

BEESTON REGIS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on Wednesday, 8th March, 2023, at Scout HQ, Cromer Rd., Beeston Regis. – 7pm.

***** Parish Council Surgery at 6.45pm (speak with the Chairman)**

Present: M.Knowles (Chair), R.Smith, D.Thompson, M.Butt, S.Kent, M.Wright, N.Wright, C.Goodwin, R.Beckley, I.Hudson, and the Clerk.

1a. To receive and consider apologies

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr.M.Roffe. Apologies were also received from J.Oliver (NCC).

1b. To receive Declarations of Interest on agenda items

None received.

2. To approve the minutes of meeting held 8/2/23.

The minutes, which had already been circulated, were accepted as a true record. (Prop: MW, Sec: NW).

3 . Public Participation (requests to speak on agenda items)

No members of the public in attendance.

4. Finance:

(a) To approve invoices for payment and note bank balances:

P.Bullimore £416.90 (net sal), Nfk a2z £115.00 (Domain/Hosting Website), HMRC £25.60 (tax on salary), P.Bullimore £48.63 (clerks exps).

*** The above payments, as scheduled on the agenda, plus one other payment, were approved. (Prop: DT, Sec: MB). The other payment was to West Runton Scouts in the sum of £75.00 for the hire of the hall. The reconciled bank balances were as follows :- A/C 10162132 £2,491.77 and A/C 10162140 £9,991.99. The Clerk informed members that the end of year projected balances should be >£11k.

(b) To consider renewal of electricity supply contract.

The Chair summarised the situation after talking to various brokers about the PC's position with the current contract soon coming to an end. A quote from NPower, if we entered into a new contract, would take the total annual cost over £5k with the unit rate doubling and the standing charge going up around 800%. However going on a monthly variable rate with them, as opposed to entering into a contract, would mean there would be no standing charges thereby eliminating around 60% of the cost. The Chair was given authority to arrange a deal via a broker along these lines which would hopefully keep the annual costs in 2023/24 to a figure similar to that in the budget. (Prop: MW, Sec: DT).

5. Planning:

(a) To note decisions/information received from NNDC/NCC since last update

Nothing received.

(b) To consider planning applications received since agenda printed

None received.

(c) To note the PC's response to PF/23/0135 (Wall at Beeston Hall Cottages)

NNDC was informed that the PC had "no objections" to this application.

(d) FUL/2023/0005; To consider application re new Recycling Centre.

The Chair had circulated a proposed response to members on 28/2/23. This was discussed and members again expressed their concerns, particularly regarding the Transport Statement, re traffic using Britons Lane if the centre was built. The parish council, with the support of NCC Highways, had endeavoured over recent years to reduce the usage of Britons Lane which in many parts was unsuitable for today's traffic. The proposed new junction at the eastern end of the old Holt Road would only encourage drivers to turn left and left again into Britons Lane. The PC requests that 1. The direction sign to turn left on leaving the new recycling centre is removed and 2. The proposed new priority T junction at the eastern end of the Holt Rd be reassessed and preferably removed from the plan. The PC was also aware of the submission from the Hilltop Outdoor Centre and was supportive of the points raised particularly the point that the proposed development is within the AONB. It was agreed that the Chair would submit a revised draft to NCC (Prop: RS, Sec: SK).

(m) To consider PC's responsibilities re the AONB.

Duly considered at 5d.

6. Highways/Footpath matters.

(a) To receive update re NCC. Highways Parish Partnership Scheme, 2023/24.

A response to the Britons Lane Gateway Application was expected soon with the Clerk having seen in the EDP that the BRPC application was one of the many being submitted to Cabinet for NCC approval.

7. Meetings & Conferences (to receive reports and announcements)

No new announcements. RB reported that the Church Field Trustees would be receiving money from Network Rail as a contribution towards a shingle path.

8. To receive update re plans on special events in 2023.

The Edmund Hooke Service had gone well on 19/2/23. RB had sent out an invitation to the Sheringham & Beeston Regis Scout Group for the Merchant Navy Day event on 3/9/23.

9. To note and promote Local Govt. Elections in May, 2023.

Posters would soon be supplied by NNDC Electoral Services to display on the notice boards and website regarding the forthcoming parish and district elections. Nomination packs for parish councillors would be available after the meeting.

10. Governance:

(a) To review the Code of Conduct.

It was agreed to carry this matter forward to the next meeting to give members time to compare the current code to that used by NNDC.

11. To receive reports from District & County Councillors

J.Oliver (NCC) had submitted a written report which had been circulated to members. The report covered the following :- (a) update re proposed recycling centre (b) update re the proposed Holway Rd roundabout (c) future dropped kerb work (d) consultation re 40mph speed limit on A149 between Hunstanton and Sheringham (e) bus fare cap of £2 (scheme extended to 30/6/23) (f) various papers going before cabinet including statistics on population, area, the elderly etc..

12. Police & Sect.17 Crime & Disorder Act.

The PCC information had been circulated. RS gave a brief report re the January crime statistics.

13. To receive Correspondence (not included in agenda items above).

The following had been circulated via the Chairman during the past month :-

Community Heartbeat Trust : Report re displaying lock codes on defibrillators

Norfolk ALC: Various updates, County Deal info., electric charging points info.

D.Baker MP: update re Holway Road Roundabout.

PCC: News Update

SEP/DEP: Info. re Windfarm Extensions.

Norfolk CC: Update on proposed Western Link and the new County Deal.

The Clerk reported on a possible problem in the brick bus shelter which he referred to the police. No response had been received from his phone call or email.

14. Resolution re Public Participation (comments/other matters).

No members of the public present.

15. To confirm date of next meeting.

This was confirmed for Wednesday, 12th April, 2023. (7pm)

This would be the last meeting of the “old council”.