

Minutes of the Billingford Parish Council meeting held on
Tuesday 18th October 2016 at 7.30 p.m. at Billingford Village Hall

Present:- Cllr Arthur Lake (Chairman), Cllr Andrew Skinn, Cllr Stephanie Harris,
Cllr Melvyn Baldwin and Cllr Mary Reeve

Other Members Present:- 8 members of the Public and Dist. Cllr Gordon Bambridge

Matters raised under time allocated to the Public

Cllr Lake started the meeting by giving a short talk regarding the life and sad passing away of Gladys Dobbs. She had died in August and there was a short silence at the meeting in memory of her.

There was some discussion regarding who had paid for the additional grass cutting when Gladys Dobb's funeral took place. Cllr Lake made it clear that the Parish Council had not paid for additional grass cutting.

Cllr Lake said he felt the criticism of the Clerk's June minutes was unjust and satisfactory minutes of parish council meetings are produced by the Clerk. Mr Davis requested that the public notice be displayed on the new notice board a week before the meeting and was informed that that had been the case.

1. Welcome and to consider accepting apologies for absence

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting. Apologies for absence were received Cllr Mike Roythorne as he is still unwell and these were accepted.

2. To declare any Interests re items on the agenda

There were no Interests declared.

3. To co-opt onto the Parish Council a replacement for Mrs Tortice

The Parish Council had three candidates that had shown interest and after the voting process was carried out, Lesley Head received the highest number of votes so she is to be offered the post in due course.

4. To confirm minutes of the meeting held on June 21st and July 26th

The minutes had been circulated. Cllr Lake proposed that the minutes of June 21st be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr Baldwin and carried, so the Chairman signed them as a true copy. Cllr Skinn proposed that the minutes of July 26th be accepted as an accurate record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr Harris and carried, so the Chairman signed them as a true copy.

5. To discuss any matters from the minutes of June and July (not on the agenda)

There were no matters arising.

6. To discuss Correspondence

The mail received was a copy of Open Space magazine and Clerks & Councils Direct magazine.

7. To discuss any Planning Issues

Breckland 3PL/2016/0950 Mr & Mrs Holbrook, Lakones, The Street, garage conversion, 1st floor extension & single storey garden room extension, planning permission has been received.

Newsletter and letter from Vattenfall Wind Power Ltd. regarding their proposed wind farms. There are meetings available to attend and discuss with the employers what exactly their intention is.

Regarding the Local Plan, there is a meeting in Dereham Memorial Hall tomorrow where it will be possible to discuss with Breckland Council members the plan. The consultation period finishes on 31st October. Over the 20 year period growth can be a maximum of 5 developments.

8. To discuss Highways Matters

Speeding is constantly being discussed. Cllr Lake wondered if it might be possible to persuade Highways to reduce the speed limit. Installing speed humps was explored years ago but nothing came of it. Setting up a Community Speed Watch scheme was discussed and this idea will be pursued. There was some discussion regarding why there was a big black box put on a post. Cllr Lake thought a meeting with David Allfrey from Highways would be useful. The Clerk will try and arrange a meeting with him and some Parish Councillors and report back at the next meeting.

9. To authorize financial payments

The Parish Council agreed to pay the following necessary financial payments:-

TT Jones Electrical Ltd. invoice £70.76

Clerk's net salary Aug – Oct. £424.13

Clerk's 3months expenses £47.82

T D Garden Services £75.00

HMRC tax Aug – Oct. Clerk's £106.00

NALC replacement £15 cheque

e.on statement October £30.68 (This will be paid by direct debit)

10. To set the Precept for 2017 -2018

This will be set at the next meeting.

11. To discuss changing the website from NALC to Mr Jackman

The Clerk had had discussions with Mr Jackman and he is willing to set up a new website for Billingford Parish Council and quite a reasonable cost. Nalc had submitted an invoice for £150.00 but Cllr Skinn wished to contact them about this and negotiate a lower price, as it was felt Nalc had not carried out a particularly good job.

12. To discuss Speeding and traffic in the village

This was discussed under item 8.

13. To receive items for the next agenda

Setting the precept for 2017-2018

Speedwatch scheme

Highways -SAM2 sign

Progress on the land at the bottom of Festival Road

14. To confirm date and time of next meeting

The date of the next Parish Council meeting is set for Tuesday 24th January 2017 at 7.30 p.m.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending. There being no other business to discuss, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

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Chairman Date

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Clerk Date