

BACTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 12 August 2024

In The Village Hall, Bacton, Suffolk

Councillors Present: Vanessa Kingsley (VK) (Chairman), Julie Bonner (JB), John Kingsley (JK), Graham Macausland (GM), James Steed (JS), Gail Wigglesworth (GW) and Paul Wigglesworth (PW).

Others in attendance: District Councillor Andrew Mellen (AM), County Councillor Andrew Stringer (AS), Tina Newell (Clerk) (TN) and one member of the public.

The Chairman advised of the Clerks resignation since the last meeting and due to illness the Clerk was unable to attend this meeting.

- 120824/01 Councillors resolved to appoint Tina Newell as the meeting Clerk.
- 120824/02 **Apologies for absence:** Paul Merry (PM) tendered apologies for absence prior to the meeting.
- 120824/03 All Councillors accepted PM's apology for absence.
- 120824/04 **Declarations of Interest (DoI) and Dispensations:** No declarations of pecuniary interests or other to consider.
- 120824/05 Councillors noted no requests for dispensations had been received and none were requested at the meeting.
- 120824/06 **Minutes of previous meeting:** All Councillors resolved to accept the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held 8 July 2024 and as a true reflection of the decisions made and authorised VK to sign the minutes (1 -11 inclusive).
- 120824/07 **Public Forum:** Members of the public had no questions and did not wish to express any views on agenda items or otherwise.
- 120824/08 **Road calming project:** Following the results of a Parish survey where residents agreed better pedestrian safety was required in the Parish including more signage, additional Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs), road lines and pedestrian crossings VK presented an overview of a project designed by Suffolk County Council in conjunction with Bacton Parish Councillors (the full project is appended to these minutes). Despite VK confirming the projects net cost of £50k could be

met from the Parish Councils Neighbourhood CIL money all Councillors resolved to request funding from AM and AS; AM confirmed he would rather allocate his grant money to projects other than highways and AM agreed to look at what signs from the project he is able to purchase using money from an extra pot of funding from the government for signage confirming he has no money available from his Highways or Locality budget.

- 120824/09 Noting AS may be able to offer financial support with some signs and the positive benefit the project would bring to the residents all Councillors proceeded to vote on instructing Suffolk County Council to carry out the work at a net cost of £50k to be met from Neighbourhood CIL (Highways Act 1980, s.274A); with six Councillors in support of the project and one against (PW) it was resolved to proceed with the purchase order; TN will confirm the award on the Contracts Finder website in accordance with NALC's model Financial Regulations.
- 120824/10 **Finance:** All Councillors resolved to defer this item to the September meeting.
- 120824/11 **Village Warden:** All Councillors noted the position has not been advertised and agreed to defer the appointment of a Parish Warden until the October meeting. It was resolved for the staffing committee to advertise the vacancy on Parish notice boards, social media and in the local magazine with a closing date for applications of 20 September 2024 and for the staffing committee to carry out interviews before bringing a recommendation for appointment to the October full Parish Council meeting.
- 120824/12 VK confirmed in the absence of the Parish Warden JK has been liaising with land owners to ensure hedges and bridleways are maintained.
- 120824/13 **Items to note or for inclusion in a future meeting:** Broad Road development manhole cover, flooding including riparian responsibilities, feedback from Bacton Fayre, update on no parking signs at Cow Green, grass cutting contract, notice boards in the Parish, garden of reflection and The Bacton Charities paths, update on the Neighbourhood Plan.
- 120824/14 All Councillors agreed to hold an extra ordinary meeting on Monday 19 August 2024 at 7pm to consider the appointment of a new Parish Clerk.

120824/15 VK closed the meeting at 7.40pm.