

Blofield Parish Council

Blofield Parish Council October Meeting Minutes of the online virtual meeting of the Parish Council on Monday 5th October 2020 at 7.30-11.00pm.

PRESENT

Stuart Smith, Sarah Dhesi, Mary Moxon, Paul Culley-Barber (left early), Yvonne Burton, Pat Wilson, Stella Shackle, Joseph Scholes (left early) and Sarah Osbaldeston (Clerk) and Melanie Eversfield

1. Welcome and Introduction to the meeting by the Chair, Stuart Smith.
- 2. TO CONSIDER APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
 - 2.1. Rob Christie sent his apologies which were duly accepted by the council.
- 3. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**
 - 3.1. Item 15 & 26 – Paul Culley-Barber declared a pecuniary interest.
 - 3.2. Item 8.2&8.4 – Mary Moxon declared a pecuniary interest.
- 4. OPEN FORUM - FOR PARISHIONERS TO RAISE QUESTIONS ON AND/OR MAKE STATEMENTS ABOUT MATTERS ON THE AGENDA AND TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR**
 - 4.1. Norfolk County Councillor Andrew Proctor, and District Councillors; Justine Thomas and Nigel Brennan were unable to attend. Approximately 9 parishioners were present.
 - 4.2. Many parishioners present raised big concerns over the road safety on Woodbastwick Road / Mill Road where children walk daily to school. This is following a recent road traffic accident involving a child. See agenda item 10.
 - 4.3. A parishioner raised a road safety concerns regarding the large numbers of parents queuing along the narrow footpath outside Blofield School at drop off / pick up time. The Clerk (ME) has already liaise with the school and will raise the concern with Blofield School again.
- 5. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 7th SEPTEMBER 2020**
 - 5.1. Following a minor amendment the Parish Council unanimously resolved to approve the minutes and were duly signed by the Chairman.
- 6. TO REPORT ON MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ON THE AGENDA**
 - 6.1. Item 12.7 - VAT Consultancy – A detailed VAT information sheet has been obtained from Community Action Norfolk, hopefully this is sufficient as a starting point to steer in the best direction for projects
 - 6.2. Item 15.2 - Foot pedal hand sanitisers are now in place around the parish. Located at The Farm shop, Norwich Camping and leisure, Fish and chip shop, Spar shop Blofield, Blofield Florist and the Tamarind Blofield Heath.
 - 6.3. The planning Appeal for land near memorial Hall brundall - will last on and off until 7th October. The Inspector will visit the site next week sometime. Then she will issue letters regarding her decision.
 - 6.4. Item 11.1 – inclusive dimensions funding – it is unclear if this group will take place. Clerk (SO) to email.
- 7. TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT**
 - 7.1. To note receipt of the overview of Highways England published its Strategic Business Plan and Delivery Plan 2020 to 2025.
 - 7.2. The Broads Authority is consulting on two documents, they will run for 8 weeks, from 25 September to 4pm on 20 November. The two documents are:
 - **Draft Guide to Residential Moorings.** The Residential Moorings Guide will help implement the policies of the Broads Local Plan relating to residential moorings. It contains information to help support a planning application, as well as extra information to help make schemes successful. This is the second consultation on this guide. We have responded to comments received as part of the

first consultation, and amended as appropriate. We are consulting again because the first consultation ran through lockdown.

- **Draft Guide to understanding and addressing the impact of new development.** The Local Plan for the Broads includes a policy that seeks the reduction in the amount of peat that is excavated. This guide helps implement that policy. This is the first consultation, and likely the only consultation, on this guide.

7.3. All AV new sound equipment as now been installed in the courthouse.

8. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING APPLICATIONS

8.1. 20201608 - Erection of dwelling with attached double garage - Land Adj Sunny Acres, Yarmouth Road, Blofield NR13 4LH

The council unanimously agreed to raise the following concerns:

The Proposal is outside the settlement limit for Blofield.

There are Concerns exist about the pedestrian access to Blofield village services to reduce reliance on car usage. Pedestrian options are to either attempt to cross the busy A47 where cars are travelling at speeds in excess of 70MPH or to wait for the new bridge to be built by Highways England to then use the proposed footpath adjacent to the bridge and cross Waterlow to then use with a proposed footpath from the Allotment site.

