# **BLACK NOTLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY THE 24TH JANUARY 2024 AT 7.30 PM AT THE PAVILION MEETING ROOM AT THE BLACK NOTLEY PLAYING FIELDS, BLACK NOTLEY.

IN THE CHAIR: CLLR. S. PEDDER.

PRESENT: CLLRS. M. FORD, J. SMITH, M. SIMMONS, A. GEORGE, N. FERRIS,

S. ELDEN-LEE, S. GOLDBERG**.**

PARISH CLLR APOLOGIES: -CllrA. WOOD

Apologies received from District Councillors Ricci, Butland and County Councillor Playle.

1598/24 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

Cllr Simmons declared a person interest in item 9 The John Ray Millennium Green quotations.

1599/24 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.

1 member of the public present District Cllr Cunningham.

1600/24 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS.

Cllr Playle had previously circulated a report. Discussions had regarding our understanding on the proposed cuts to the number 21 bus service in the autumn, the Clerk to check this with Cllr Playle.

Cllr Cunningham reported that Community Funding is still available, the draft budget proposal to be discussed next week, and will be set in the middle of February. Prosperity funding applications we should hear by the end of the month, if we have been successful or not. Other funding available for environmental projects from the government details to be finalized shortly.

Cllr Ford arrived at 7.35pm having already given his apologies for lateness.

1601/24 MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON THE 13TH DECEMER 2023.

Minutes agreed with one item amended number 1594/23 minute altered to say ‘remain under Black Notley Parish Council control’.

Proposed Cllr Smith Seconded Cllr Simmons Vote Unanimous

1602/24 CLERKS REPORT.

Circulated.

Cllr Goldberg arrived at 7.45pm apologies for lateness given.

1603/24 HAYESWOOD DEVELOPMENT.

Cllr Cunningham was asked for his comments on this he suggested that we should ask for the S106 monies to be front loaded. He advised that Neil Jones from Braintree District Council should be acting on behalf of the Parish Council as well as Braintree District Council. He mentioned that when Great Notley was formed problems occurred over a period of years and we should ask BDC what they were, and how they were solved (or not) so stopping it happening again.  The question of a new Parish was raised as we had been given conflicting information, including de-parishing, clarification to be requested from BDC. One suggestion was initially accepting control, then as Hayeswood grows and more Councillors recruited from the new development, establish sub committees. A consortium management Committee was not seen as a good idea and BDC would not do it. Other questions raised could Neil Jones help with allocation of S106 between the two sites? Should the monies be kept in separate ledgers. It was decided a letter to go Neil Jones was needed, with all Councillors having opportunity to comment before sending. It was agreed that a request for a meeting with the Parish Council and Neil Jones be arranged.

1604/24 THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND –

Consultation – Deadline 19th February 2023.

Cllr Cunnigham gave a brief explanation on this document it was agreed to make no comment on this consultation.

1605/24 PLAYING FIELD –

a) Discussion on UK Power Networks Proposal.

Agreement in principle subject confirmation from Holmes and Hill who will be acting on our behalf. The Clerk to communicate with the Solicitor to ask if they can get an increase on the Easement payment UK Power have already agreed to pay our solicitors fee’s and the surveyor cost. They have asked what projects that we are working on at the moment, we have 2 projects at costs of between £3,950 - £5,722 + VAT for the alterations to the Pavilion building and concrete table tennis table £2,500 + VAT.

b) Update on quotes regarding the alterations to the Pavilion changing rooms. Work has been put out again to other Contractors. Quotes to be back in by the 2nd February.

c) Table Tennis Table. -

d) Circulation of quotations for the six months tree work recommended by Writtle Forest Consultancy. Agreed to go with Treecology at £3,888.00 + VAT to ask to do the work in June in the hope that the cherry tree survives the reduction, the Clerk to ask if they can hold the price.

Proposed Cllr Goldberg Seconded Cllr Smith Vote Unanimous

1606/24 THE JOHN RAY MILLENNIUM GREEN – Quotations a) Pergola Repair.

b) Hedge cutting.

Quotations had been received and circulated it was agreed to go with Customized Landscape

£529.17 + VAT.

Proposed Cllr Ford Seconded Cllr Ferris Vote Unanimous

Pergola cost £1,541.67 + VAT it was agreed to go with this price from Customized Landscape

other quotes requested not received.

