

BEYTON PARISH COUNCIL

Chairman: Councillor Graham Jones
Clerk: Tina Newell
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Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 5 March 2024

In The Vestry of All Saints Church, Beyton

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

Others in attendance: Tina Newell (Clerk), Penny Otton (POtn) (County Councillor) and three members of the public.

- 050324/01 **Apologies for absence:** Jonathan Wilson (JW) sent his apologies prior to the meeting.
- 050324/02 All Councillors accepted Jonathan Wilson's (JW) apology.
- 050324/03 District Councillor's Austin Davies (AD) and David Bradbury (DB) offered apologies for absence prior to the meeting.
- 050324/04 **Declarations of Interest (DoI):** No declarations of interest to consider.
- 050324/05 **Dispensation:** Councillors noted no requests had been received and none were requested at the meeting.
- 050324/06 **Minutes of previous meeting:** All Councillors resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 6 February 2024 and as a true reflection of the decisions made and authorised GJ to sign the minutes (reference 060224/01 – 58).
- Public Forum:**
- 050324/07 County Councillor Penny Otton's (POtn) report was received prior to the meeting. The full report is appended to these minutes and confirms the County Council is heavily borrowing from its reserves to meet the growing demand for adults and children's social care; National Highways have made a commitment to recompense the County Council for damage to local roads due to work on the A14 replacing the concrete road; a recent report from Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) on Special Educational Needs Services in the County

was damming; it is likely devolution will happen in Suffolk from 2025 which would give the County more freedom on decisions and funding for transport, skills and adult education, regenerating brownfield sites and retrofitting homes for greater energy efficiency.

050324/08 POtn informed all present that Thurston Community College is likely to be rebuilt for 2027 and the plans include a sixth form; whilst this would make the Beyton site redundant PO suggested the Beyton site would likely remain for educational use.

050324/09 POtn left the meeting.

050324/10 All Councillors confirmed receipt of the joint District Councillor's report prior to the meeting; TN requested more information on the District Councils rural transport grants scheme.

050324/11 Councillor's expressed disappointment at the lack of attendance by either District Councillor at this meeting.

Planning: Councillor's considered the following applications made to the Local Planning Authority (MSDC) relating to Beyton:

050324/12 DC/24/00655 Notification of works to trees in a conservation area – fell 1 no Conifer (T1)

The Hawthorns, Church Road, Beyton IP30 9AL

After consideration all Councillor's resolved to offer NO OBJECTION.

050324/13 A member of the public spoke in support of planning application DC/24/00478.

050324/14 DC/24/00478 Householder application – erection of cart lodge with home office and hobby room over (amended position to that approved under DC/22/06269)

Marl Cottage, Church Road, Beyton IP30 9AL

After a lengthy conversation and noting the application would see development outside of the settlement boundary into open space Councillor's GJ, HH, JC and KM voted to REFUSE to the application whilst Councillor's AA and PO did not object. By majority vote it was agreed to request the District Council REFUSE this application.

050324/15 DC/24/01006 Application for works to a tree in a Conservation Area – fell 1 no Conifer as the roots are causing damage to the driveway, blocks sunlight from the

property, close to power lines and has become unmanageable due to its height.

Marl Cottage, Church Road, Beyton IP30 9AL

After discussion all Councillor's offered NO OBJECTION to this application.

All Councillors noted the following determinations made by MSDC relating to Beyton:

050324/16 DC/24/00420 Vulcans Cottage

MSDC: Does not object BPC:Supported

050324/17 DC/24/00079 The Old Rectory, Church Road, Beyton

MSDC: GRANTED BPC: Supported

To receive an update on the outstanding Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL):

050324/18 All outstanding CIL on application DC/19/01991 Orsler Close, Beyton has now been collected by Mid Suffolk District Council; the Parish Council will receive £635.71 in April 2024.

050324/19 CIL of £27,091.92 relating to planning application DC/20/00663 Nursery House, Tostock Road became a debt on 1 November 2022. The CIL team at the District Council confirm they have been pursuing this debt and will keep the Parish Council updated.

050324/20 All Councillor's requested a full breakdown of work undertaken by the District Council to recover this debt and expressed concern over the length of time these debts are taking to recover.

Finance:

050324/21 All Councillors confirmed receipt of the finance report for the period ended 29 February 2024.

050324/22 **Bank Reconciliation:** AA as a non-bank signatory confirmed the bank reconciliation as presented agree to the bank statements with cash available of £44,895.85; £14,756.01 in the Community account and £30,139.84 in the Premium account.

050324/23 **Budget to Actual:** All Councillors confirmed receipt of the budget to actual report prior to the meeting. It was noted whilst payments appeared to exceed the

budget by £19,250.93 reserves of £25,68.62 had been used to fund some expenses therefore resulting in a budget still available of £6,435.69.

050324/24 **Reserves:** AA confirmed the reserves account reconciles to the bank statement. All Councillors agreed with the reserves reconciliation noting the general reserve represents 68% of the annual precept and is in accordance with the Parish Councils reserves policy.

050324/25 **Assets:** All Councillors reviewed the asset register and with no amendments accepted the value of the Parish Councils assets for insurance purposes as £96,988.61; the insurance renewal was £96,832 with cover of £111,357 (index linked).

050324/26 **Receipts:** Councillors noted there have been no receipts since the last meeting. **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	£
050324/27	Tina Newell	Salary, re-imbursements to 31 03 2024	1,165.26
050324/28	HMRC	PAYE	275.80
050324/29	Beyton & Hissett PCC.	Vestry Hire	180.00

050324/30 Councillors resolved to forward an invoice from Precision Marketing for £90.00 to the Beyton Village Association (BVA) noting this invoice was advertising for the quiz night; the Parish Council had not previously been asked to pay and all Councillor's thought the BVA had sufficient funds to cover this cost.

