

Minutes of Little Bealings Annual Parish Council meeting held in the Angela Cobbold Hall at 7.15pm on Monday 15 May 2023

Present:

Mr I Ransome (Chairman), Mr P Carr, Mr C Cheeseman (Vice Chairman), Mr M Garnham, Mrs K Price, Ms H Saagi and Mrs M Wilson

In attendance:

Mrs C Ramsden, Clerk to the Council

Also present:

County Councillor Elaine Bryce, District Councillor Colin Hedgley, the Reverend Gary Jones, and ten residents/members of the public (for all/part of the meeting)

The Chairman welcomed those present. The Chairman advised that the Council was making an audio recording of the meeting. One resident confirmed that they were also recording the meeting.

The Chairman re-ordered the Agenda to accommodate County and District Councillors, who had other meetings to attend.

1. Election of Chairman

Mr Ransome (as current Chairman of the Council) asked for nominations. It was **RESOLVED:**

- that Mr Ian Ransome be elected Chairman of the Parish Council.

2. Declaration of Acceptance of Office

Mr Ransome signed the Declaration of Acceptance of the Office of Chairman.

3. Election of Vice Chairman

The Chairman asked for nominations for Vice Chairman. It was **RESOLVED:**

- that Mr Cheeseman be elected Vice Chairman of the Parish Council

4. Apologies for Absence

None

5. Declarations of Interest in Matters on the Agenda and Dispensation Requests

Declarations of interest were made as follows:

Mr Ian Ransome: Non-Registerable Interest as a resident of Playford Road in Agenda item 8.1.iii Planning Application DC/22/5004/FUL

Mrs M Wilson: Other Registrable Interest as Trustee of Bealings Village Hall in Agenda item 8.1.iv Planning Application DC/23/1481/FUL

Mrs M Wilson: Other Registrable Interest as Trustee of Bealings Village Hall in Agenda item 14.3.ii Donations

Mr P Carr: Other Registrable Interest as Chairman of ROPETH in Agenda item 14.3.ii Donations

Ms H Saagi: Non-Registerable Interest as a resident of Playford Road in Agenda item 8.1.iii Planning Application DC/22/5004/FUL

Ms H Saagi: Other Registrable Interest as Trustee of Bealings Village Hall in Agenda item 8.1.iv Planning Application DC/23/1481/FUL

Ms H Saagi: Other Registrable Interest as Trustee of Bealings Village Hall in Agenda item 14.3.ii Donations

Mr C Cheeseman: Other Registrable Interest as Trustee of ROPETH in Agenda item 14.3.ii Donations

Mr M Garnham: Non-Registerable Interest as a resident of Playford Road in Agenda item 8.1.iii Planning Application DC/22/5004/FUL

6. Public Participation Session

DC/23/1353/FUL | Change of use of land from Agricultural to an enclosed dog exercise field (Suis Generis) | Railway Field The Street

Three residents/members of the public explained their reasons for objecting to the application.

DC/23/1481/FUL | Replacing 4 external doors, one of these is to involve replacing an existing wooden front entrance doors with aluminium entrance doors with disabled push button. Replacing existing metal roof with insulated metal roof in colour Goosewing Grey (RAL 0807005) | Village Hall The Street

A representative of the Bealings Village Hall Trust explained the application.

DC/22/5004/FUL | Retention and completion of construction of 1 No building and use of land for vehicle and plant hire operator(s) comprising office, workshops, associated parking, drainage infrastructure etc to allow for the hire, storage, sale, maintenance and servicing of vehicles, paint, machinery and equipment following enforcement case ref: ENF/21/0552 in relation to previous consent DC/19/2666/FUL | Kesgrave Quarry Sinks Pit Main Road Kesgrave

Mr Ransome explained some outstanding concerns about the application.

Donations - ROPETH

A resident explained their concerns about a donation to ROPETH.

7. District and County Councillors' Reports

Reports from District Councillor Hedgley and County Councillor Bryce had been circulated to Councillors before the meeting and they highlighted various issues.

District Councillor Hedgley planned to meet with the other newly elected District Councillor for the Carlford and Fynn Valley Ward, Dan Clery, and hoped to agree their attendance at Parish Council meetings.

