

Belstead Parish Council

Approved Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Wednesday 10 July 2019 at 7.30pm at the Village Hall, Belstead

Present: Cllr Richard Clift (Chair), Cllr Trevor Beckett (Vice-Chair), Cllr Christine Eade, Cllr Mark Fiske and Cllr Ken Stowe

Attendance: Cllr Jane Gould (District Councillor), David Jones (Cardiac Science) and Simon Ashton (Parish Clerk)

1. Apologies and Approval of Absences

All Members were present and there were therefore no apologies.

2. Declarations of Pecuniary or Non-Pecuniary Interests by Members

There were no pecuniary or non-pecuniary interests declared by Members.

3. Reports by the District Councillor and County Councillor

Cllr Gould delivered her district council report at the meeting. A copy of the report has been made available at the end of these minutes for information. Cllr Chris Hudson (County Councillor) had sent his apologies and did not attend the meeting.

4. Contributions by Members of the Public

There were no issues raised by members of the public.

5. Consideration of Planning Applications and Decision Notices

(a) BDC DC/18/04329: Application Granted (22 May 2019)

Land East of Holly Lane, Belstead, Suffolk

Members noted the outcome of this planning application.

(b) BDC DC/19/02130: Application Granted (25 June 2019)

Fieldgate, Chapel Lane, Belstead, IP8 3LR

Members noted the outcome of this planning application.

(c) BDC DC/19/01002: Comments Submitted (28 March & 25 June 2019)

Land South of Grove Hill, Belstead, Suffolk

Prompted by this planning application, Members agreed that it would be possible for input to be shared by a Member who had sent apologies in advance of a meeting.

6. Presentation of a Development of Affordable Homes by Paul Botterill, Street Farm

Mr Botterill had sent his apologies and did not attend the meeting. Members agreed to consider this item at the next meeting.

7. Finance

- (a) Members noted the Barclays Bank Community account balance of £18,764.69 and the Business Premium account balance of £6,346.83 as at 30 June 2019.
- (b) Following discussion, approval of a payment for a Belstead village sign amounting to £54.29 (including VAT and delivery) was agreed by Members. The Parish Clerk advised Members that invoices should be provided by suppliers in the name of the Council and only following prior approval of the purchase by Members at a Council meeting.
- (c) Members considered the subject of a financial contribution to the Village Hall and agreed that any payment would be considered following the receipt of a written request.
- (d) Payments were authorised in favour of the Parish Clerk's wages and office and personal expenses (£248.31) and Glasdon UK Ltd for a dog waste bin (£152.03). These payments were approved by Members.

8. Governance

- (a) Cllr Beckett confirmed that the SID unit had been collected for solar power conversion. He confirmed that an update on its return and re-installation would be provided at the next meeting.
- (b) Cllr Beckett confirmed that an additional dog waste bin had been delivered and that completion of installation work had been delayed due to a fixing issue. He confirmed that an update would be provided at the next meeting.
- (c) Cllr Beckett confirmed that the existing dog waste bin at the Church had been fixed.
- (d) Members were aware that a volunteer had not come forward to co-ordinate the village's newsletter and develop input to the In Touch magazine which was understood to already be in receipt of too many contributions. The Parish Clerk agreed to research the nature of the items featured in the magazine submitted by parish councils.
- (e) David Jones of Cardiac Science was welcomed to the meeting and provided Members with a demonstration of a defibrillator and responded to questions. He confirmed that defibrillator packages were available from £1,200 to £1,500 and would provide Members with written details and specific prices. Members agreed to discuss the purchase of a defibrillator and cabinet further at the next meeting.

9. Highways

- (a) Members agreed to postpone consideration of the replacement of an HGV Sign with the assistance of Cllr Hudson (County Councillor) at the next meeting.
- (b) A parishioner had requested that the Council consider the convening of a parish meeting to discuss the roads in the village. Following discussion, Members agreed that the best way forward was for him to make direct contact with Cllr Hudson (County Councillor).
- (c) There were no other Highways issues requiring consideration by Members.

10. Consultations

- (a) Members considered the subject of a response to the Babergh & Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan. Before the Council was to approve the response and submit a response by 30 September 2019, Members agreed to consider its content at a meeting at Cllr Beckett's address on 29 July 2019 at 6.30pm and to make recommendations at the next meeting.
- (b) Following discussion, Members agreed not to submit a response to the Ipswich Northern Route consultation which was required to be submitted by 13 September 2019.

11. Matters for Future Consideration

- (a) Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meetings on 24 June & 10 July 2019
- (b) Review of (i) Receipts & Budget (ii) Payments & Budget to 31 August 2019
- (c) Review & Approval of the Council's Bank Reconciliation to 31 August 2019
- (d) Review & Approval of Internal Audit Report 2018/19 Response & Action Plan

12. Dates of the Next Meetings

- (a) 25 September 2019 (Agenda Items & Documents Received by 17 September 2019)
- (b) 13 November 2019
- (c) 8 January 2020
- (d) The meeting finished at 9.40pm.

Simon Ashton, Parish Clerk

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25 September 2019

Report from Jane Gould, Babergh District Councillor for Belstead Parish Council for meeting on 10 July 2019

At the first annual meeting of the newly elected District Council on May 22 John Ward was elected leader again. The Conservatives, who had enjoyed a majority for the last four years, failed to win enough seats to claim power. They are two seats short of a majority, but a coalition has now been formed which means four Conservatives, three Independents and one Liberal Democrat will serve on the cabinet. There was anger among the Green group, we won four seats with 23% of the people who voted, voting Green, and we felt that as one eighth of the council are Green Councillors it merited a cabinet position. I quote our Green leader, Robert Lindsay, who said "I am more than disappointed, I am actually quite angry about it." However, the task of working together begins. We are all aware of the issues facing Babergh and will work to find solutions that move us forward in an appropriate way.

I am on the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and The Licencing and Regulatory Committee. I am also representing Babergh District Council on the Suffolk Flood Risk Management Scrutiny Subcommittee and the Joint Gypsy and Traveller Steering Group.

The new Council are feeling their way and settling into their committee work. A significant action is that The Joint Local Plan was passed at the last full council meeting and will now go forward for consultation. The consultation period starts on 22 July and will last for ten weeks. This is a longer period than normal because of the holiday season starting. Parish Councils and other interested parties will need to make robust comment about anything in their areas which may give them cause for concern. You do have a suggested allocation in your parish which you may like to comment on during the consultation period. Most of the Parish Councils in Orwell ward have formed working parties to look at the document. Any questions about the JLP are best sent to Robert Hobbs who is based in Endeavour House.

I am in contact with Derek Davis, District Councillor for Ganges ward, Mary McClaren District Councillor for Stour ward and Alistair McCraw District Councillor for Brantham ward so that we can work together to address possible cuts to our bus services and other issues local to the ward. Ric Hardacre is the Green Party District Councillor for Pinewood and he and I work together as well.

Full Council meetings are live streamed so you can watch them as they happen to hear the latest developments. The Joint Overview and Scrutiny committee meeting at the beginning of this month was also live streamed.

You may be given a new bin collection day within the next few weeks.