# **BLACK NOTLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY THE 25TH SEPTEMBER 2024 AT 7.30 PM AT THE PAVILION MEETING ROOM AT THE BLACK NOTLEY PLAYING FIELDS, BLACK NOTLEY.

IN THE CHAIR: CLLR. J. SMITH**.**

PRESENT: CLLRS. M. FORD, A. WOOD, N. FERRIS, A. GEORGE,S. ELDEN-LEE.

Apologies for absence Parish Cllr S. Pedder, S. Goldberg.

Apologies for absence received from District Councillors Ricci and Cunningham.

1729/24 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

None.

1730/24 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

6 members of the public, including 3 gentlemen from UK Power Network, County Cllr Playle, 1 resident interested in the Parish Councillor vacancy.

1731/24 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS.

Report from Cllr Playle new program called Priority one investments in highways – improvements starting next month including large re-surfing projects. He advised that he will be meeting with the Digigo team very soon. The Clerk advised Cllr Playle that she completed the form to arrange a roadshow event, but they did not reply, some negative comments have been received about the service. New bus contract to come out - bus shelters to be replaced in this area are the London road shelters. Suggestion from Cllr George of additional signage from Bulford Mill Lane towards Cressing to encourage people to slow down.

1732/24 MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON THE 28TH AUGUST 2024.

Proposed - Cllr Ford Seconded - Cllr Ferris Vote Unanimous

1733/24 PLAYING FIELD – a) UK Power Network update:-

They apologized for the mis-communication that went out to earlier in the summer that was incorrect, press release sent out explaining the UKPN error. Update Bakers Lane part will open end of next week, cable pulling team to follow on, not fully open due to the work due to be done on London Road. The said they are 3 weeks ahead of the planned programme. Press release to explain the work to take place in October ½ term week. Cllr Elden Lee congratulated the team on how they have handled the members of the public during this time that have tried to cut through Bakers Lane whilst closed. Road sweeper to go along the roads and they will re-state the verges at the end of the programme. Offer of community projects for example a bench or similar items. Will be contacting Scouting Group to get involved in projects and explaining what they have been doing. Offer of flowering bulbs, possible assistant of the concrete pad for the table tennis table.

1734/24 CODE OF CONDUCT.

It was agreed to adopt the code of conduct.

Proposed - Cllr Ferris Seconded - Cllr Elden - Lee Vote Unanimous

1735/24 GDPR POLCY – Annual Review.

Legislation hasn’t changed since this has been adopted. It was agreed to adopt.

Proposed - Cllr Ford Seconded - Cllr George Vote Unanimous

1736/24 REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATIONS.

Cllrs Pedder, Wood and the Clerk had worked together and re-wrote the Financial Regulations

to adapt to Black Notley needs it was agreed to adopt these.

 It was agreed to re-new the current set of standing order**.** Reviewed no changes to stand for the next year.

Proposed - Cllr Ferris Seconded - Cllr Ford Vote Unanimous

1737/24 CLERKS REPORT.

Cllr Wood advised that nothing new to report on the cherry tree on Dewlands bank.

Cllr Ford asked the Clerk to send to James Cleverly each month the agenda and minutes.

1738/24 CORRESPONDENCE.

\* Responses received about the idea for a possible bench at Bedells Avenue. Some people for and some against, agenda item for October.

1739/24 UPDATE FROM THE COMMITTEE’S –

a) Communications update:- Update on the Website Audit / Research. Apologies from Cllr Wood she has had some technical issues and temporarily lost the folder with this research in, next month agenda item. Webit4U to be contacted to quote.

b) Update from the Greens Committee. – New meeting date and time to be agreed. It was

agreed to meet on Monday evenings going forward at 7.30pm, next meeting 14th October.

1740/24 HIGHWAY / PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY ISSUES.

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

\* Report from Community Speed Watch members – Report Cllr Pedder.

CSP have had an incident with someone filming them, advice has been taken from PC James Draper regarding this, they have a meeting on the 10th October to facilitate moving Community Speed Watch forward. Agenda item next month.