8. Highways

8.1 Highway Reports

County Councillor Bryce was pursuing outstanding reports concerning the corroded SID post, replacement white line between Holly Lane and the Church and other reported faults.

She would forward the outcome of recent APNR speed checks in Martlesham Road, which showed over 1,000 vehicles at speeds of over 30mph and a top speed of 49mph. The data would be used to inform police speed control locations.

She agreed to establish the amount of fine levied on Network Rail's contractors for the unauthorised closure of the level crossing over the Christmas and New Year period, and whether the fine would be passed to the Council by SCC.

It was **RESOLVED**:

- That the Council would ask Network Rail about reinstatement of the land recently used for its works on the adjacent line.

8.2 Parish Boundary Signs

County Councillor Bryce had advised that a white village sign with a black border, on two standard grey posts, installed in one location, would cost in the region of £1,000. She may have some funding available to assist with the purchase. It was noted that purchasing the signs may also be an appropriate use of the Council's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds, subject to consultation with residents.

9. Planning

9.1 Applications

9.1.i DC/23/1353/FUL | Change of use of land from Agricultural to an enclosed dog exercise field (Suis Generis) | Railway Field The Street

The views of residents were noted and it was **RESOLVED**:

- To object to the application in view of the location adjacent to residential property and the adverse impact the proposed use of the land would have on:
 - the Fynn Valley landscape and wildlife corridors (SCLP10.4)
 - residential amenity in view of the noise that would be generated by dogs and their owners, and the visual impact of fencing in the countryside (SCLP11.2)
 - quality of life in The Street in view of the additional traffic visiting the village (SCLP7.1)

9.1.ii DC/23/1563/FUL | Detached garage for 3 cars | Woodside Martlesham Road

The views of a resident were noted and it was **RESOLVED**:

- To object to the application as over development of the site, contrary to SCLP5.7, and given approval of applications for the erection of a detached dwelling and garage on the eastern side of the property (DC/22/2984/FUL) and for the retrospective construction of a 4 bay cartlodge with studio above on the western side of the property (DC/22/1162/FUL). Condition 2 of the latter approval requires the cartlodge and studio to be used only as ancillary to the dwelling; the current application ignores that condition by proposing further parking infill.

Mr Ransome, Ms Saagi and Mr Garnham left the meeting in accordance with their declarations of interest.

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman chaired the meeting for the next item.

9.1.iii DC/22 DC/22/5004/FUL | Retention and completion of construction of 1 No building and use of land for vehicle and plant hire operator(s) comprising officer, workshops, associated parking, drainage infrastructure etc to allow for the hire, storage, sale, maintenance and servicing of vehicles, paint, machinery and equipment following enforcement case ref: ENF/21/0552 in relation to previous consent DC/19/2666/FUL | Kesgrave Quarry Sinks Pit Main Road Kesgrave

It was **RESOLVED**:

- To maintain objection to the application in view of the inadequacy of noise and drainage assessments and proposals for mitigation

Mr Ransome, Ms Saagi and Mr Garnham returned to the meeting.

Mrs Wilson and Ms Saagi left the meeting in accordance with their declarations of interest.

9.1.iv DC/23/1481/FUL | Replacing 4 external doors, one of these is to involve replacing an existing wooden front entrance doors with aluminium entrance doors with disabled push button. Replacing existing metal roof with insulated metal roof in colour Goosewing Grey (RAL 0807005) | Village Hall The Street DC/23/1563/FUL | Detached garage for 3 cars | Woodside Martlesham Road

It was **RESOLVED**:

- To support the application for essential work to a well-used village facility.

Mrs Wilson and Ms Saagi returned to the meeting.

9.2 Update on Applications dealt with under Delegated Authority, Previous Applications, Appeals and Enforcement Matters

ESC had approved the following applications:

DC/22/4696/FUL Manege and horse walker - Heath Farm Hall Road

DC/22/3937/FUL | Side extension to encompass swimming pool | The Chestnuts Martlesham Road

ESC had refused permission for:

DC/23/0106/P3Q | Prior Notification - Agriculture to Dwellings - Conversion of Agricultural Barn (B) to Residential | Grove Farm The Street

Appeals:**DC/22/2630/FUL | Construction of 1no. new residential dwelling with detached garage in front of Marchwood | Marchwood Martlesham Road**

It was noted that appeal had been made against ESC's refusal to grant consent for the development and it was **RESOLVED**:

- To maintain the Council's objection to the development and participate in the appeal process.