The proposal uses a lot of sustainable materials and energy efficiency items so should be applauded on that front.

8.2. 20200077 - Field South of Heathlands, Woodbastwick Road, Blofield, NR13 4QH -

Erection of 4 No Dwellings & Associated Works (Reserved Matters Appearance, Scale, Layout & landscaping) including surface water drainage. Discharge of Condition 7 Phasing of application 20161588

Joseph Scholes proposed (seconded by Sarah Dhesi) the council object for the following reasons.

The council resolved to approve this proposal (for- 7, against 0, Mary Moxon did not participate in this vote).

Main concern here I think is the prospect of increasing the risk of flooding elsewhere. The proposal is to drain surface water into the existing ditch system proposed to be reused by the Bennetts development which has been deemed an unsuitable drainage system after that proposal had been passed. The existing ditch system does not link up to the Witton Run as the proposal suggests and so will, in all likelihood, increase the risk of flooding elsewhere offsite, namely the bottom part of Dawsons Lane and Laundry Lane.

In addition, the previous comments apply :-

Erection of 4no dwellings and associated works (reserved matters appearance, scale & layout) discharge of condition 7 phasing and condition 12 highway improvements of application 20161588 Location: Field South of Heathlands, Woodbastwick Road, Blofield NR13 4QH Application 20161588 was given outline approval back on 25/4/2018 and a two year time limit for the reserved matters application was imposed as a condition.

Condition 7 relates to the access road and condition 12 relates to highway improvement works. The parish council would like to raise the following objections regarding this planning application:

·Previous comments made by the Parish Council still stand.

Concerns remain around access - having two accesses in very close proximity to each other. To create a 3rd access at this point conflicts with policies SHCR 09,10 and 11; a proliferation of access is endangering the lives of all our parishioners and children alike. Hemblington Primary School are encouraging parents to park at Heathlands and cross what is a very busy road for school drop off and pick up times. In addition, vehicles regularly speed along Woodbastwick Road.

We had previously requested speed reduction measures on Woodbastwick Road as part of this development and are disappointed to see that there has been no attempt to improve safety along this section of very busy road.

Note there is a swale adjacent to the shared private drive - this is for surface water run off from the main Woodbastwick Road gully adjacent to the access at Heathlands. The proposed swale appears to be new and may deprive pedestrian access to the services - pedestrians would need to walk the length of the drive instead.

The vision splay north cannot be achieved without 3rd party land. An email from NCC Highways in June 2013 confirms the width of Woodbastwick Road at this point is precisely 10m. Should this

dimension be applied visibility cannot be achieved. · The gates of the property Tree Tops must be set back 5m from the road (according to section G3.8 of NCC Highways safe, sustainable development).

- 8.3. 20201644 - Aldersbrook, Woodbastwick Road, Blofield, NR13 4QH, Demolish Single Bungalow and erect Two New houses

The council resolved to object on the following points:

It is an over development of the site – this is a further subdivision of the plot with more movements onto a busy main road, near a shop, bus shelter, junction with Mill Road (a school road). · It is an area of flooding in Francis Lane. · Fails under Hou 4 - density - as it is subdivision of a subdivision we feel it is over development of the original site and therefore is too dense even with the proposed dwellings. 'Regard should be given to the density, footprint and separation ...' · Can the plots accommodate the 3 parking spaces for the new developments - Hou5. · Env 2 limited mention of soft boundaries in application. Corner of plot is mains electricity cabling serving number of properties in the area. · Env 3 reservations about drainage. · Over development of immediate area and identified as localised flooding area. · Concerns about traffic and waiting buses on Woodbastwick Road, adding more waiting traffic to stretch of road with problems of speeding traffic. The Parish Council would like all points above to be considered however it feels that the most important point to us is bullet point regarding HOU4.

