

BEYTON PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 27 November 2017

PRESENT: Cllrs G Jones (Chair), A Alderton, J Clark, G Lockhart-White, M Orsler and A Pope

IN ATTENDANCE: Dist Cllr D Haley, 3 members of the public and Parish Clerk

17/085	ANNOUNCEMENT: SALC's statement regarding filming/recording of meetings was read out.	
17/086	APOLOGIES NOTED: Co Cllr P Otton and Cllr T Ridyard	
17/087	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None	
17/088	<p>A member of the public was provided with the opportunity to explain SCC's proposed changes to its School Transport Policy and its implications including the likelihood of more traffic through the village. Members were advised to write to Cllr Gordon Jones of SCC. (A detailed flow chart is to be forwarded to the Clerk in this regard.)</p> <p><u>Swimming Pool:</u> Certas has been commissioned to carry out a feasibility study; it is hoped to have the report before Christmas. A meeting is scheduled with 'Swim England' on 18 December, although this is likely to be disappointing as, being outdoors, it is unlikely to provide regular swimming opportunities. If this is found to be the case, funds accrued to date will be donated.</p>	
17/089	<p>COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT had been circulated: CHANGES TO FREE SCHOOL TRANSPORT Cllr Gordon Jones has issued an email to say he is setting up some workshops to consider this with "partners" randomly selected. I have not been invited but hope Helen Wilson has. I gate crashed the one on 9 November! Now looks like this will return to Cabinet in December.</p> <p>30 HOURS FREE CHILDCARE: This is raising concern as many pre-schools and nurseries are unable to provide this amount of care on the £3.87 per hour they receive from Suffolk County Council. SCC receives money from Government but is retaining £2 million of that for admin costs. We have asked that this be reviewed as many childcare providers are struggling</p> <p>BUDGET: There is a proposal to have a 1.99% increase in council tax next financial year plus another increase in council tax for adult social care of 3%. This will be considered by Scrutiny and make any recommendations to Cabinet. I am concerned at a possible cut to grants to the CAB and the libraries.</p> <p>PLANNING DECISIONS IN THURSTON: Despite the district council giving permission for 800 houses, there are still issues outstanding, including impact on the NHS, the station and road network.</p> <p>REVIEW OF CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES: The Boundary Commission appears to have accepted our view that we do not go into South Suffolk.</p> <p>MOTION ON PLASTIC BOTTLES: I am asking the council to support the Government initiative to introduce a plastic bottle return scheme.</p>	
17/090	<p>DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT: Cllr Haley expressed concern that a member of the public had reported on the changes to SCC's free school transport policy (rather than that information being imparted by our County Councillor); the circumstances were explained.</p> <p>Cllr Haley advised that savings of £3m are required, hence these proposed changes, although it may result in a large increase in traffic flow through the village. Forthcoming funding seminar; Cllr Jones is booked to attend. Scrutiny Committee and Full Council have met recently at Endeavour House. Ward Boundaries: Still possible for residents to submit comments. It was noted that,</p>	

	with the present proposals, Hessett would be removed from this Ward and be replaced by Tostock, with the ward comprising Thurston, Beyton and Tostock.	
17/091	PUBLIC FORUM: A member of the public expressed concern that the PC is to pay an invoice in the sum of £433 for veterinary care in respect of an injured goose. Cllr Jones advised that there is a £1k contingency fund (in respect of possible avian flu related costs) from which this would be paid. The resident added that he did not wish to see the budget overspent in this connection and that there should be corresponding savings made elsewhere. Cllr Pope added that the matter is to be discussed later in the meeting.	
17/092	APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the last meeting held on 2 October 2017, were approved and signed.	
17/093	MATTERS ARISING: None	
17/094	<p>FINANCE</p> <p>Receipts: 27.10.17: Purchase of PC Lawnmower: £20.00 Bank Account Balances: 31.10.17: Current: 10,284.81, Savings: £1,853.53: Total: £12,138.34. (It was noted that on 9.11.17, the balances were amended to: Current: £12,038.34, Savings: £100.00 Total: £12,138.34.) Bank Reconciliations to 31.8.17, 30.9.17 and 31.10.17 and the updated Expenditure and Income Spreadsheet had been circulated on 24.11.17. Review of Register of Assets: This update was circulated, but requires a physical count of assets on the Green etc. It was mentioned that there are 8 dog waste bins in the village (which is believed to be more than that recorded/charged by MSDC), a BT telephone box on the Green and 3-4 wooden benches (2 x Green, 1 x pond a bus shelter).</p> <p>Payments</p> <p>Cllr G Jones: Expenses 12.6.17-23.10.17: <u>£238.40</u> (Chq 101134) (It was noted that, since submitting his expenses, the original towel (for which a replacement had been purchased) had been found; Cllr Jones is to reimburse the sum involved. Swayne & Partners: Treatment of injured goose: <u>£433.28</u> (101135) Clerk: 2 x A4 Printer Paper (24.5 and 20.9.17): £8.00) Horticultural gift voucher: Cllr M Orsler: £25.00) Mileage for Collection of 2 x Flyers re Local Plan: £11.25) 21.11.17: 24 x 2nd Class Stamps: £13.44 <u>TOTAL: £57.69</u> (101136) Coastline Graphics: Flyers re Local Plan: 340 x A4: <u>£62.02</u> (101137) Gipping Press: 50 copies of 'Welcome to Beyton' booklet: <u>£83.00</u> (101138) Clerk's Salary & Mileage: October-December 2017: £615.55 + Mileage £63.52: <u>£674.07</u> (101139) HMRC: PAYE: Oct-Dec: <u>£152.60</u> (101140) TC Forestry & Fencing: Beyton Green Cuts during October and November: <u>£286.16</u> (101141) The above payments were approved. (It was noted that, if additional grass cuts are required, these could be arranged.) <u>Anticipated Capital Expenditure & Precept:</u> Cllr Jones asked Members to advise him of any likely expenditure, as, next month, the PC's draft budget and precept claim for 2018/19 will need to be approved and submitted. The possibility of a further SID to be purchased for Thurston Road had been suggested by the CSW Co-ordinator, who is currently producing a graphical representation of time/vehicle speed. It was noted that the PC is currently spending approx. £11k p.a. (with an anticipated budget balance at year end of £9,772.) If an increase in precept were considered, for every £1k increase, it would cost £3.30 p.w. for a Band D property.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>GJ</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>ALL</p>
17/095	ADMINISTRATION Parish Council Vacancy: Mrs A Alderton's application for co-option had been circulated. Members agreed to her co-option and, after signing the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form, she was invited to join Members.	

