

# Blofield Parish Council

Minutes of the online virtual meeting of the Parish Council on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020 at 7.30-10:05pm.

## **PRESENT**

Rob Christie, Stuart Smith, Sarah Dhesi, Mary Moxon, Paul Culley-Barber, Yvonne Burton, Pat Wilson, Stella Shackle and Sarah Osbaldeston (Clerk)

1. Welcome and Introduction to the meeting by the Chair, Stuart Smith.
- 2. TO CONSIDER APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
  - 2.1. Joseph Scholes sent his apologies which were duly accepted by the council. Melanie Eversfield (Assistant Clerk) was unable to attend.
- 3. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**
  - 3.1. Item 13 & 18 – Paul Culley-Barber declared a pecuniary interest.
  - 3.2. Item 13 – Yvonne Burton declared a pecuniary interest.
  - 3.3. Item 13 – Rob Christie declared a pecuniary interest.
- 4. OPEN FORUM - FOR PARISHIONERS TO RAISE QUESTIONS ON AND/OR MAKE STATEMENTS ABOUT MATTERS ON THE AGENDA AND TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR**
  - 4.1. Three parishioners were present, together with Norfolk County Councillor Andrew Proctor, and District Councillors; Justine Thomas and Nigel Brennan.
  - 4.2. Andrew Proctor provided detail on the key areas of work for Norfolk County Council.
  - 4.3. Justine Thomas provided detail on the new solar panel buying scheme and green homes grants voucher scheme. She also detailed some of the actions Broadland District Council are doing to help get economy moving again.
  - 4.4. A member of the Scout group attended offering to work with the parish council with scout volunteers to assist with work on Martyrs Marsh.
- 5. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 10<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2020**
  - 5.1. The Parish Council unanimously resolved to approve the minutes and were duly signed by the Chairman.
- 6. TO REPORT ON MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA**
  - 6.1. There were no matters arising.
- 7. TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT**
  - 7.1. The Clerks report was received and noted. A copy of which is attached to the official minutes.
  - 7.2. The council agreed to arrange a site visit with Norfolk County Council Highways to discuss a 'children near by' warning sign to be located near the Margaret Harker Hall and to discuss various other outstanding matters. Clerk (ME) to arrange.
- 8. TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATION 20201549 – ERECTION OF 1NO. DWELLING WITH ASSOCIATED GARDEN AND PARKING – LAND SOUTH OF YARMOUTH ROAD, BLOFIELD, NR13 4LQ**
  - 8.1. The council had a detailed discussion about this planning application. It was proposed that the council contact the area planning manager to understand more detail about the possible planning gain of allotments to the parish detailed in Appendix 1 of the planning supporting statement. The council resolved to approve this proposal (for - 6, against – 2). Clerk (SO) to contact the area planning manager to enquire further and request an extension to the October meeting if necessary. In the event that no planning gain is available for consideration, the council agreed to object to the planning application (for- 8, abstention – 1). Council planning leads to draft a response for objection.

