

BEYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor Graham Jones

Clerk: Tina Newell

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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 4 July 2023 In The Vestry of All Saints Church, Beyton

Councillors Present: Graham Jones (Chairman) (GJ), Ann Alderton (Vice Chairman) (AA), John Clark (JC), Helena Harris (HH) and Peggy Orsler (PO).

Others in attendance: Austin Davies (AD) (District Councillor) Penny Otton (County Councillor) (PON), Tina Newell (Clerk) and one member of the public.

Apologies for absence:

040723/01 Councillors Jonathan Wilson (JW) and Kerry Mason (KM) tendered apologies for absence prior to the meeting due to work commitments and illness respectively.

040723/02 All Councillors accepted and approved apologies for absence from JW and KM.

040723/03 Dave Bradbury (DB) (District Councillor) tendered apologies prior to the meeting due to prior work commitments.

040723/04 **Declarations of Interest:** No declarations of interest were declared.

040723/05 **Dispensation:** Councillors noted no requests for dispensations had been received and none were requested at the meeting.

040723/06 **Minutes of previous meeting:** All Councillors resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 13 June 2023 and as a true reflection of the decisions made and authorised GJ to sign the minutes (reference 130623/01 – 11).

Public Forum:

040723/07 County Councillor Penny Otton's (PON) report was received prior to the meeting; SCC has received £7.8 million pounds for active travel schemes to be spent on seven projects in the County to encourage cycling and walking; whilst £10m has been put aside to spend over the next 20 months on the surfaces of smaller, local roads where people live it was noted this is mainly to catch up

on repairing pot holes; later in the year Councils will not charge residents for disposal of 'do-it yourself' household waste as a way to help prevent fly tipping . The full report is appended to these minutes.

040723/08 PON confirmed she is in dialogue with Network Assurance to arrange signage confirming local roads are unsuitable for HGV's; after discussion it was agreed a sign should be put on the top of the A14 slip road eastbound.

040723/09 A meeting has been set up with Suffolk Highways for next Monday to consider options for additional traffic calming measures in Beyton.

040723/10 PON left the meeting.

040723/11 It was agreed to amend the layout of the Parish website to make the public information page more easily visible and accessible for visitors to the site.

040723/12 All Councillors confirmed receipt of a joint report from both District Councillor's, the full report is appended to these minutes; Thurston Community College has received confirmation that included in a five year plan is the rebuild of the Thurston Community College and early talks about the location of the Beyton sixth form have taken place. It was agreed to include representation from Beyton Parish Council in all future discussions and for this to be included at the Village Voice meeting with the sixth form taking place next week.

040723/13 A member of the public commented the new twice weekly bus service leaves Beyton at 10.05am and not 9.45am as advertised; the same resident asked for the minutes from this evenings meeting to include a statement of expenses for the village green to confirm costs incurred thus far and potential future costs.

040723/14 In response to a residents question at the last meeting TN confirmed there is no legal requirement for signage warning drivers speed cameras are operating in the area. If someone is in a public place they are allowed to be photographed, as the highway is classed as a public place their consent is not required. Speed cameras photograph the vehicle and records the speed and their numberplate. None of this data is private. All personal information regarding the vehicle's keeper (name and address) is gathered by the police via the police national computer which uses DVLA records. There are data

protection measures put in place by both SCC and the police to make sure the data being shared is secure at all times.

Planning: Councillors considered the following application made to the Local Planning Authority (MSDC) relating to Beyton:

040723/15 DC/23/02803 Notification of works to trees in conservation area; Fell 1no Leylandi (T1), lift crown of one Copper Beach by 2 to 3m and prune to clear power line (T2), fell 1no Sequia Sempervirens (T3).

Location: Crossfield, Church Road, Beyton IP30 9AL.

Councillors noted works to fell and and prune trees on this site had received no objection the previous two years and all Councillors resolved to **SUPPORT** this application.

040723/16 The only present member of the public left the meeting.

Councillors noted the following determinations made by the District Planning Authority since the last meeting:

040723/17 DC/23/02514 Beyton Lodge, Church Road, Beyton, IP30 9AL.

MSDC: Raised NO OBJECTION. BPC: Supported

040723/18 DC/23/02515 Beyton Lodge, Church Road, Beyton, IP30 9AL

MSDC: Raised NO OBJECTION. BPC: Supported

040723/19 Councillors noted MSDC have until 1 August to determine the application for use of land as garden land at Marl Cottage (DC/23/02035).

Finance:

040723/20 All Councillors confirmed receipt of the finance report for the period ended 30 June 2023 prior to the meeting.

040723/21 Bank Reconciliation: AA, as a non-bank signatory confirmed the bank reconciliation as presented agrees to the bank statements with cash available of £65,228.69; £65,127.69 in the Community account and £101.00 in the Premium account.

040723/22 **Budget to Actual:** All Councillors reviewed the report with no questions.

040723/23 **Assets:** All Councillors confirmed receipt of the schedule of assets and with no questions accepted this as a true reflection of the assets held by Beyton Parish Council as at 30 June 2023.

040723/24 **Reserves:** AA confirmed the reserves account reconciles to the bank statement and all Councillors accepted the general reserve remains at 71% of the precept and noted this is within the accepted recommendation with regards to the appropriate minimum level of a Small Authority's General Reserve (should be maintained at between three and twelve months net revenue expenditure) and in line with Beyton Parish Councils reserve policy.