	<p>Village Green Lease: Cllr Jones advised that there had been an exchange of emails with two possible versions of draft letters to the Ladies of the Manor; one requesting (a) purchase of the Green (if Members considered this as the preferred option) or (b) renewal of the lease with a possible purchase. A robust exchange of ideas in this regard followed with the final, majority vote being in favour of (b) – to seek renewal of the lease with a possible purchase. This outcome is to be conveyed to Cllr Ridyard. (It was noted that, if the PC were to consider the purchase of the Green – if available – it should be approved by the electorate first, as the valuation (in the sum of £10k) equates to approximately one year’s precept.</p> <p>Emergency Plan: Cllr Pope advised that this has been completed and that the item may now be deleted as an agenda item. (It was noted that no responses had been received re vulnerable parishioners.)</p> <p>Data Protection Officer/Training: The Parish Clerk reported that it will not be possible for the Clerk, nor a Councillor, to spearhead this work, since NALC considers that there could be a conflict of interest. It might be possible to employ the services of a relevant organisation; such as the one delivering the recent training course (DPO Centre) – at a likely charge in Year 1 of £220 and in Year 2 of £120 – although these costs may be reviewed.</p> <p>2018 Meetings Schedule: This had been circulated and was approved and it was further confirmed that the suggestion of alternate monthly meetings be postponed.</p> <p>Vet’s Fees: Cllr Pope and a resident queried the recent vet’s bill in the sum of £433.28. Cllr Pope felt that a limit should be placed on such expenditure. Cllr Jones explained the details relating to that goose and the resulting invoice re its treatment. Following discussion, Members agreed to leave the matter as is.</p>	GJ
17/096	<p>HIGHWAYS</p> <p>Manor Farm Drive: Cllr Jones reported that he had tried to speak to the person dealing with this matter, but had been unable to reach him by telephone, or to obtain a response to his emails. He had also attempted to register a complaint in that regard.</p> <p>A14 Slipway: A meeting early next year has been requested with Mark Stevens, Asst Director Operational Highways, re this matter.</p> <p>‘Fieldside’ hedge, Cangles Lane: Cllr Jones had spoken to the resident regarding this; it is hoped that it will be addressed in March (having received details from Highways of what needs to be done and recommended contractors).</p> <p>Tree on island, Quaker Lane: Cllr Jones advised that Cathy Cass is to move this it after it had shed its leaves.</p>	GJ GJ GJ
17/097 17/098	<p>PLANNING</p> <p>Decision Notices: None</p> <p>Withdrawn Applications: None</p> <p>New Planning Applications:</p> <p>DC/17/05518 - 5 Rectory Gardens: Change of Use of agricultural land into residential curtilage</p> <p>DC/17/05487 – Avondale, The Green: Removal of 1 no T1 Birch Tree</p> <p>Cllr Jones advised that he had taken a look on site re both the above PAs and recommended the PC supports the proposals.</p> <p>Local Plan Consultation: Cllr Pope advised that many parishioners had got involved in this important exercise, although not as many had responded as expected. Everything is available to view on the website. Acknowledgements from MSDC are to be expedited. Cllr Jones thanked Cllr Pope for all her work in this connection.</p> <p>COMMUNITY</p> <p>Litter Pick: Saturday 21 October: Cllr Jones reported that some twenty residents had participated. There had been a number of issues; one being four bags of waste found in the layby in Bury Road containing information from Suffolk Care Homes. These were notified and collected and the two people responsible disciplined. At the top of Tostock Road railings were found and two people in Quaker Lane found grass cuttings had been thrown into their hedge.</p>	Clerk AP

	<p>Website: Roger Brand advised that this is up to date and working well, but requested that, if there are contributions to be made, or problems experienced, he should be contacted.</p> <p>Swimming Pool Report: See Min 27/088 above.</p> <p>Community Speed Watch: Refer Min 17/094 above.</p> <p>SALC Newsletter Competition: Elmswell and two other smaller villages had won this.</p>	
17/099	<p>CORRESPONDENCE:</p> <p>A letter had been received from Jo Churchill, MP re the lighting of beacons/bonfires on 11 November 2018. BVA will register this and Jo Churchill's letter will be answered accordingly. Cllr Jones reported that next year's bonfire will be the last one to be held on Colin's field and Andy Rollett reported that it will be the last one he is involved with.</p>	
17/100	<p>MATTERS OF REPORT ONLY: Nothing</p>	
17/101	<p>MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING:</p> <p>Precept 2018/19 Claim</p>	
17/102	<p>DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: Monday 8 January at 7.30 p.m. in the Vestry.</p>	
	<p>The Meeting closed at 2130 hours</p>	