

# Bacton Parish Council

## MINUTES

of the meeting held at Bacton Village Hall, on

**Monday 15th May 2023 at 7.00pm**

**Present:** Councillors: Julie Bonner, David Chambers (Chairman), Philip Jeffries (Vice-Chairman), Vanessa Kingsley, Graham Macausland, Gail Wigglesworth, and Paul Wigglesworth,

**In Attendance:** Suzy Lupin - Clerk. District Councillor Mellen (part), County Cllr Stringer (part) and 5 members of the public.

**May 23-1. Election of Chairman**

Cllr Chambers was nominated, seconded and elected unanimously for the 2023/24 session.

**May 23-2. Election Vice-Chairman**

Cllr Jeffries was nominated, seconded and elected unanimously for the 2023/24 session.

**May 23-3. Declarations of Acceptance of Office**

The newly elected Chairman and Vice-Chairman duly signed Declarations of Acceptance of Office.

**May 23-4. Apologies for Absence**

All Members were present and so there were no apologies.

**May 23-5. Declarations of Interest and Dispensation considerations**

There were no declarations of Interest or request for dispensations.

**May 23-6. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

- a. The Council resolved that the minutes of the meetings held on the 24th April 2023 were a true record and that the chairman be authorised to sign them as such.

**May 23-7. District & County Councillor Reports**

- a. District Cllr Mellen reported that as a result of the Election, Mid Suffolk has 24 Green councillors, 6 conservatives and 4 LibDems, which he felt gives Mid Suffolk a clear mandate for a Green agenda. D Cllr Mellen said that he is very proud to represent Bacton and will continue to represent local interest.
- b. County Cllr Stringer had submitted a written report which was received by the council. C Cllr Stringer highlighted changes in Government support for Ukrainian refugees and the development of Cassius, Suffolk County Council's digital care program details of which can be found on the Suffolk County Council website.

*Item 18 was taken at this point - see minute 18 below.*

**May 23-8. Public Forum**

A member of the public spoke to endorse the value that the Middle School site had brought to the locality and felt that it had been a great loss to the community.

## **May 23-9. Planning**

### **a. Consideration of Planning Application Consultations**

Due to the shorter timetable used by the Planning Authority for considering non material amendment applications, the items scheduled for discussion had already been decided by the date of the meeting. The outcomes were as follows:

**i. DC/23/01765 - Land East of Turkeyhall Lane, Bacton**

*Application for a Non-Material relating to DC/21/00641. - Permission Granted*

**ii. DC/23/01837 - Land East of Turkeyhall Lane, Bacton**

*Application for a Non Material Amendment relating to DC/18/00723. - Permission Granted*

**iii DC/21/06766 - North-East Side Garden of The Bungalow, Bacton**

*Application for a Non Material Amendment relating to DC/21/06766 Replacement brick porch with an open Oak-framed porch. - Permission Refused*

### **b. Updates on Planning Applications Considered at Previous Meetings**

**DC/23/00566 - Kerrys Farm House, Kerrys Farm Lane, Bacton**

*Householders Application - Erection of a single storey pool house building including 18No solar panels to the roof slope. - Permission Granted*

**DC/23/00679 - Taylors Green House, Taylors Green, Bacton**

*Householders Application - Erection of two storey front extension. Permission Granted*

## **May 23-11. Co-Option of Councillors**

It was resolved to advertise the two vacant seats in the Parish Magazine and to consider nominations at the next meeting.

## **May23-12. Grants from Suffolk Football Association**

The Clerk reported that she had been notified that grants were potentially available to parish councils for the improvement of pitches. However she had established that the grants are actually intended only for grounds where a local Football Club uses the grounds on a formalised basis and so the Council would not be eligible. The Clerk will forward a slide presentation produced by Suffolk FA to Councillors for information.

## **May 23-13. Traffic Surveys**

It was resolved to carry out surveys at various points around the village as the first step to achieving traffic calming measures in the village. The Clerk will identify suitable providers and bring proposals and quotations to a future meeting.

## **May 23-14. Finance**

**a. Receipts and Payments** - The schedule of receipts and payments was received and it was resolved to approve the payments.

**b. Bank Mandate** - It was resolved to add Cllrs Jeffries and Bonner and the new Clerk to the Bank Mandate.

## **May 23-15. Working Group Reports**

**a. Events** - Cllr Jeffries reported on the great success of the Coronation Events and said that they had been received favourable by members of the public. Cllr Jeffries extended his thanks to all involved and was pleased to report that the cost of the event had come in under budget, at £2,973. He extended special thanks to Michelle Macausland who made the Coronation Cake and Amanda Manley who decorated it.

Cllr Jeffries had seen a report in a local paper that the District Council was making funds available to help towards the cost of the Coronation events. The Clerk will research this and report to the next meeting.

**b. Village Greens** - It was noted that the Village Greens were filled with wild flowers at present, but would shortly be needing a tidy up. The ecosystem around Cow Green pond is developing well, and the trees are regrowing. It was noted that the area was coming back to its original beauty as in previous years.

Cllr Kingsley reported that the Gully at Cow Green is blocked under the road and is therefore the responsibility of Highways. The Clerk will contact Highways to instigate works.

**c. Recreation and Play Areas** - After discussion it was resolved to accept the quotation for new Five-a-Side Goal Posts from Fitness Sport at a cost of £1704.32.

Cllr Chambers read a letter from a member of the public stating that some dog owners were not using the designated area on St Mary's Field and were letting their dogs run free, causing distress to children playing there. After discussion it was resolved to look into the possibility of installing cameras on the site. The Clerk will prepare a report for the next Council meeting.

The PTA of Bacton Primary School had requested a grant for updating the facilities on the meadow at the school. It was resolved that the responsibility lay with the Academy.

**d. The Work of the Village Warden** - Normal duties had been carried out, nothing further to report.

**e. Any other working group reports** - Nothing to report.

**f. Working Group Memberships** - Working groups memberships for 2023/24 were reviewed and revised and the table of memberships is appended to these minutes.

**May 23-16.** The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on the 12th June 2023 at 6.30 (followed by the Parish Council's Annual Meeting at 7.30pm).

**May 23-17. Training for new Councillors** - It was resolved to approach Jim Friend at SALC to carry out the training for new Councillors.

**May 23-18. Bacton Middle School Site** - (This item was dealt with earlier in the meeting to allow the participation of D Cllr Mellen). Concern was expressed that the right use should be found for the site, even though it is in the neighbouring Parish of Wyverstone. After discussion it was agreed by the Council to set up a working party to find the right project to best utilise the land left vacant by the demolition of Bacton Middle School.

**May 23-19 Councillors' Reports and Items for Future Agendas** - None to report.

**The meeting closed at 8.30 pm**

Signed as a true record by authority of the Council

Chairman

Date