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BILLINGFORD PARISH

Minutes of the Annual Billingford Parish meeting held on Tuesday 18th May 2021 at 7.00 p.m. in Billingford Village Hall.

Present:- Mrs G Hubbard (Parish Council Clerk), Mr M Davies (Chairman of the Parish Council), Mrs Philippa Payne, Mr Arthur Lake, Mr and Mrs W Reeve, Mrs S Bulbrook, Mr Roger Thorneley, Mr Keith Crudgington, Cllr Bill Borrett and 2 other village residents

1. Welcome and to accept Apologies for Absence

Mr Davies, the Chairman of the Parish Council, welcomed those present to the meeting. There were apologies for absence received from Mr Kelvin Golding, Mrs Val Wilson and Cllr Gordon Bambridge.

2. To confirm minutes of Meeting of Parish held on 14th May 2019

The minutes had been circulated and read. Mrs Payne proposed that the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the last meeting, seconded by Mr Davies and carried so Mr Davies signed them.

3. To report on any matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

4. To receive reports from the District Councillor and County Councillor

Dist. Cllr Gordon Bambridge had sent to the Clerk a comprehensive report and this will be attached to the minutes and put on the website.

Cllr Borrett reported that Norfolk County Council has just had their elections and Cllr Borrett was voted in again. He has the responsibility for Public Health. The Health Service staff have been working very hard and working from home has been successful. As of yesterday there were 10 cases in Norfolk of the Indian variant of Covid. The vaccine is still working well. Everyone still needs to be vaccinated and to be very careful going forward. It has been a strange year for Norfolk County Council. People that were isolating have needed support. It is hoped that people will return to their jobs of work. Norfolk County Council is not suffering financially because of Covid as the Government has given the Council enough money to have a balanced budget.

5. To receive a report from the Chairman of the Parish Council

Cllr Payne read out a report that had been prepared by the Chairman and herself, being Vice Chairperson. The report will be attached to the minutes. The main points in the report were:-

The Parish Council now has its capacity of members, being 7 Parish Councillors.

The 2 street lights have been replaced by 2 LED type lights, which will be cheaper in electricity to operate and the cost of them should be recouped within 5 years.

Flooding issues:- Bintree Road has been water logged at various times and this has been worsened by the building preparations on the flood plain area. The west end of the B1145 has also flooded badly. Representations were made to the County Flood Prevention Officer to sort this out and problems still exist after rainfall.

Planning:- 2 planning applications were submitted for new buildings in the village, 1 for several bungalows in Holl Lane and the other for a house in the garden of an existing house. Both were recommended for refusal as they were not permitted by the Local Plan and the village development envelope.

An application for residential change of use of an existing house was recommended for acceptance.

Three Speed Watch campaigns have been carried out, all before the Lock Down. In addition, the SAM2 (speed awareness monitor) system data from the B1145 has been analysed. So the Council has made several representations to Norfolk County Council Highways to make improvements. These are:- reduce the speed limit with traffic calming measures in the village centre, extend the 30 m.p.h. speed limit on the B1145 at both ends of the village and establish 50 m.p.h. speed limits on the approaches along the B1145.

6. To receive reports from organisations connected to the village

Paula Gilluley, Police Community Engagement Officer, had sent the Clerk a report and it will be attached to the minutes and displayed on the website. The report covers actions over the last year, which includes responses to calls, patrols and public meetings around the County. The Clerk had obtained a newsletter from Lyng Church of England Primary School and it will be attached to the minutes.

North Elmham is a local school and has 80 pupils. It is currently in a Church of England Voluntary assisted federation called Flourish with Stibbard All Saints.

Bawdeswell County Primary is another local school. It has 78 pupils. It is now part of a trust with 7 other schools both primary and secondary.

7. To receive a report including accounts on the Billingford Fuel Allotment Charity

Those present received a copy of the Income and Expenditure account for the year ending 31st March 2021. At the beginning of the period there was £7,472.00 in the bank. Rent of £6,000 was received, making the income £13,472.00. As for expenditure, allocations of £6,225.00 were paid, £300.00 secretarial expenses, making the expenditure £6,525.00. The income of £13,472.00 minus the expenditure of £6,525.00 leaves a balance of £6,947.00. A copy of the statement will be attached to the minutes.

Regarding the Village Hall finances, Breckland will be paying £150.00 for using the hall for a Polling Station on May 6th. In the bank, there is a balance of £14,366.98 and there is a float of £380.00 in cash.

8. To discuss the Parish Council accounts

The Clerk had produced some draft accounts and they had been distributed. There were no questions regarding the draft accounts.

9. - To discuss any future village plans

A resident present raised the question of whether it might be possible to install some equipment for playing basket ball in the village. She explained that someone had tried to play basket ball in another parish, on their equipment, but had been stopped from doing so. Comments were made that it was unfortunate and unnecessary that this action had been taken. There are 2 plots of land which belong to the Earl of Leicester and discussion took place as to whether it might be possible to use one of those pieces for this purpose.

10. To discuss Any Other Business

There were no further business matters to discuss.

11. To set the date and time for next year's Annual Parish meeting

The date of the Parish meeting was set for Tuesday 17th May 2022 at 7.00 p.m.

Mr Davies thanked everyone for attending. There being no other business to discuss, he declared the meeting closed at 7.20 p.m.

Chairman *M Davies* Date *10/5/22*

Clerk *G Hubbard* Date *10-5-2022*