

BEYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor Graham Jones

Clerk: Tina Newell

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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 12 April 2022
In The Vestry of All Saints Church, Beyton

Councillors Present: Graham Jones (Chairman) (GJ), Anne Alderton (Vice Chairman) (AA), John Clark (JC), Helena Harris (HH) and Jonathan Wilson (JW).

Others in attendance: Tina Newell (Clerk), Austin Davies (District Councillor) (AD) and twelve members of the public.

- 120422/01 **Apologies for absence:** Councillor Peggy Orsler offered apologies prior to the meeting.
- 120422/02 All Councillors resolved to accept Peggy Orsler's apologies.
- 120422/03 District Councillor Harry Richardson and County Councillor Penny Otton offered apologies for absence.
- 120422/04 **Declarations of Interest:** None received.
- 120422/05 **To consider requests for dispensation:** None received.
- 120422/06 **Minutes of previous meeting:** All Councillors confirmed receipt of the draft minutes for the meeting held on 15 March 2022 prior to the meeting. All Councillors accepted these minutes as a true reflection of the decisions made and GJ signed the minutes reference 150322/01-150322/51.
- 120422/07 **Casual Vacancy:** All Councillors received the resignation of Jamie Micklejohn (JM) as Parish Councillor. GJ, as Chairman, gave thanks to JM for his contribution to the Parish Council and for his continued offer of support.
- 120422/08 As there has been no request for an election the Council can consider co-option.
- Public Forum:**
- 120422/09 All Councillors confirmed receipt of District Councillor Harry Richardson's report prior to the meeting which is appended in full to these minutes.
- 120422/10 District Councillor Austin Davies (AD) presented his report in brief; following a peer review of the planning department at MSDC it was reported performance

Signed: Graham Jones

Dated: 10 05 2022

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was good in many areas, however there is a breakdown in trust between Officers and Councillors. At least 10 recommendations have been made and a team has been put in place to implement these; around 500 tenants of MSDC have been selected to take part in a satisfaction survey the results from which will be available in May; MSDC is arranging for those eligible in Council Tax bands A – D to receive their £150 central government payment. AD full report is appended.

- 120422/11 AA expressed concern that the team put in place to implement the planning recommendations includes members of the planning department and asked is this not a conflict of interest – where is the independence? AD agreed to take this comment back to the District Council.
- 120422/12 A member of the public asked if there was progress with a polling station in Beyton. AD understands travelling to the neighbouring village is not the best solution and is hopeful polling stations will be available in Beyton.
- 120422/13 All Councillors resolved to re-order the agenda deferring the Village Green until later in the meeting.
- Planning:** Councillors considered the following planning applications:
- 120422/14 DC/22/01508 Application for works to trees in a conservation area: Crown reduce 1 no Oak (T1) by 3.5m and lift to 6m.
The Willows, The Green, Beyton IP30 9AJ.
After brief discussion all Councillors agreed to **SUPPORT** this application.
- 120422/15 DC/22/01358 Discharge of Conditions DC/20/00663 Condition 4 (Roads and footpaths), Condition 6 (Highway improvements), Condition 10 (Construction Management Plan) and Condition 12 (Contamination)
Nursery House, Tostock Road, Beyton IP30 9AG.
JC was concerned that the plan sent by the planning officer was not the plan that had previously been received. Noting the concern and impact any potential future flooding may have on the Parish it was agreed for JC and GJ to visit the site with both plans. If concern remains after this visit a site meeting with Suffolk County Council Highways would be requested prior to the Parish Council making any comment.
- 120422/16 Nine members of the public entered the meeting room.

- 120422/17 DC/22/01331 Application for works to trees in a conservation area: Reduce and thin 1 no Beech tree by 2-3m and remove 1 limb.
Crossfield, Church Road, Beyton IP30 9AL.
After consideration all Councillors agreed to **SUPPORT** this application.
Councillors noted the following determinations made by MSDC since the last Parish Council meeting:
- 120422/18 DC/22/00563 Hawthorns, Tostock Road, Beyton
MSDC: GRANTED BPC: Supported
- 120422/19 DC/22/00532 The Gables, Bury Road, Beyton
MSDC: GRANTED BPC: Supported
- 120422/20 Councillors noted there is a hold up in producing a new set of drawings for the site on Land to the South Side of Bury Road, Beyton DC/21/04987 and noted the Parish Council can make further comments.
- 120422/21 Councillor JC and TN attended a meeting hosted by MSDC Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) team with representatives from planning and planning enforcement to discuss the various planning applications on Land adjacent Guerdon Cottage, Drinkstone Road, Beyton. Whilst disappointing, it was noted that there is no CIL liability due from plots 1, 1a and 3 due to the original grant of planning pre dating CIL; the application for plot 6 has not been built out; plots 4 and 5 have signed liability forms with CIL due to the Parish of £3,743.25 and £4,111.14 respectively; a demand notice for plot 4 can now be issued with an additional charge for interest, 2.5% above Bank of England base rate, from the date commencement was deemed to have started; plot 5 is slightly more complex as it was signed as a self build however it is thought a demand notice will be issued in the near future.
- 120422/22 AD left the meeting.
Village Green:
- 120422/23 TN apologised for a typing error on the public information regarding the number of opinions/expressions of interest re purchasing The Green; the total number of opinions/expressions received was 75; 70 in support of the Parish Council purchasing the Green, 4 not in support and one rejected.