- 8.4. 20201753 - 78A Blofield Corner Road, Blofield, NR13 4SA - Subdivision of plot & construction of chalet bungalow

The council resolved to object on the following points:

Concerns here around overall development in the area and the knock on effect to surface water flooding already experienced on Dawsons Lane. Pedestrian access to the property would be via the private lane, shared with vehicular movements as there are no footpaths beyond the new development site. This would be extremely difficult to traverse for pedestrians with mobility problems. Outside the settlement boundary of Blofield Heath and we feel that Blofield Heath has seen enough development to contribute to the Broadland District Council 5 year land supply. Questionable over sustainable development due to the location of the property.

- 8.5. 20201672 - Holly Cottage, 53 Mill Road, Blofield, NR13 4QS - Single storey extension to rear Stuart Smith proposed (seconded by Joseph Scholes) the council make no comment on this application. The council unanimously resolved to approve this proposal.

9. TO REVIEW THE RISKS AND CONSIDER IF COUNCIL MEETINGS SHOULD REMAIN ONLINE

- 9.1. The council reviewed the Clerk's (SO) risk assessment. Stuart Smith proposed (seconded by Sarah Dhesi) the council continue to hold meetings virtually and review the position in January 2021. The council unanimously resolved to approve this proposal.

10. TO CONSIDER REQUESTS TO IMPROVEMENT WOODBASTWICK ROAD, IN LIGHT OF A RECENT ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENT INVOLVING A SCHOOL PUPIL

- 10.1. Decisions on road layout and road safety are governed and made by Norfolk County Council (NCC) Highways. The Council agreed to meet with NCC Highways to discuss possible speed reductions or crossing tables in this area. The Clerk (ME) will keep in touch with the parishioner group that attended the meeting to provide an update.
- 10.2. The council agreed to put out a request for further Speed Watch volunteers as the parish does not have enough volunteers to run speed watch at present. Clerk (ME) to action.

11. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM HEATHLANDS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/ FINANCE WORKING GROUP MEETING AND AGREE ANY NECESSARY ACTIONS

- 11.1. The council received an update from the meeting. The council agreed to offer our handyman to obtain a quotation for the repairs to the car park fencing.

12. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REPORT ON CURRENT PROJECTS AND APPROVE ANY NECESSARY ACTIONS

- 12.1. Meetings continue to take place with Blofield School and with NCC Childrens Services regarding the new school.
- 12.2. The clerk (ME) has been unable to get old of NCC Highways Officer for a meeting.

12.3. Joseph Scholes reported that two family members of two gravestones in disrepair have been identified.

13. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE REPORT ON MARTY'S MARSH AND APPROVE ANY NECESSARY ACTIONS

13.1. The councillor working party group have met with the tree warden and put together a list of work to be carried out before and after Marty's Marsh opens to the public.

13.2. A working party is scheduled for Saturday 10th October where some actions will be carried out. The council unanimously agreed minor maintenance expenditure of £39.80 for materials.

13.3. The council agreed to obtain a quotation for cutting a path regularly through Marty's Marsh.

13.4. The council agreed the cubs/scouts help on site with their own working party during half term (including a bonfire). This would be organized by the scouts and managed by their leaders. One councillor will attend and a full detailed risk assessment will be carried out.

13.5. The council are still awaiting planning permission for the site to be open to the public.

13.6. The council have been advised to adjust and resubmit the designated fund applications forms again. Clerk (ME) to action.

13.7. The Clerk (ME) is investigating the wayleave payment from the electricity company on behalf of the council.

13.8. The Scouts / Cubs have requested they are involved if any bat surveys are required as a result of the planning permission application.

14. TO APPROVE QUOTATIONS / SURVEY ON AN INFECTED CHURCHYARD TREE (SO)

14.1. Sarah Dhesi proposed (seconded by Stuart Smith) the council obtain quotations. The council unanimously resolved to approve this proposal. Clerk (ME) to action.

15. TO RECEIVE A REPORT REGARDING BLOFIELD ALLOTMENTS AND APPROVE ANY NECESSARY ACTIONS

15.1. The council agreed to request a more in depth report (including which pesticides are used) from the pest control company when they visit.