DC/22/0566/OUT Outline Planning application (all matters reserved) proposing the erection of a detached dwelling and garage within excess garden amenity land serving The Orchard Holly Lane

It was noted that a resident had advised of paperwork received concerning an appeal against ESC's refusal of the application, but the Council had not yet been advised of this by ESC.

9.3 CIL: Parish Infrastructure Investment Plan and Neighbourhood Plan

It was noted that the Council had received over £6,000 in CIL payments and **RESOLVED**:

- That the meeting of the Council in July receive information regarding development of a Parish Infrastructure Investment Plan and Neighbourhood Plan, including the proposed appointment of a consultant to advise the Council on Plan production.

10. Review of Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Delegation, Policies, Procedures and Exercise of General Power of Competence in accordance with Standing Order 5 j

It was **RESOLVED**:

- That the Council's Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, delegation, policies and procedures were appropriate and to adopt them for the following year.

11. Minutes of the Meetings held on 6 March and 17 April 2023

It was **RESOLVED**:

- To approve the minutes of these meetings as drafted.

12. Updates from Clerk and Councillors**12.1 ESC Community Partnership**

No meeting had been held in April. It was not known if the Partnership programme would continue following the outcome of ESC elections but the Chairman would attend the next meeting on 19 June.

12.2 Community Partnership Road Safety

The next meeting would be held on 12 June. As Mr Garnham was unable to attend it was **RESOLVED**:

- that the Council would be represented by the Chairman on 12 June.

12.3 Village Hall Management Committee

Ms Saagi reported on the planning application for the new roof and doors, and that fundraising would be partly from pop up pubs, and on recent working parties and the need to sell surplus chairs.

12.4 SAVID

Mr Garnham reported that the meeting held on 6 April had considered solar powered SIDs, but they were heavy. It was **RESOLVED**:

- Not to explore the purchase of second hand SIDs from another Council.

12.5 Sinks Pit Community Liaison Group

The Chairman reported on his attendance at a meeting on 11 May and that the Environment Agency was to close the site for two days for testing of equipment to identify the specific source of noise and vibration at nearby properties. The current planning application was likely to be referred to a Planning Committee for determination.

12.6. SALC Area Meeting

Mrs Wilson had reported to Councillors on her attendance previously. It was noted that the meeting had been attended by the new CEO of ESC and SALC was pursuing a dialogue on planning matters. It was **RESOLVED**:

- To request SALC to include Dr Dan Poulter MP in the setting up a platform with ESC for improving communication with parish councils on planning matters

12.7 Permissive Path to Great Bealings

It was noted that the bridge had been swiftly replaced by SCC and the path was open again. The landowner had agreed to enter into a new permissive licence with SCC to allow access on foot to continue. Information regarding the location of posts and signs to deter trespass was awaited from the landowner.

12.8 Shared Village Sign File

The file of papers on the installation of the sign passed to the Council had been deposited at Suffolk Records Office on long loan.

12.9 Faded Traffic Sign in Great Bealings

This had been referred to Great Bealings Parish Council for such action as they considered appropriate.

12.10 New Sewer in The Street

Anglian Water had proposed that it hold a meeting of all residents in Bealings Village Hall as the next step and a date was awaited.

13. Review of Volunteers, and Representation on External Bodies and Reporting

It was **RESOLVED**:

- That the following be appointed for the forthcoming year:

Webmaster: Jenny Shaw. It was also **RESOLVED**:

- That OneSuffolk be asked to provide access to enable the Council to make changes to its website

Footpath Wardens: Francis Mutimer and John Wittgreffe

Footpath Volunteer Workers: Jane Mardell, Anthony Meehan, Keith Beaumont, Anna Beaumont and Carl Cornish

VHMC representative: Ms Saagi

SALC representative: Mr Ransome

Woodbridge and District ASB Meetings Representative: No appointment as these meetings had been absorbed by the Community Partnership