050324/31 Councillors resolved not to renew the subscription to Open Spaces.

050324/32 Following the recent tree survey Councillor's noted some of the recommended work had already been carried out. It was agreed to contact the local contractor 'A New Creation' and ascertain how much work had been carried out and to request a quote for the remaining work required.

050324/33 Councillors received three quotations to carry out grass maintenance for the forthcoming season. After a lengthy discussion resulting in a vote, it was agreed to continue the contract with T C Forestry & Fencing at £105 per cut of the main green, £45 per cut of the smaller areas, £50 per strim around the wooden posts

and £150 per cut of the footpaths (Financial Regulation 11.1i confirms the Council shall not be obliged to accept the lowest price).

- 050324/34 All Councillors agreed on the wording for the memorial plaque; TN will design the plaque and send to all Councillor's to agree the size and material before placing an order.

Governance:

- 050324/35 All Councillors resolved to re-adopt the standing orders with no amendments.

- 050324/36 All Councillors agreed to accept the Statement of Internal Control.

- 050324/37 Councillors received a review of the Internal Controls and noting the policies and procedures are being reviewed later during the meeting agreed to accept the review.

- 050324/38 All Councillors received a review of the risk assessments and agreed to re-adopt with no amendments:

Volunteer	Vehicle Activated Device
Clerk	Financial

- 050324/39 All Councillors received a review of the Policies and Procedures and agreed to re-adopt all, some with minor amendments, giving thanks to AA for her work:

Equal Opportunities	Electronic Communications	Data Breach
Publication scheme	Freedom of Information	General Privacy
Subject Access Request	Lawful Basis for processing data	Document Retention
Data Protection	Consent Form	Equality
Reserves	Disciplinary	Meeting attendance
Grievance	Vexatious	Sickness Absence
Health & Safety	Filming	Safeguarding
Internet Banking	Complaints	Co-option

Village Green:

- 050324/40 Councillor's agreed to defer reviewing the annual play inspection report noting not all Councillor's had received the full report.

- 050324/41 Councillors noted the removal of Batt Willows due to have taken place this week has been postponed due to the adverse weather conditions; a new date has yet to be decided.

- 050324/42 **Road Safety:** GJ confirmed the directional sign opposite the junction off the A14 will be replaced however despite the Parish Council's best efforts National Highways will not put up a STOP sign at this junction although they have seen evidence of 5 accidents having taken place at this spot.
- 050324/43 **Bus Service:** TN confirmed there had been 8 bookings in January and 4 in February from Beyton. A subsidy of £271.70 is required to ensure this service continues to the end of March 2024 (£27.17 per month) and all Councillor's resolved to pay the required subsidy. TN proposed to move £271.70 from play equipment maintenance which has budget left to a new line 'Bus Travel' to which all Councillor's agreed.
- 050324/44 **Beyton Sixth Form:** GJ, JW and TN had a meeting with the current Principal who confirmed what POtn had said previously that it would appear the plans in place for Thurston Community College (TCC) 2027 do not include Beyton as a site for the sixth form; local flooding has contributed to students arriving late into school and TCC would support any meeting Beyton Parish Council hold with stakeholders concerning this; TN will liaise with the lettings & marketing manager regarding availability and cost for using the conference room more frequently noting the site is more central to the residents and is non-discriminatory and JW will send a list of amenities that could be made available to the wider audience.
- Flooding:**
- 050324/45 Further to a meeting hosed by Drinkstone Parish Council National Highways have agreed to recompense SCC for road maintenance required as a result of works on the A14 and the additional traffic movement through the villages this is creating. It was agreed as Beyton have taken all this traffic Beyton should become a priority for any maintenance.
- 050324/46 All Councillors noted that after many calls, messages left and emails to the Asset Manager (Drainage and Soft Estate) and the Chairman of the Suffolk Flood Risk Management Scrutiny Sub Committee a meeting has been arranged with these and other stakeholders and will take place on Thursday 14 March 2024.
- 050324/47 **Neighbourhood Plan:** Councillor's noted the referendum will be held on 4 April 2024 in the Vestry meeting room.

- 050324/48 **Parish Warden:** Councillor's noted there have been no applications to fill the position of Parish Warden. TN is seeking confirmation of age limit in the hope to advertise this position at TCC noting there have been no applicants from the Beyton campus.
- 050324/49 **BEG:** GJ is the Parish Council representative on BEG and therefore will act with BEG to satisfy the Parish Council's duty under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 to have regard to conserving biodiversity
- 050324/50 **Geese:** Geese are nesting on/around the Pond and it is hopeful some eggs will be hatched and goslings will be welcomed into the gaggle.
- 050324/51 **Asset of Community Value:** Councillors noted the application to list The Bear public house has been submitted and agreed to wait listing The White Horse until the outcome of The Bear was known.
- Correspondence:**
- 050324/52 It was agreed for TN to complete a services and facilities audit as part of the evidence base for the Joint Local Plan Part 2 and give feedback to the County Council on how residents travel to help inform Suffolk's Local Transport Plan.
- 050324/53 **Any other Council business for information to be noted or for inclusion in a future agenda:** Year end.
- 050324/54 All present noted the date of the next Parish Council as Tuesday 9 April 2024.
- 050324/55 The Chairman closed the meeting at 21:33hrs.