

Minutes of the Billingford Parish Council Annual meeting held on Friday 9th June at 7.00 p.m. in Billingford Village Hall

Councillors Present:- Cllr A Lake, Cllr K Crudginton, Cllr P Richardson and Cllr A Cutcher

Other Members Present:- Dist. Cllr G Bambridge, 10 Electors and Mrs G Hubbard, Clerk

1. To elect the Chairman of the Parish Council for the forth coming year

Cllr Crudginton, proposed Cllr Lake for the position of Chairman, for the forthcoming year, seconded by Cllr Richardson and carried. Cllr Lake accepted the position.

2. Clerk to receive signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office form from the Chairman.

The Clerk received the form.

3. To co-opt onto the Parish Council Mr Andy Cutcher and for the Clerk to receive the signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office form

Cllr Crudginton proposed that Mr Cutcher be co-opted onto the Parish Council, seconded by Cllr Lake and carried. The Clerk received the signed form.

4. Clerk to receive signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office form from the other Parish Councillors

The Clerk received the forms.

5. To elect the Vice Chairman of the Parish Council for the forth coming year if required

Cllr Lake, proposed Cllr Crudginton for the position of Vice Chairman for the forthcoming year, seconded by Cllr Cutcher and carried. Cllr Crudginton accepted the position.

6. Welcome and to accept apologies for absence

The Chairman welcomed those present and a warm welcome to Dist. Cllr Bambridge. Apologies for absence were received from Cllr P Payne and these were accepted.

7. To declare any Interests re items on the Agenda

Cllr Lake declared a Personal Interest in item no. 17, the New Town Proposal.

8. To confirm and accept the minutes of the meeting held on February 21st 2023

Amendments to these minutes need to be made and they will be adopted in August. Regarding Item no 8 correct procedure was not followed. No motion may be moved at a meeting unless it is on the agenda and the proposer has given written notice of their intention and of its wording to the Proper Officer of the Parish Council. You vote on a motion not a resolution. The resolution is the outcome of the motion. Therefore, this item is in breach of the Local Government Act 1972 under rules of debate and the parish council's own standing orders under section B.

9. To discuss any matters arising from the minutes of February (not on the Agenda)

There were no matters arising.

Matters Raised by The Public

There is a tree hanging over the telephone wires outside the property of Mr and Mrs Dawson. Mrs Dawson met with a person from Highways Department. It is still unclear as to who is responsible for cutting this tree and it has been a problem for some time. Cllr Richardson will liaise with Mr

and Mrs Dawson about this problem to try to help with the resolving of the issue.

10. To discuss any correspondence received

Donation appeal letters had been received from East Anglia Childrens Hospice and Norfolk Age UK. The Parish Council decided to send £25.00 to each of these charities.

An email had been received from a resident regarding an overhanging hedge. The Clerk will inform Highways about this.

11. To authorise any necessary Financial Payments

Cllr Crudginton proposed the following financial transactions be authorised for payment, seconded by Cllr Lake and carried.

Clerk's net salary for March – June	£775.04	HMRC tax for March – June	£134.40
Clerk's expenses for March – June	£126.75	Zurich Municipal Insurance	£167.44

12. To discuss the Financial Update and raise any queries

No one had any questions regarding the document which had been circulated.

13. To adopt the end of year accounts

Cllr Crudginton proposed these accounts be adopted, seconded by Cllr Lake and carried. Cllr Crudginton suggested that the remaining grant money towards the defibrillator funds of £613.54 which includes the reclaimed V.A.T. element be ring fenced for future defibrillator costs and the Parish Council agreed to this suggestion.

14. To adopt the AGAR, the Certificate of Exemption and the Annual Governance and Accountability Statement

Cllr Crudginton proposed these documents be adopted, seconded by Cllr Lake and carried.

15. To discuss the sale of the allotment land behind Festival Road

The Parish Council did not know that the land had been sold. A few of the Festival Road residents are disappointed with this fact because a few young children were playing on the allotment ground but they cannot do this anymore. If the parents had known about the sale they would have got together and bought it. This matter was discussed in depth and Cllr Bambridge offered to investigate all the facts regarding this sale. The size of the piece of land was 1.22 acres.

16. To discuss the road signage for west of the village/Elmham Road end

Cllr Borrett had offered to fund these signs so they will be obtained and sited eventually

17. To discuss any Planning Issues

The Clerk had not been informed of any new planning applications, so no discussion was necessary on this subject.

18. To discuss the New Town Proposal

Cllr Crudginton and Cllr Cutcher agreed to be responsible for the planning issues of the New Town Proposal. In addition, there was some discussion regarding how many other developments had been submitted within our catchment area. These totalled approximately 200 houses, a number of which will feed onto the B1145. 90 houses have been submitted at the end of Bintree Road sited next to the A1067. There are two sites in Billingford. One for 15 properties in Holl Lane and another for 5 in The Street. All the proposals are on the Breckland website and have been submitted by individuals or land agents to be considered as part of the Breckland Local Plan. All sites can only be rejected if there is a valid reason for not using them. Cllr Lake spoke of his concerns that

many houses are being built despite the fact that there is a water shortage. This was acknowledged by Cllr Bambridge. Cllr Bambridge, Cllr Borrett and George Freeman, M.P. have been working very closely with The Campaign Against the New Town pressure group and local parish councils and continue to speak out robustly against a New Town proposal in the Upper Wensum Valley area.

18. To re-adopt the General Data Protection Regulation Policy

Cllr Lake proposed this Policy be adopted, seconded by Cllr Crudgington and carried.

19. To adopt the General Power of Competence power

As the Parish Council has all its members elected and a qualified Clerk, Cllr Crudgington proposed the Parish Council adopts the General Power of Competence, seconded by Cllr Richardson and carried.

20. To receive items for next agenda

To discuss the SAM2 sign, speeding and Community Speed watch
To debate whether to have meetings Bi-monthly
Set meeting dates for the rest of the year

21. To set date and time of next Parish Council meeting.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 9th August at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall.

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.30 p.m. and thanked everyone for their attendance.

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Chairman

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Date

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Clerk

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Date