- 9. TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE REQUEST FROM CLLRS DHESI AND MOXON TO ATTEND THE PRACTICAL BUDGETING FOR COUNCILLORS COURSE AT A COST OF £72.00**
- 9.1. The council resolved to approve this proposal. Clerk (ME) to book the councillors on the course.
- 10. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER FUNDING REQUEST FROM HEATHLANDS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**
- 10.1. The council discussed this funding request. The council still have outstanding questions regarding Heathlands accounts. Paul Culley-Barber proposed (seconded by Sarah Dhesi) the council make no decisions until more information is available and a meeting has taken place with Heathlands Management Committee. The council unanimously resolved to approve this proposal. Clerk (SO) to contact Heathlands.
- 11. TO CONSIDER A FUNDING REQUEST FROM INCLUSIVE DIMENSIONS**
- 11.1. Following some detailed discussion, Stuart Smith proposed (seconded by Rob Christie) the council fund the hall hire of £200 and pay this invoice directly to Heathlands Community Centre. The council approved this proposal (for – 6, abstention – 2). Clerk (SO) to contact the inclusive dimensions.
- 12. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REPORT ON CURRENT PROJECTS AND APPROVE ANY NECESSARY ACTIONS**
- 12.1. The report was received and attached to the official minutes.
- 12.2. Stuart Smith summarised the meeting with Highways England (HE) and the notes are attached to the official minutes. HE committed to discussing the possible diversion of FP5&7 with the operations team. They advised that a footpath would be provided between the allotments site and the village.
- 12.3. Parish Partnership Bid 2021/2022– The council agreed to meet with NCC Highways to discuss improvements to the footpath from Marty’s Marsh to Blofield Church. Councillors were reminded to come up with other projects too.
- 12.4. Marty’s Marsh – The Scouts group have agreed to get involved in separate sessions to help work on areas of Marty’s Marsh. Sarah Dhesi to liaise with the Scout leaders at the appropriate time.
- 12.5. Locks and chains have been purchased for the gates on site. Yvonne advised that a tree survey was carried out at the beginning of 2019 as part of the planning process. Clerk (ME) to review this and consider if any tree assessment / work is required (involve tree wardens where necessary) before the site opens to the public. Obtain quotations if necessary.
- 12.6. Rob Christie proposed (seconded by Paul Culley-Barber) the council sign off the risk assessment forms. The council unanimously resolved to approve this proposal.
- 12.7. Vat consultancy – Rob Christie suggested this should be revisited given the significant CIL the council now holds. Clerk (SO) to action.
- 13. TO RECEIVE REPORT REGARDING BLOFIELD ALLOTMENTS AND APPROVE ANY NECESSARY ACTIONS**
- 13.1. Sarah Dhesi provided a detailed report on the allotments. The council discussed at length the use of an air rifle on the allotment site to assist with pest control. Permission would be required from the insurers, land owners and all plot holders. Following detailed discussion, the council agreed to explore the possibilities further (for – 3, against 2, exempt due to pecuniary interests – 3). Clerk (SO) to contact the insurers and the landowners initially.
- 13.2. The council unanimously resolved to approve the risk assessment documents and an assessment taking place on site with a council member every 6 months.
- 13.3. Sarah presented a draft allotment chicken policy, following detailed discussion the council agreed to review the policy further and understand if any other allotment sites charge addition rent for having chickens. Clerk (ME) to contact DEFRA to ensure we receive any poultry health notifications (although there are below 50 chickens on the site).
- 14. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE BRUNDALL & BLOFIELD GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME**
- 14.1. Pat Wilson provided a summary of the current work of the good neighbour scheme.
- 15. OTHER REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**
- 15.1. No matters for next agenda were reported.
- 15.2. Shop with Confidence campaign by Broadland District Council – the council agreed to locate the pedal operated hand sanitisers (by permission of the landowners) at the Blofield Florist, near the Spar shop, near the chip shop and the corner of the Tamarind. Clerk (SO) to action.

*Pat Wilson left the meeting*

**16. TO NOTE THE DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

16.1. Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020 online at 7:30pm or at Blofield Courthouse, depending upon latest Government guidelines in relation to Covid-19.

**17. TO RESOLVE TO PASS A FORMAL RESOLUTION UNDER THE PUBLIC BODIES ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS ACT 1960 TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND PRESS FOR THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS**

17.1. The council unanimously resolved to pass the resolution detailed above.

**18. TO RECEIVE REPORT REGARDING LAND IN THE PARISH AND APPROVE ANY NECESSARY ACTIONS**

18.1. The council unanimously resolved to engage with Norfolk County Council Children's Services to discuss possible community funding for the school and to discuss what parish council would like in exchange for the S106 Wyngates land. Clerk (ME) to arrange a meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10:05pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....