

DRAFT

Minutes of the Billingford Parish Council meeting held on  
Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 7.30 p.m. at Billingford Village Hall

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

Other Members Present: - 4 members of the Public and Mr Jerry Stone, Agent for the Planning  
Application Applicant

Matters raised under time allocated to the Public

Those present were informed by Mr Stone that the applicant was in fact for 9 dwellings, not 10, as the application stated. He was questioned over the description that gave the impression that Billingford was thought to be an older person's village. There was much discussion regarding the subject of houses being sold as Sociable Houses. He explained that it was an outlined application as this is cheaper than a detailed application. Indicative designs had been submitted.

**1. Welcome and to consider accepting apologies for absence**

The Chairman welcomed those present to the meeting. There were no apologies for absence received.

**2. To declare any Interests re items on the agenda**

There were no Interests declared.

**3. To discuss Planning Issues**

3PL/2018/0997/O Holl Lane, Billingford, erection of 10 dwellings.

The Parish Council discussed the application and the following points were made:-

There is a Breckland guide line and this proposed development exceeds the guide line, so it would not be possible for it to go to the Secretary of State. It does not seem that in the development there are going to be any affordable social housing. Mr Stone answered this query by stating that if a development is under 10 in number, there is no need to have affordable social housing. The Local Plan for Billingford compiled by Breckland shows little or no buildings in Billingford, so this application is surprising. There was some discussion regarding the situation in North Norfolk and Mr Stone explained why there are differences in that area. The Parish Council expressed concern regarding Drainage if the 9 houses went ahead. Mr Stone reassured the Parish Council that the properties would be built to a high standard. The Parish Council also thought that the traffic increase, which would be inevitable, would be a problem as it would be likely that there would be an extra 18 cars driving around. The village has a speeding problem with traffic at the moment so more traffic would only make matters worse.

The Chairman's opinions were that the development would cause a traffic risk, the Local Plan shows virtually no opportunity for building, so how can Breckland approve 9 more houses, and no affordable houses, which are needed, was disappointing. 9 houses will create at least 18 more residents in a village where there are no facilities, no shop or school, limited bus service and no main drainage. 9 houses means an increase in the village as a main of 10% all in one go and this increase is far too many.

The Parish Council voted on the application and it was majority of 5 votes against the application as it currently stands.

Although the Parish Council did vote against supporting the application, Mr Stone commented that if it went through, the Parish Council would receive some financial funding to purchase a SAM2 speed sign if this would be helpful.

The date of the next full Parish Council meeting is set for Tuesday 23rd October 2018 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 8.10 p.m.

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Chairman Date

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Clerk Date