

## **Minutes of Little Bealings Parish Council meeting held with members in remote attendance (via Zoom) at 7.15pm on Monday 7 September 2020**

### **Present:**

Mr I Ransome (Chairman), Mr M Garnham, Ms D Head, Dr C Hopkins, Mr D Hunter, Ms H Saagi and Mrs M Wilson

### **In attendance:**

Mrs C Ramsden, Clerk to the Council

### **Also present:**

County Councillor Andrew Reid, District Councillor Colin Hedgley, the Council's webmaster, and three members of the Friends of The Admiral's Head (Fotah) and their advisor from the Plunkett Foundation (all for part of the meeting)

The Chairman re-ordered the Agenda for the convenience of the attendees.

## **1. Apologies, Declarations of Interest and Dispensation Requests**

There were no apologies for absence.

Declarations of a personal interest in item 10 on the re-ordered Agenda, The Admiral's Head, were made by Mr Garnham, Ms Head, Dr Hopkins, Mr Hunter, Mr Ransome, Ms Saagi and Mrs Wilson, as they had all pledged to buy community shares in the pub.

Declarations of a personal interest in item 13 on the Agenda, The Admiral's Head, were also made by Ms Head and Ms Saagi as they were members of the FoTAH Management Committee, and by Ms Head as the spouse of the Chairman of FoTAH.

## **2. Minutes of the Meetings held on 6 July, 20 July and 17 August 2020**

It was **RESOLVED**:

- to approve the minutes of these meetings with amendments to those of 6 July.

## **3. Matters Arising from the Minutes**

There were no matters arising.

## **4. Public Participation Session**

No members of the public were present.

## **5. Reports from Local District and County Councillors**

County Councillor Reid introduced himself as the parish's County representative until elections were held for the Carlford ward. He was Councillor for Wilford and represented 26 parishes, and also the Cabinet member for Highways, Transport and Rural Affairs. His report had been circulated to Councillors and he drew attention to the Lowestoft 'Gull Wing' crossing, School transport, highway resurfacing, 'Bikeability' and the Council's concerns

about the Sizewell C application. In response to a request from the Chairman he agreed that the thrice weekly Covid-19 reports could be reduced to one a week.

Councillor Reid advised that he was awaiting a report from an officer who had been asked to review the ongoing problems with noise, dust and operating hours at Sinks Pit. He would report to the Council as soon as the report was complete.

District Councillor Colin Hedgley's report had been circulated to Councillors. He drew attention to the RingGo parking app now in use at most East Suffolk Council (ESC) car parks, ESC's consideration of the Sizewell C application and that any reports of fly tipping would be dealt with promptly.

Councillor Hedgley also referred to two planning matters:

**DC/20/1909/FUL: Erection of a two-storey dwelling and formation of vehicular access to Martlesham Road: Bealings Holt Martlesham Road**

He had supported the Council in its objection to the application at the ESC Planning Committee meeting, but had not been aware that ESC should now use the new Local Plan policies. The Chairman thanked Councillor Hedgley for his support at the meeting. The Council needs to consider the impact of the new 'cluster' Policy SCLP5.4: Housing in the Countryside and that this would permit development in the countryside which had not previously been permitted.

**ENF/2019/0303/USE: Enforcement Action at The Chestnuts, Martlesham Road**

District Councillor Hedgley asked for a further period of a week to be allowed for ESC to respond to the request for enforcement action.

## **6. Website Accessibility Report by Webmaster**

The Council received a comprehensive report on the Council's responsibilities and the work undertaken by the webmaster. The Chairman thanked the webmaster for the tremendous amount of work she had undertaken and the time and expertise she had devoted to the work, which meant that the Council's website was compliant within the required timeframe. She advised that she would continue to monitor the gov.uk website for changes in guidance on website accessibility for future work. There was concern that some of the pages needed updating, and a 'sense' review would be useful. It was **RESOLVED** that:

- an on-going 'sense' review would be undertaken by the Council
- £100 would be included in the budget for 2021/22 in case further work was needed to maintain compliance