- 120422/24 The Council listened to and responded to a residents seven points of concern regarding the possible purchase of The Green.
- 120422/25 Four members of the public spoke regarding the purchase of The Green; one suggested the purchase price is too high whilst three spoke in support of the purchase confirming it is an asset to the village and one where most village events are held.
- 120422/26 TN confirmed the S106 grant if not used for sport and open space before the end of the year would be lost; the Parish Council are in post in perpetuity: if all Councillors resigned the District Council would take control until Parish Councillors were elected/co-opted.
- 120422/27 After discussion and considering the thoughts of residents, noting the offer of £14,590.23 from MSDC towards this project has been received, JC proposed the Parish Council should purchase The Green. JW seconded the proposal with all Councillors in favour the decision was made to purchase The Village Green.
- 120422/28 Councillors delegated authority to TN to contact the Land Agents and commence negotiations.
- 120422/29 Eleven members of the public left the meeting.

Finance:

- 120422/30 **Bank reconciliation:** All Councillors confirmed receipt of the finance report for the year ended 31 March 2022 prior to the meeting. Councillor AA, as a non-bank signatory, confirmed the bank reconciliations as presented agreed to the bank statements with available cash of £28,634.72; £100.56 in the savings account and £28,534.16 in the Community account.
- 120422/31 **Budget to Actual:** All Councillors confirmed receipt of the budget to actual payments and receipts report for the year end 31 03 2022 prior to the meeting. TN confirmed the payments whilst appearing over budget were funded by additional receipts also not included in the budget. Councillor JC proposed acceptance to the budget to actual figures as presented for year ended 31 03 2022 with JW seconding. With all Councillors in agreement the figures were accepted.
- 120422/32 **Reserves:** Councillor AA proposed to vier £3k from The Green project to the general reserve giving a year end reserve of £7,099.88 - 43% of the precept

noting this fits within the generally accepted recommendation with regard to the appropriate minimum level of a Smaller Authorities General Reserve of between 3-12 months net revenue expenditure (precept). JW seconded the proposal with all Councillors in favour.

120422/33 **Assets:** All Councillors confirmed receipt of the schedule of assets prior to the meeting. GJ proposed to accept the asset register as presented for the year ended 31 03 2022 is approved agreeing the year end assets held by the Parish Council total £49,835k. JW seconded the proposal with all Councillors in favour.

120422/34 **CIL:** HH proposed that the CIL report, as presented, is approved, signed and published on the website. Seconded by AA with all in favour.

120422/35 All Councillors noted there were no receipts to report since the last meeting. All Councillors resolved to approve the following gross payments and agreed to make payment by cheque confirming a full schedule, supported by invoices and receipts, had been received prior to the meeting.

	Payee	Details	£
120422/36	Tina Newell	Salary and reimbursements	759.12
120422/37	S G Penn & E A Woodcock	Band for Jubilee (to be paid by cheque)	150.00
120422/38	Graham Jones	Geese feed, printing cartridge	150.97
120422/39	Read Groundworks	Essential maintenance of safety surface	620.00

120422/41 Councillors noted the VAT return has been submitted for year ended 31 03 2022 for a total of £1,577.76.

120422/41 Councillors noted the payroll for year end has been completed and a P60 issued.

To receive reports/verbal updates and consider action required from committees and representatives:

120422/42 **Flooding including Reclaim the Rain:** All Councillors were pleased that there has been no flooding in the village despite the recent rain and agreed to ask a resident to research the Reclaim the Rain initiative.

120422/43 **Play Equipment:** All Councillors confirmed receipt of a report prior to the meeting noting the surfacing maintenance work has been carried out on a number of play structures. TN has completed weekly reports on the play

equipment and has concern regarding the condition of three benches. After discussion it was agreed to request quotes to refurbish them.

- 120422/44 **To consider a date to clean up the equipment on the village green:** All Councillors agreed to meet on Saturday 21 May 2022 to clean the equipment including the bus shelter and to advertise for volunteers to assist.
- 120422/45 **To consider the condition of the Parish noticeboards:** It was agreed for the Clerk to research three replacement notice boards and to seek any grants available to purchase these.
- 120422/46 **To receive an update from the staffing committee regarding the appointment of a Parish Warden:** It was noted there had been one expression of interest in the position but no applications had been forthcoming. It was agreed to continue advertising the vacancy.
- To receive updates from Village Groups:**
- 120422/47 **Community Speedwatch:** No update.
- 120422/48 **Beyton Village Association (BVA):** GJ commented that the recent Quiz night was a success.
- 120422/49 **Beyton Environmental Group (BEG):** No update.
- 120422/50 **Neighbourhood Plan (NP):** JW offered an apology as it was hoped an update on the NP would be available for tonight's meeting; it is hoped that an update would be available for the May meeting.
- 120422/51 **Any other matters for information, to be noted, or for inclusion on a future agenda:** Traffic noise on Tostock Road, a commemorative picnic bench.
- 120422/52 **Date of the next scheduled meeting:** Tuesday 10 May 2022 at 7.30pm .
- 120422/53 The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 20.47pm.