15.2. Land owners were unhappy with the use of firearms to control the pests on the allotments so this option will not be taken any further. Sarah Dhesi proposed (seconded by Stuart) the council obtain a quotation for 3 additional pest controller visits over the winter months. The council resolved to approve this proposal.

15.3. Sarah Dhesi together with a member of the allotment association will carry out the allotment risk assessment this month.

15.4. Stuart Smith proposed (seconded by Joseph Scholes) the council adopt the chicken policy, including an extra charge of £20 per annum for new chicken keepers. The council resolved to approve this proposal.

15.5. Following a detailed discussion, Stuart Smith proposed (seconded by Joseph Scholes) the council hold a trial bonfire in the summer months of 2021 (rather than providing a skip for waste). This must take place mid-week, with minimal winds (only blowing Eastward) and a leaflet drop will be carried out informing nearby residents. The council resolved to approve this proposal.

15.6. Highways England are reviewing changes to the allotments as a result of the A47 dualling. This may have an impact on some allotments. The clerk (ME) has approached plot holders to request their details are shared with Highways England (HE) to enable HE to provide them with detail on possible land changes. Meetings continue to take place between the council and Highways England to understand possible impacts to the allotments site in more detail.

16. TO APPOINT A NEW ALLOTMENT REPRESENTATIVE

16.1. Pat Wilson was thanked for her time as Allotment representative. Joseph Scholes agreed to take on the role going forward.

17. TO CONSIDER ADDITIONAL DEFIBRILLATORS WITHIN THE PARISH

17.1. Stuart Smith proposed (seconded by Joseph Scholes) the council understand the current location of the defibrillators in the parish and place them on a map. The council will then review if any more are required in the parish. Clerk (ME) to action.

18. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FOR A NEW RUBBISH BIN IN THE WOODBASTWICK ROAD LAYBY

18.1. The council discussed two new bin locations; Marty's Marsh and the Woodbastwick Road layby. Stuart Smith proposed (seconded by Sarah Dhesi) the council investigate further to understand if locations are suitable, costs of installation and annual running costs. The council unanimously resolved to approve this proposal. Clerk (ME) to action.

19. TO CONSIDER COMMENTS FOR THE GOVERNMENT PLANNING WHITE PAPER CONSULTATION

19.1. Following a brief discussion Stuart Smith proposed (seconded by Yvonne Burton) proposed the council submit the CPRE comments to the white paper. Clerk (ME) to action.

20. TO NOTE AND APPROVE INVOICES FOR PAYMENT

- 20.1. Stuart Smith proposed (seconded by Sarah Dhesi) the council approve all payments totaling £31,962.79 (see Appendix C), vouchers #82 - #104. The council unanimously approved this proposal. Clerk (SO) to make payments by BACS.
- 20.2. Receipts for July and August 2020 were received, totaling £3,540.00. (see Appendix D)
- 20.3. The council noted the total bank balance at 4th August 2020 of £583,302.74 (see Appendix A) of which, £476,955.09 are CIL funds held in the BDC deposit scheme (plus interest of £3,396.72). The council noted the total bank balance at 4 September 2020 of £581,056.28.

21. OTHER REPORTS AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

21.1. No further items were requested.

22. TO NOTE THE DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING

22.1. The council agreed to recommend the monthly planning meetings as planning applications volumes have been increasing. Therefore, the next planning meeting is on Monday 19th October 2020 online at 7:30pm.

23. TO NOTE THE DATE OF THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

23.1. Monday 2nd November 2020 online at 7:30pm.

24. TO RESOLVE TO PASS A FORMAL RESOLUTION UNDER THE PUBLIC BODIES ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS ACT 1960 TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND PRESS FOR THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS

24.1. Stuart Smith proposed the council pass the above resolution and the council unanimously resolved to approve the proposal.

25. TO DISCUSS BUS SHELTER CLEANING ARRANGEMENTS

25.1. The council agreed to obtain quotations for cleaning of the Blofield brick bus shelter.

26. TO DISCUSS COUNCIL LAND MATTERS

The council agreed to approach any landowners regarding potential allotment land for the future for the parish. Clerk (ME) to arrange meetings / write where necessary.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....