## **7. Planning**

### **7.1. Update on Previous Applications and Enforcement Matters**

It was noted that:

**DC/20/1909/FUL: Erection of a two-storey dwelling and formation of vehicular access to Martlesham Road: Bealings Holt Martlesham Road**

Councillor Hedgley and the Chairman had spoken at the ESC Planning Committee at which this application had been refused, but refusal was only on the grounds that the new Local Plan Policy SCLP5.4: Housing in the Countryside was not yet formally the relevant Local Plan. It was noted that the applicant had reapplied for the same development, and the Council would consider its response at a future meeting. The new policy could have a major impact on the parish and it was **RESOLVED**:

- that the Council would prepare a new Planning Policy, which would include reference to 'cluster development' and 'residential amenity'
- that the Council's views on DC/20/1909/FUL and on application DC/20/3340/FUL: Extension to create single storey garden room with minor internal alterations plus roof lights – Beacon Ridge, 24 Beacon Lane, Martlesham Road, would be determined at a meeting to be held on 21 September

#### **ENF/2019/0303/USE: Enforcement Action at The Chestnuts, Martlesham Road**

Councillor Hedgley was advised that residents were complaining about the continued business activities at the property and he offered to provide an update on action after one week. It was **RESOLVED**:

- To delay making formal complaint until Councillor Hedgley had reported back to the Council after one week

#### **DC/20/0199/FUL: Conversion of Existing Barn to create 4 x 2 bedroom dwellings: Beacon House Playford Road**

This application had been withdrawn.

#### **SCC/0071/19SC: Erection of noise attention fence at Sinks Pit**

It was noted that residents had been pressing both ESC and Suffolk County Council (SCC) for action over continued noise, dust and operating hours issues. The Environment Agency was conducting noise tests.

#### **7.2. SALC Planning Training**

It was noted that it was possible to attend the Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC) planning training on 'catch up' rather than live and **RESOLVED**:

- that Dr Hopkins would undertake Module 3 and Ms Head would undertake Module 4, both on catch up.

## **8. Highways**

It was noted that County Councillor Reid had advised that the application for poles for use of the SAVID (Safer Village Driving) SID (Speed Indicator Device) should be dealt with by SCC by November with installation by February. It was **RESOLVED**:

- to ask Mr Chenery at SCC for an update on the application
- that Mr Garnham would attend the next SAVID meeting on 7 October if he was available
- to pay £100 allowed in the budget as a donation to SAVID for 2020/21.

## **12. Finance**

### **12.1. Adoption of Financial Regulations for 2020/21**

It was **RESOLVED**:

- to adopt revised Financial Regulations as amended by NALC

### **12.2. Income and Authorisation of Expenditure**

It was **RESOLVED** that the following expenditure be incurred:

- S111 LGA 1972:

- Webmaster for Accessibility Work: £250
- S137 LGA 1972
  - Donation to SAVID for 2020/21: £100
- S111 and S112 LGA 1972:
  - Clerk's net salary and expenses for August, including national pay award backdated to 1 April 2021: £410.98
  - Pay As You Earn (PAYE) for August: £91.20
  - Clerk's net salary for September: £329.38
  - PAYE for September: £82.20

A schedule of the above payments was signed by the Chairman and arrangements would be made for the signing of cheques.

The arrangements for the re-opening of the Village Hall were noted and it was **RESOLVED**:

- to continue with a monthly subscription to Zoom for the present, with a view to meeting in the Village Hall on 2 November
- that details of the arrangements put in place for hirers of the Village Hall be circulated to Councillors.

### **12.3. Bank Reconciliation for the First and Second Quarters**

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- Mr Hunter would undertake this work shortly.

## **13. Matters Arising from Circulated Items**

It was **RESOLVED** that:

- the Fynn Lark News be asked to carry details of the domestic abuse helpline being promoted by NALC

## **14. Date of Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting of the Council would be on 2 November 2020, in the Village Hall if possible, but an additional meeting would be held on 21 September by zoom to consider planning applications.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 9.16pm.