ESC Community Partnership Representative: Mr Ransome, and Mr Garnham for Road Safety Workshops

SAVID representative: Mr Garnham. It was **RESOLVED:**

- That Mr Garnham would continue to manage the SID, with Mr Ransome holding the second set of keys and assisting when necessary

Sinks Pit Community Liaison Group Representatives: Mr Ransome and a local resident

Anglian Water Sewer Installation Liaison: Mr Garnham

East Suffolk Planning Alliance Affiliation (ESPPA): This group had approached the Council offering affiliation but had not responded to queries. It was **RESOLVED:**

- Not to affiliate to ESPPA

14. Finance

14.1 Adoption of Accounts for 2022/23: Review of Internal Audit and Annual Governance and Accountability Return

The accounts for 2022/23 and the Annual Governance and Accountability Return Form 2 (AGAR) had been circulated to Councillors. The internal auditor had completed the return with no issues arising. The Council reviewed the effectiveness of its internal financial control in accordance with the requirements of the Annual Governance Statement. After consideration it was **RESOLVED:**

- that the current system for internal financial control and the internal audit were effective and appropriate
- that the Council certify itself as exempt from a limited assurance review on the grounds of meeting the relevant criteria
- to approve the Annual Governance Statement contained in section 1 of the AGAR

After further consideration it was **RESOLVED:**

- To approve the accounts and the Accounting Statements for 2022/23 contained in Form 2 of the AGAR

14.2 Assets Review and Portable Appliance Testing

The Council's Assets were noted and it was **RESOLVED:**

- To purchase replacement dog fouling signs as necessary
- To ask other local organisations needing to carry out Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) if they would be interested in borrowing PAT equipment if purchased by the Council for shared use.

14.3 Income and Authorisation of Expenditure

Income of £6,500 had been received from ESC, being the first half of the precept. CIL income of £6,117.75 and a VAT refund for 2022 of £1,320.96 had also been received and the £200 cheque for Coronation celebration supplies had been returned uncashed.

Expenditure had been incurred as follows:

- ICO Data Protection Renewal Fee: £35 (direct debit)
- Clerk's Net Salary for April: £375.42 (S111 and S112 LGA 1972) (standing order)

It was **RESOLVED**:

- that the following expenditure be incurred:
 - Clerk's net salary for May 2023: £375.42 (S111 and S112 LGA 1972) (standing order)
 - Clerk's net salary for June 2023: £375.42 (S111 and S112 LGA 1972) (standing order)
 - Clerk's Annual Allowance for 2023/24: £216 (S111 and S112 LGA 1972)
 - SALC membership: £237.50 (S111 LGA 1972)
 - Internal Auditor Fee: £25 (S111 LGA 1972)

14.3.i Councillor Training

It was **RESOLVED**:

- That Mr Carr and Mrs Price would attend training provided by SALC.

14.3.ii Donations

Bealings Village Hall Trust

Mrs Wilson and Ms Saagi left the meeting in accordance with their declarations of interest.

It was **RESOLVED**:

- To increase the Council's donation to the Trust and John Belstead Playing Field to £1,000, in accordance with its power in S19(3) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

Mrs Wilson and Ms Saagi returned to the meeting.

ROPETH

Mr Carr and Mr Cheeseman left the meeting in accordance with their declarations of interest. The views of one resident were noted and it was **RESOLVED**:

- To donate £250 to ROPETH, in accordance with the Council's power in S19(3) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

Mr Carr and Mr Cheeseman returned to the meeting.

Fynn Lark News

It was **RESOLVED**:

- To increase the Council's donation to the Fynn Lark News to £300 in accordance with its power in S137 of Local Government Act 1972

14.4 Review of Bank and NS&I Account Balances and Signatories

It was **RESOLVED**:

- To transfer £10,117.75 from the bank current account to the NS&I account
- To appoint Mrs Price as signatory on the bank current account in place of Ms Head

14.5 Appointment of Internal Control System Reviewer

It was **RESOLVED**:

- To appoint Mr Cheeseman as Internal Control System Reviewer in place of Mr Hunter.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council will be on Monday 3 July 2023 in the Angela Cobbold Hall but a meeting will be held on Monday 5 June 2023, if required by business to be transacted.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8.50pm.