

# BEYTON PARISH COUNCIL

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## Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting of Beyton Parish Council held on Tuesday 9 May 2023 in Thurston Sixth Form, Beyton Campus, Beyton.

**Present:** Graham Jones (GJ) (Chairman), Tina Newell (TN) (Parish Clerk) and sixteen members of the public.

9523/01 Graham Jones as Chairman of the Parish Council welcomed everyone to the meeting.

9523/02 **Apologies:** Thurston Sixth Form offered apologies for absence due to the late receipt of the invitation to attend the meeting.

9523/03 **Minutes of the last meeting:** The minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on 10 May 2022 were approved by all present and GJ, as Chairman was authorised to sign these as an accurate record of the business conducted.

**Reports from various village organisations were heard and where available will be appended to these minutes:**

9523/04 BEG: A representative read a report detailing the groups activities during the last 12 months which has included planting a number of hedges and filling any gaps in established hedging with grants given from the local District and County Council. Work on the village pond was carried out during the year making this a more attractive feature for residents and wildlife alike. The full report is appended to these minutes.

9523/05 County Councillor Penny Otton (CC PO) gave a summary of the County Council's activities over the past 12 months; the full report is appended to these minutes.

9523/06 BVN: TN read a brief report in which the editor confirmed the magazine continues to be printed bi-monthly and delivered to all households in the Parish with a digital copy available on the Parish Council's website.

- 9523/07 The now former District Councillor Harry Richardson sent a report in which he thanked all Councillors and residents for supporting him during his term of office.
- 9523/08 Webmaster: The webmaster confirmed the Parish website has between 150 and 200 views per month; on 2 June 2022 it received its most views in a day with 43 which was closely followed on 19 December 2022 where it received 33 views; 2.5k users have visited the home page and people were actively encouraged to use the 'contact us' feature on the website; the procedure for collecting analytics is due to change from 1 July 2023 and whilst this issue was raised with the Parish Clerk on 10 February 2023 no response has been received.
- 9523/09 Thurston Sixth Form: Prior to tonight's meeting the leader of the sixth form confirmed a report will be sent to the Parish Clerk for appending to these minutes after the meeting.
- 9523/10 Chairman's report: GJ's expressed great delight at how well the Parish Council are working together with the District and County Councillors and the village collaboratively resulting in the many celebrations during the year with the highlight being The Queen's Platinum Jubilee; the increased biodiversity as a result of the work to/around the pond- with grateful thanks to the volunteers this project is looking fantastic! The Parish Council ends the year with finances at £49,932.92 and a very successful Internal Audit sees the Parish Council fully compliant.
- Public Forum:
- 9523/11 The Project Manager (PM) from National Highways and the Senior Social Value and Stakeholder Manager from John Sisk & Son Holdings Ltd (SM) introduced themselves. There were very lengthy discussions about the significant increase in traffic volume through the village (upto 3.2 times as much as prior to the roadworks – 2438 traffic movements from a previous 763) due to the total restructure of the A14 from junction 47a to 49; it was noted that drivers have been offensive towards residents and PM NH confirmed Suffolk Police have been advised; additional signage has been erected and more considered wording on signs on the A14 to keep traffic on the highway rather than seeking

alternative routes through local villages will be looked into as a matter of urgency. PM confirmed the work could not have been delayed any longer and with the mass of maintenance happening elsewhere on the network there is a shortage of labour and lack of suitable roads to divert traffic to. With no complete resolution it was agreed for PM to discuss the idea of a temporary speed limit reduction for the village with Suffolk County Council next week and for the Parish Council to liaise with PM and SM to publicise the issues as a way of deterring the village being used as an unofficial diversion.

- 9523/12 BVA: A representative gave a brief report of it's successes during year which concluded with The King's Coronation.
- 0523/13 Date of the next meeting: It was agreed to hold the next Annual Parish meeting on 7 May 2024.
- 0523/14 The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.