Proposed Cllr Ford Seconded Cllr Smith Vote Unanimous

1607/24 CORRESPONDENCE.

\* Gigaclear Community Hub Scheme. It was agreed to suggest the Village hall as a venue to offer this service.

\* Community Engagement Team person. Cllr Pedder to find out more about this service and see if Braintree District Council know about it.

\* Cllr Pedder had received communications from the Church they are hoping to install a stain glass window for the 400th anniversary of John Ray’s birth in 2027. The Parish Council to support with raising funds to help fund this.

\* Request to hire facilities for youth team The Clerk to invite him to make a formal expression of interest with the details of what they would like the Clerk to invite to come to one of our meetings.

1608/24 UPDATE FROM THE COMMITTEE’S –

a) Communications update:-

Cllr Ford has written an article ready for the February magazine, which will be out the 1st week

of February. The leaflet boxes are up ready on the notice boards. It was suggested that the

Facebook page is integrated with the website, Cllr Goldberg to find out if this is possible.

1609/24 HIGHWAY / PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY ISSUES.

\* Circulation of the ‘data’ from the Speed Sign. Noted.

1610/24 FINANCE -

a) Circulation of the Finance List.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| D/D | SSE (street light supply) | £75.64 |
| D/D | A & J Lighting Solutions Ltd (street light supply) | £68.22 |
| D/D | EDF Energy (Pavilion) | £40.00 |
| D/D | British Gas Light Business (Pavilion) | £131.58 |
| D/D | BT for Pavilion Office | £40.74 |
| D/D | BT (for Parish Council mobile phone) | £10.80 |
| D/D | Nest (Pensions HW & RG) | £79.32 |
|  |  |  |
| B/Trans | Helen Waterfield (salary) | £813.83 |
| B/Trans | Helen Waterfield (mileage £7.20 + elec £30.00, BT Broadband & calls £28.32 + Farleigh xmas tree collection £50 + Avecoh webiste hosting £132.00 + plastic magazine holders £91.68) | £339.20 |
| B/Trans | Martin Cudlip (salary + backpay from April 2023) | £1,059.41 |
| B/Trans | Martin Cudlip (26 miles for December £11.70 + bird seed and fat balls £12.48) | £24.18 |
| B/Trans | Richard Goodman (salary + backpay from April 2023) | £1,398.08 |
| B/Trans | Ernest Does (2 x Strimmer’s and pedestrian lawnmower serving) | £494.52 |
| B/Trans | James Todd & Sons (monthly wages service) | £39.60 |
| B/Trans | BASICS (grant) | £500.00 |
|  |  |  |
|  | TOTAL | **£5,115.12** |

Proposed Cllr Simmons Seconded Cllr Ferris Vote Unanimous

b) Circulation of the Actual to Budget Spending Sheet.

Noted.

c) Setting of the Precept figure.

It was agreed to set the precept at £51,000 an increase from last year of £3,000 its been at £48,000 for 7 years. The Chairman signed the precept request form.

Proposed Cllr Ford Seconded Cllr George Vote Unanimous

1611/24 PLANNING.

**23/02845/FUL** Demolition of commercial building and erection of 2 dwellings. The Friary, Bakers Lane, Black Notley. The Parish Council has no objection to this application.

This site is included in the LDP, it has existing access as it is currently run as a small business premises which is expanding and relocating to a site on a Halstead Industrial Estate.  The site area is now surrounded by new residential properties and the application will improve the view.  This plan is within the environs of a Listed Building, therefore the Parish Council leave the final decision to Listed Buildings Consent.

**23/02669/HH** Amendment to extension. 20 Brain Valley Avenue, Black Notley. No additional comments made.

**24/00067/TPO** TPO. Tinkers Dell, 205 London Road, Black Notley. Yet to be visited.

1612/24 PLANNING FOR THIS YEAR’S ANNUAL ASSEMBLY MEETING.

Suggested location of the village hall, the repairs are due to be finished in February. Similar format as last year. The Clerk to contact the village hall committee.

1613/24DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY THE 28TH FEBRUARY 2024.

Meeting closed 9.20 pm

CHAIRMAN………………………………………….. DATE …………………………