040723/25 **Receipts:** Councillors noted there have been no receipts since the last meeting with no expected receipts.

Payments: All Councillors resolved to approve the following gross payments by internet banking confirming a full schedule, supported by invoices and receipts, had been received prior to the meeting:

	Payee	Details	£
040723/26	Tina Newell	Salary, re-imbursments	590.10
040723/28	Community Action Suffolk	Insurance renewal 2023/24	637.14
040723/29	Freethought Internet	Domain renewal	120.00
040723/30	Freethought Internet	Email storage	136.50
040723/31	T C Forestry & Fencing	Grass and footpath cutting, roadside bollards strimmed	1,080.00
040723/32	BEG	Environmental work in the Parish	80.00

040723/33 All Councillors noted receipt of an interim invoice from Gudgeons Prentice for legal work undertaken to date on the purchase of The Green and agreed to pay £1,216.80: £1,000 for solicitor fees and £14 for identity checks both plus VAT. It was agreed there are fees for searches outstanding with any further expenses subject to the successful completion of the purchase.

040723/34 All Councillors noted the insurance has been renewed with Ansvar via Community Action Suffolk at a cost of £627.14; this includes fidelity cover of £100k and assets insured of £96.985k.

040723/35 Councillors were pleased with the recent training for CPR which highlighted the importance of the defibrillator. After a brief discussion Councillor HH proposed to make a donation of £100.00 to the West Suffolk Charity 'MY WiSH' in recognition of the training. This proposal was seconded by GJ with all

Councillors in favour. TN confirmed this donation will be given using S137 money.

To receive updates/reports from officers and village groups and consider action required:

Road Safety including Community Speedwatch:

040723/36 Traffic movements: Councillors and residents had received the latest statistics from the speed device located along Thurston Road which showed over double the number of traffic movements in the village since before the A14 roadworks commenced with a peak rate approaching 700 per hour between 4-6pm.

040723/37 Traffic calming measures: A meeting with TN, PON and a Community Liaison Engineer from Suffolk Highways has been arranged for next week to consider ideas, costs and support for additional traffic calming measures in the village. It is hoped a report with recommendations will be available for the September meeting.

040723/38 TN has chased National Highways for an update on their talks with the satellite navigation companies to not re-route traffic through the village however they have yet to respond.

040723/39 Councillors noted correspondence received from Drinkstone Parish Council.

040723/40 **Neighbourhood Plan (NP):** Councillors noted the Neighbourhood plan is with the examiner; it is expected a referendum will be held later this year.

040723/41 **Footpath officer:** GJ confirmed the grass has been cut suitably well.

Tree Warden:

040723/42 PO confirmed she will make contact with the resident who had expressed an interest in becoming the Parish Tree Warden.

040723/43 TN confirmed of the four companies contacted only one had responded to the request to quote for carrying out a tree survey and any work required as a result; Ai Trees in Bacton have confirmed they will provide a quote to carry out a full survey of trees on The Green before the next meeting.

040723/44 **Bus Service:** Data to the end of June 2023 showed there have been 8 journeys. With a potential to sell 64 seats the actual seat sales were 44, 11 being from Beyton which may result in an estimated deficit, to be shared with

four Parish Councils, of £140.00 for the month. After consideration all Councillors agreed Beyton have less options for public transport than other Parishes in the trial and therefore a greater need for this service and resolved, unanimously, in extending the trial period to the end of the year. It was agreed to ask PON to make a contribution towards the deficit from her locality/highways budget.

040723/45 **Beyton Sixth Form Campus:** Councillors noted a meeting with the working group and representatives of the Sixth form has been arranged for September 2023 to consider the promises made to the village in 2012/13.

040723/46 **Defibrillator training:** Councillors expressed thanks to the Parochial Church Council for allowing use of the Vestry room with no charge for the recent training and noted fifteen residents from Hessem and Beyton took part in the training.

The Village Green:

040723/47 Inspection report: In KM absence there was no monthly visual inspection report.

040723/48 TN had contacted the manufacturer of the roundabout and is awaiting a quote to refurbish the roundabout and wet pour safety surfacing; Councillors noted applications for MSDC Capital grants open on 31 July 2023 and TN will make an application then. TN has asked the Grants team at MSDC if there are any other grants available to cover this cost and is waiting on a response.

040723/49 All Councillors noted another letter has been sent to the owners of The Green confirming the grant money received has an expiration date and asked for the owners to engage by return.

040723/50 **Geese:** Councillors noted a Senior Veterinary Inspector at the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) offered an apology for the most recent advice where it was stated the village geese are not classed as captive birds and confirmed the geese, being Embden birds, which are considered domestic birds along with the fact they were bought with donations from residents are in fact considered as owned and kept birds. TN has received notification confirming cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza have been found in Cumbria and West Sussex after weeks of not receiving reports of any cases. All

Councillors agreed the welfare of the geese must be the priority and resolved for TN to speak with a local breeder and ask if could assist with the housing of the geese should the restrictions come back into force.

Any other matters for information, to be noted or to be included on a future agenda: flooding

040723/51 All present noted the date of the next scheduled Parish Council meeting is Tuesday 5 September 2023.

040723/52 The Chairman closed the meeting at 21.58 pm.