

Blofield Parish Council

Minutes of the Blofield Parish Council Meeting held at Blofield Courthouse on Monday 4th November 2019 at 7.30pm – 9:10pm.

PRESENT

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

1. Welcome and Introduction to the meeting by the Chair, Rob Christie.
2. **TO CONSIDER APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
 - 2.1. All councillors were present.
3. **TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**
 - 3.1. Paul Culley-Barber declared an interest in item 14.
 - 3.2. Paul Culley Barber, Yvonne Burton and Rob Christie pecuniary declared an interest in item 18.
 - 3.3. Mary Moxon declared a pecuniary interest in item 7.1.
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. Approximately 6 parishioners were present. Justine Thomas and Nigel Brennan, the District Councillors both sent their apologies.
 - 4.2. A parishioner reported about recent flooding of some Globe Lane properties. Norfolk County Council has offered the parishioners some solutions to these issues.
 - 4.3. A parishioner raised concerns over the continued work on the Yarmouth Road gas main.
5. **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7TH OCTOBER 2019**
 - 5.1. Following a minor amendment, Sarah Dhesi proposed (seconded by Paul Culley-Barber) the council approve the minutes of the parish council meeting held on the 7th October 2019. The parish council unanimously approved this proposal and they were duly signed by the chair.
6. **TO REPORT ON MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA**
 - 6.1. 29.2 – Brundall and Blofield Good Neighbours Scheme - Pat Wilson reported that this is still going very well. Most requests are for lifts from parishioners in Blofield and Blofield Heath. Although most volunteers are from Brundall. Clerk (ME) to advertise for more volunteers on the website / facebook.
7. **TO CONSIDER COUNCIL FEEDBACK ON PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM BROADLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL** Clerk (ME) to submit comments
 - 7.1. **Application: 20190844**

Drainage Strategy amendments for residential development of 12 dwellings
Location: Land at Dawsons Lane, Blofield, NR13 4SB
Following a detailed discussion, Sarah Dhesi proposed (seconded by Stuart Smith) the parish council submit the following comments to Broadland District Council. This was agreed by all councillors, (Mary Moxon did not take part in the discussion or vote).
 - 7.2. **18/10/19 Arboricultural impact assessment:**

The Parish Council strongly believes that there is a need to ensure T2 roots are protected in case of accidental damage as the tree is not within the applicants control. Similarly for T6. (Loss or T1 sycamore, T3 AshT4&5 both holly – noted).
 - 7.3. **Amended 18/10/19 Site Plan**

Need to offset the loss of 4 trees plus the old hedge, not discussed in the arboricultural impact assessment. Is the site plan merely an artistic impression or will there be trees put into the site to off-set the loss on those taken out by the access and attenuation pond? Boundary treatments- there

is a stated 1.8m close boarded fence to the south behind existing properties on Blofield Corner Road. What is the impact of this high fence to existing properties which is at odds with Blofield Neighbourhood Plan Env 2 soft sites and boundaries. There is currently a gap at the west boundary of the site - which would need to be closed off. Is there a boundary around the attenuation pond - as these are family properties this area needs to be securely fenced off.

7.4. Amended 18/10/19 Site Location Plan

There is a very large parcel of agricultural land lost to production as a result of this offsite drainage strategy at odds with Neighbourhood plan Env 4. The strategy is also at odds with Neighbourhood Plan ENV3, future development should not cause or contribute to the problem of flooding or drainage issues or pollution. The strategy is unnecessarily complex with many elements pipe to attenuation pond, pipe to open ditch to culvert to open ditch to infiltration pond in an isolated seam of sand. Equally serious is that the 40 metre culvert is omitted from the maintenance plan. Given the recent storm 5/6October 2019 where a resident was flooded out due to surface water flooding one part of which came from Dawsons Lane runoff contravene both NPPF policy and LLFA guidance. Neighbourhood Plan expect the surface water drainage ponds to appear natural and be able to be colonised by local flora and fauna whilst maintaining their design purpose.

7.5. Amended 18/10/19 section 38 agreement document

The proposed road splay shows only a splay to the east which is at odds with other information in the amended documentation and this splay has to be interrupted for access to number 72 Blofield Corner Road as this is their only access into their property. No evidence provided on how existing services along Dawsons Lane will be treated. In this document it states drainage is into existing watercourse but other documents state this road drainage will be into the standalone infiltration pond which is heavily reliant on a system of maintenance to prevent flooding offsite.

7.6. Amended 18/10/19 Surface Water Drainage Strategy

Surface water does not infiltrate at times of storm or prolonged heavy rainfall, it flows overground, evidenced by recent resident having a flooded ground floor on Blofield Corner Road. 5/6October 2019. The LLFA are aware of this incident and have actually visited. No explicit mention of all the components which make up the SUDs system, which will increase flood risk for both Dawsons Lane and the wider area. The storm evidence of October 5/6 highlight before any development commences on this site of the Bennetts site for 36 which is draining into the blind ditch system in the same area, shows that this site is not sustainable.

