

Minutes of the Billingford Parish Council meeting held on
Tuesday November 26th 2019 at 7.30 p.m. at Billingford Village Hall

Present:- Cllr Arthur Lake, Cllr Michel Davies (Chairman), Cllr Philippa Payne,
Cllr Roger Thorneley and Cllr Mary Reeve

Other Members Present: - 2 members of the Public and County Cllr Bill Borrett

Matters raised under time allocated to the Public.

Cllr Lake reported that Mr Melvyn Baldwin had sadly died as Cllr Davies was unaware of this fact. Cllr Lake described Mr Baldwin as a sportsman and at one time in his life he was one of the top football referees in the County. He played cricket for Bradenham and ran an animal sanctuary with his wife.

The Chairman agreed that anything not covered on the Agenda could be raised under Public Participation.

1. Welcome and to consider accepting apologies for absence

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting. There were apologies for absence received from Cllr Val Wilson and these were accepted. Dist. Cllr Gordon Bambridge had also sent apologies.

2. To declare any Interests re items on the agenda

There were no Interests declared.

3. To confirm minutes of the meetings held on 3rd September 2019 and the Planning Meeting held on 2nd July 2019

Cllr Lake objected to the minutes of the September meeting and said that Minutes should be a record of what is said and what happens at a Parish Council Meeting.

Item 8. of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd September 2019 has the phrase added "the previous Trustees have served their term and cannot be re-appointed according to the Charity rules". This statement was not made or inferred at the Meeting, otherwise I would have challenged it immediately. There is nothing in the Deed to stop Trustees being re-appointed. He stated this phrase had been added (by someone) to try to prevent villagers realising that his proposal to let the villagers appoint the Trustees has the Chairman and others running scared. They knew full well the villagers would probably re-appoint the existing Trustees preventing the Chairman and others getting their hands on the Trust Contingency Fund. A discussion then ensued, and the words "and cannot be re-appointed according to Charity rules" were removed. Cllr Lake then agreed to approve the minutes.

4. To discuss any matters from the minutes of 3rd September (not on the agenda)

There were no matters arising.

5. To discuss Correspondence received

Quotation from The Utility Supplier regarding electricity costs. The paperwork had been received by the Clerk, showing that a saving would be made if the new supplier was used. Cllr Davies proposed the supplier be switched from E.on to The Utility Supplier, seconded by Cllr Payne and carried. The Clerk will forward the necessary paperwork to the new company.

Other correspondence received was the Open Space magazine, copies of Clerks and Councils Direct and a donation request from The Citizens Advice Bureau. Cllr Payne proposed a donation of £50.00 be given, seconded by Cllr Thornley and carried.

6 To authorize financial payments

Cllr Davies proposed the following payments be made, seconded by Cllr Lake and carried.

Clerk's net salary for October/November	£374.60	HMRC tax for October/November	£41.40
Clerk's expenses for October to November	£32.20	Citizens Advice Bureau	£50.00
Ngf Play	£154.50	T T Jones Electrical Ltd	£75.02

7. To set the Precept for 2020/2021

Cllr Lake proposed the Precept be set at £4,000.00, seconded by Cllr Payne and carried. Cllr Lake commented that he considered the document produced by the Clerk to be very clear and easy to understand.

8. To receive a report from the Community Speedwatch organisers

Speedwatch was carried out in October and another session took place in November. Figures were not able to be discussed as Cllr Wilson had the figures and she was not present. There were three people involved with the October session and four in November. The location was changed but it was decided that the change of location was not ideal because of parked cars. It was decided that the Village Sign was the best place.

9. To discuss Actions on B1145 Traffic

The Chairman had sent a letter to Highways regarding lowering speed and he had received a reply. The Chairman considers it would be beneficial to arrange a meeting in Billingford with other Parishes and the Highways Department. The Chairman will circulate the response he had received to the other Parish Councillors. If the villages are noticing more traffic because drivers are not using the A47 but other routes, then the collated data needs to be looked at and discussed. The N.D.R. road is causing more traffic as drivers are coming through the villages. Village residents have concerns over the fact that there will be duelling from North Tuddenham to Easton. Consultations have been going ahead with Highways England.

10. Update on SAM signs and other speeding signs

The SAM2 sign will be coming to Billingford in January. The speed sign that is not working properly is going to be repaired by Westcotec.

11. To discuss any Planning Issues

3PL/2018/1254/O Old Bell Farm, Elmham Rd., 2 detached dwellings on site of old barns, Planning Permission has been granted.

Regarding the new Local Plan, this will be adopted in a couple of days time and then there is a 12 week consultation period. There will be a Parish Council Forum taking place in February regarding this.

12. To receive items for the next agenda

Feedback from the Parish Council Forum meeting in February.

13. To confirm date and time of next meeting

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 3rd March 2020 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall. The Chairman thanked everyone for attending. The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

M Jones
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Chairman Date 22/9/2020

E Hubbard
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Clerk Date 22/9/2020