed mill, electrical substation, weighting platform cover, welfare unit, plant room and water tank, turning area, clean water soakage lagoon and new hedgerow.
- 8.7 **3PL/2021/0932 VAR: Cherry Tree Farm, Cherry Tree Lane, Stow Bedon.** Variation of Condition No2 on 3PL/2017/0878/F: Variation to reflect the as-built appearance and layout of the pig sheds, feed silos and manure store cover. It was **resolved** that these applications be considered as if they were one. The Clerk was instructed to respond asking that measures be put in place to correct the position regarding HGV vehicles passing through the village, including more and better signage (with special reference to the construction period). Also requesting that the excessively large silos be replaced with those agreed, or at least painted a dark colour, and concerns about a dead-stock pit and blockage of the public footpath. The full response will be available on the Breckland planning website.

- 9 **Appointment of a Vice-Chairman.** It was **agreed** that, as there is no legal requirement for a council to have a Vice-Chairman, the Council would not appoint one at this time.

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- 10 Casual Vacancy.** It was **noted** that the Council should be seeking to fill this vacancy by co-option as soon as is practicable. Members will try to approach suitable candidates.
- 11 Platinum Anniversary of the Reign of HM The Queen.** An email from the Pageantmaster giving details of what is planned was **received**. It was **agreed** to hold discussion of this matter over for the next meeting when hopefully more members would be able to be present.
- 12 Pingo Trail Car Park.** Cllr. White reported that Norfolk Trails Dept. intended to conduct the tree/nesting birds survey next month with the Ecological Survey (to assess the presence of Pond frogs) to follow. The plan to enlarge the car park would then be put into place. Highways has rejected the earlier proposal to place a 'Ghost Roundabout' within the lay-by (thereby creating a -one way' system through it leading to a safer exit point) as there was insufficient accident data on that road bend to warrant the expense. The prospect of line-painting, on the lay-by, to achieve the same effect, was also rejected as the lay-by would need to be re-surfaced first (again, there were insufficient accidents to warrant that expense). He had responded and asked what was going to be done but received no reply, and will continue to press the issue.
- 13 Frosts Common.** It was **noted** that the Council has been advised that the appeal against the Breckland Enforcement notice has been dismissed by the Planning Inspector, and 12 months has been allowed for the removal of all items and restoration of the site to its original state.
- 14 SAM2.** It was **agreed** that the Clerk should instruct Westcotec to replace the post where the SAM2 was damaged with a higher post, at a cost of £89 + VAT. Hopefully this would mean that the sign would be above the reach of anybody mowing the verge, and so reduce the likelihood of a repeat incident of damage.
- 15 Decisions taken by the Clerk using delegated powers.** The following decisions taken after consultation with members were **noted**.
- 15.1 **Clerk's salary.** Payment via cheques nos. 100845 and 100846 to the Clerk and HM Revenue & Customs totalling £1,065.19 (salary for 1 April 2021 to 30 June 2021: £1,012.04; payment for use of home as office: £13.50; Mileage Allowance Payment for 9 February 2021 - 14 June 2021: £39.65).
- 15.2 **Clerk's reimbursement.** Payment via cheque number 100847 for £32.36 (Postage & Telephones: £30.66; VAT: £1.70) to the Clerk as reimbursement for items paid on behalf of the Council for 9 February 2021 - 14 June 2021.
- 15.3 **Audit.** Payment via cheque number 100848 for £50.00 to Mr Peter Cotes, as a honorarium for carrying out the Internal Audit for the financial year ended 31 March 2021.
- 16 Finance**
- 16.1 **Credits.** Receipt of the following credits was **noted**:
- 16.1.1 HM Revenue & Customs - VAT refund - £598.28 - 9 April 2021.
- 16.1.2 AXA Insurance - SAM2 claim - £88.00 - 18 June 2021.
- 16.1.3 Breckland Council - Recycling Payment - £299.14 - 22 June 2021.
- 16.2 **Monthly Financial Report.** The report for the month ending 30 June 2021 was **received**.
- 17 Matters for consideration at next meeting.** Platinum Anniversary.
- 18 Next meeting.** The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Monday, 16 August 2020, at 7.30 p.m. in Caston Village Hall.

Confirmed:

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Phil Childs, Chairman

16 August 2021

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Scheduled future Meeting dates:

Monday, 16 August 2021*	Monday, 15 November 2021	Monday, 14 February 2022
Monday, 13 September 2021	Monday, 13 December 2021	Monday, 14 March 2022
Monday, 18 October 2021	Monday, 17 January 2022*	

*If needed

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