7.7. Paul Culley-Barber will revise the presentation on this application for Broadland District Council planning committee, incase required.

7.8. Application: 20191443

Approval of details reserved by conditions 5, 10, 11 & 12 of permission 20160497 – Energy supply, visibility splays, access & parking: on-site parking for construction workers, wheel cleaning & off-site highway improvements

Location: Land at Yarmouth Road, Blofield

It was AGREED to make the following comments to Broadland District Council: -

The Parish Council wish to see an enforceable condition that the car parking area for site construction is used thus relieving the cars off the highway.

The Parish Council have serious concerns regarding highway issues. There is a need to look for a mechanism in an adoptable verge to discourage cars parking on it - or crossing to the inner verge – suggestion of bollards/trees - a physical deterrent. There is a need to avoid parking on the road as that is being narrowed.

Existing footpath from Brewster Court to Globe lane must not be made any worse than current, and ideally better using same/matching materials etc.

There is no mention of a relocation of the flashing 30mph sign - ideally want moved from Brewster Court to other end towards the roundabout by Frogs Hole.

The Parish Council has concerns regarding the shared cycling/footpath narrowing from 3m to 2.6 at Globe lane. It suggests that this is marked out so that the cycling and footpath are divided. It would also be sensible to continue the proposed double yellow lines past Brewster Court to Globe Lane.

8. TO AGREE COUNCILLOR ATTENDANCE AT THE NPTS ALLOTMENTS TRAINING

8.1. The council agreed Sarah Dhesi will attend the NPTS allotments training in February 2020.

9. TO APPROVE INVOICES FOR PAYMENT

- 9.1. Stuart Smith proposed (seconded by Joseph Scholes) the council approve all payments totaling £3,110.59 (see Appendix 1). The council unanimously approved this proposal. Clerk (SO) to issue cheques.
- 9.2. Receipts for September were received, totaling £33,685.00 (see Appendix 2).
- 9.3. The council noted the total bank balance at 4th October 2019 of £423,270.29 (see Appendix 3).

10. TO CONSIDER A SECTION 106 FUNDING REQUEST FOR NEW FENCING FOR THE HEATHLANDS SMALL PLAY AREA

- 10.1. Heathlands Management Committee have approached the parish council requesting section 106 funds to replace the railings around the under 5's play area. The cost is £3,279.08 +VAT.
- 10.2. Following a brief discussion Stuart Smith proposed (seconded by Rob Christie) the council agree to using the section 106 funds currently held by BDC for play/sport at Heathlands to fund this essential replacement. The council unanimously resolved to approve this proposal. Clerk (SO) to advise Heathlands and BDC.

11. TO CONSIDER A QUOTATION FOR THE REDUCTION OF REED AT THE TOWN PIT AND AGREE ANY NECESSARY ACTIONS

- 11.1. Following a brief discussion, the council agreed to schedule this work for June 2020. Clerk (SO) to understand more detail around cost and work provided to take to the budget meeting.

12. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REPORT ON CURRENT PROJECTS AND AGREE ANY NECESSARY ACTIONS

- 12.1. Churchyard headstone repairs - Melanie Eversfield is attending a meeting with the Parochial Church Council (PCC) to discuss repairs needed.
- 12.2. Trees in the churchyard – Clerk (ME) is awaiting 3 quotes, these will be on the December agenda for consideration. Liaison with PCC and tree wardens required too.
- 12.3. Churchyard Wall – the church architect Ruth Brennan is carrying out the survey this week. This will be on the December agenda.
- 12.4. Village gateway signage (9 signs) – this will be carried out at a cost of £9,602.45. Stuart Smith to confirm the number of signs is correct then clerk (SO) to issue a cheque for half to Norfolk County Council.
- 12.5. Bus Shelter in Blofield Heath – an onsite meeting has taken place with the contractor. The costs has been revised to £4,305+VAT. Clerk (ME) to agree the detail and place the order. Once work complete clerk (SO) to invoice NCC for half the cost from the parish partnership funds 2019/2020.
- 12.6. Footpath maps – the last footpath map has been placed in the churchyard now.

13. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON MARTY'S MARSH AND AGREE ANY NECESSARY ACTIONS

- 13.1. BADCOG has carried out some cutting of the grasses in agreement with Annie Summazzi. A meeting with the friends of Marty's Marsh is planned in November to discuss the draft management plan, new gate entrance and picnic area. Clerk (ME) to continue with work on the planning application.

14. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM NCC CHILDRENS SERVICES AND AGREE ANY NECESSARY ACTIONS

- 14.1. Rob Christie reported that Norfolk County Council Childrens Services (NCC CS) are still working with Broadland District Council and their district councillors to understand if it is possible to proceed with the Wyngates community land for a new school.
- 14.2. The council are still awaiting the rescheduling of the meeting between the parish council and NCC. It is hopeful this will be soon.

15. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON CREATING A PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY DIVERSION OF FOOTPATH FP5&7 (FOOTPATH NEAR ON THE HOPKINS HOMES YARMOUTH ROAD SITE) (20190396/20191295) AND AGREE EXPLORING PARISH PARTNERSHIP FUNDING FOR THIS

- 15.1. Stuart Smith circulated a draft report to send to the Ramblers Association and NCC Highways to seek their support for the proposal. Sarah Dhesi proposed, following minor amendments (seconded by Paul Culley-Barber) the council submit the report. The council unanimously resolved to approve the proposal. Clerk (ME) to submit to the Ramblers association. Clerk (ME) to arrange a meeting

with Paul Sellick (NCC) and the public rights of way officer to discuss the possibility of a parish partnership funding bid for this for 2020/21.

- 16. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROJECT AND AGREE ANY NECESSARY ACTIONS**
 - 16.1. A number of councillors met on the 14th October to discuss further possible community projects across the parish. The clerk (SO) has circulated the detail from this meeting. The council will have a further meeting on the 7th November at Heathlands Community Centre to discuss the community engagement project and next steps.
- 17. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON FLOODING OF THE SECTION WYNGATES LAND AND AGREE ANY NECESSARY ACTIONS**
 - 17.1. Rob Christie reported that Nigel Harris from Broadland District Council Planning Department has met with Norfolk Homes on site to inspect the Section 106 land. Norfolk Homes have accepted that the preparatory works may have been done to a lower than normal standard. BDC has advised that a low bund to the perimeter to prevent water running off towards Manor Ridge and Wyngates will not be acceptable as it does not address the condition of the land and would not meet accessibility requirements. BDC agree it is very important that the land is restored to a satisfactory condition and all the conditions in the S.106 agreement are satisfied before the land is transferred. They will pursue this.
- 18. TO RECEIVE AN ALLOTMENTS ASSOCIATION / COUNCIL WORKING PARTY MEETING UPDATE AND AGREE ANY NECESSARY ACTIONS**
 - 18.1. Sarah Dhesi provided a detailed report of the meeting. She reported that the Orchard Group has had bonfires during the summer. Clerk (ME) to check their letter of understanding for bonfire guidance.
 - 18.2. The Allotments association would like the council to review the bonfire policy again. The council agreed to understand more of what is 'best practice' for garden diseased waste disposal on other allotments sites. Sarah Dhesi to find out more at allotment training in February 2020. In addition, Pat Wilson raised concerns over the impact of bonfires on the climate.
 - 18.3. The association has reported that the pest controller has not visited since August 2019. Clerk (ME) to chase if no improvement.
- 19. TO AGREE A COUNCILLOR TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE ACLE YOUTH CLUB PROJECT**
 - 19.1. Paul Culley-Barber agreed to take the lead and talk to the YMCA leaders in Acle to understand how their club is run and what the demand is and report back to the council.
- 20. TO NOTE ANY CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**
 - 20.1. Heathlands Management Committee meeting minutes (1/10/19) have been circulated to the council.
 - 20.2. Cluster notes from meeting dated 15.10.19 have been circulated and noted by the council from 15/10/19. The next meeting hosted by Blofield Parish Council will take place on 21st January at Postwick Village Hall; Rob Christie, Stuart Smith, Stella Shackle and Joseph Scholes to attend.
 - 20.3. The council has received thank you letters from the Royal British Legion, Norfolk Age UK and Norfolk Citizens Advise for the donations received.
 - 20.4. The Tree Warden AGM report has been circulated by Yvonne Burton for the Councils information. The council briefly discussed the 'celebrating 30 years of the tree council' planting 30 new trees. It was agreed to build this into the Marty's Marsh project.
 - 20.5. Correspondence was noted from the rough sleepers' coordinator at Broadland District Council.
 - 20.6. The council agreed to support the concerns of the damage caused across the whole county.
 - 20.7. Correspondence received regarding a consultation on 'Digging up Norfolk' for the cables and substations required inland for wind farms at sea. The council agreed to raise the concerns of wide scale damage caused across the county as a result of 115km of trenches across farmland. Clerk (ME) to feedback comments.
- 21. OTHER REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA**
 - 21.1. No items suggested.
- 22. TO NOTE THE MEETING DATES FOR 2020**
 - 22.1. Clerk (SO) to confirm final dates as soon as possible and publish on the website and noticeboards.

23. TO NOTE THE DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING

23.1. Monday 18th November 2019 at 7:30pm at the Courthouse.

24. TO NOTE THE DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

24.1. Monday 9th December 2019 at 7:30pm at the Courthouse.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9:10pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....