1741/24 FINANCE – a) Finance List.

|  |  |  |
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| D/D | SSE (street light supply)  | £78.31 |
| 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) | -£23.89  |
| D/D | BT for Pavilion Office | £45.48 |
| D/D | BT (for Parish Council mobile phone) | £9.72 |
| D/D | Nest (Pensions HW & RG previous months payment) | £94.02 |
|  |  |  |
| B/Trans | J & M Payroll Services Ltd (Salary fee, PAYE & Salary payments to all staff) Breakdown - Wages total £2,689.04 PAYE total £258.75, J & M Payroll £36.00). | £2,983.79 |
| B/Trans | Ernest Does & Sons Ltd (grass cutting blade for strimmer) | £45.18 |
| B/Trans | Friends of Historic Essex (membership) | £12 |
| B/Trans | WebIT4U Ltd (3 month bi-monthly uploads for website) | £97.20 |
|  |  |  |
|  | **TOTAL** | **£3,473.92** |

£453.00 payment received for this year’s allotment rent.

UK Power Network made a payment into the bank account of £4,700 on the 18th September

Proposed - Cllr Ferris Seconded - Cllr George Vote Unanimous

Update on Lloyds account - the Clerk is in the process of completing this paperwork Cllrs to sign and some to visit the bank with their ID.

1742/24 PLANNING.

 **23/02845/FUL and 23/02846/LBC**  Demolition of commercial buildings and erection of 2 dwellings. The Friary, Bakers Lane, Black Notley, CM77 8QS. Amendments received. No comment on this amendment.

**24/01575/TPO**  TPO. 89 Mary Ruck Way, Black Notley. No comment.

**Consultation – Sustainability Appraisal** (SA) of Braintree Local Plan: Scoping Report.

The Consultation covers the main aspects concerning the future development of areas within the District of BDC, assessing the impact of development on the Environment, Climate Change, Historic England, Health etc. The Parish Council endorses our previous comments re the Call for Sites 2024 Quote The Parish Council objects to any further extensions to the Village Envelope with the Call for Sites by BDC to which many Developers responded. Many of these proposals would extend the village envelope, take up useful agricultural land, are on a flood plain, or present a harsh view across the Protected Brain Valley, turning the village into an Urban Corridor and through Route Black Notley is a 3rd Tier Village with few facilities, a convenience store PO and a hairdressers. There is no School in the village and small children have a long hilly walk along a busy road or an expensive spasmodic bus service. Therefore everyday life is unstainable without a car. Further development will put pressure on the already overburdened road system adding to traffic using Bakers Lane for Chelmsford the M11 and Stansted, and to Witham and the A12. The Parish Council do not want to see further industrial expansion at Lyndeswood. A previous Planning Application has only recently been put forward for this site. Therefore the Parish Council does not wish to see further farmland taken over for Industry which will add to more Commercial vehicles/lorry movements onto an inadequate road system. Major changes to the village envelope and other large plans are not justified with the huge development within the Parish at Hayeswood included in the LDP for upto 1650 homes. It must be noted that the Parish Council have been in negotiations with BDC Planning Dept – Dan Gasgoine, Alison Rugg, Neil Jones and the developers for this site, stating that the existing road system and intended road system is not fit for purpose using Bakers Lane, Buck Hill, Church Hill the village as a through route to access Notley High School, Chelmsford, Stansted and the M11, and Witham for the A12. These roads are country lanes with pinch points and are single file in places. Unquote the Parish Council would like to add the following points taking in the further impact of future development on the wider area of Black Notley and local villages between Braintree and Witham. There has already been enormous development at Cressing, and Developers have submitted intentions to extend White Notley by building a Garden Village.

There is a single-track rail link between Braintree and Witham running a spasmodic service to London. Access to the stations Cressing and White Notley are along narrow unlit country lanes, not suitable for cyclists and there is no footway. The villages from Braintree to Witham, Black Notley, White Notley, Faulkbourne, are linked by a narrow unclassified road. It is bendy unlit and again unsuitable for cyclists. Any development at White Notley will put further pressure on this road to access Chelmsford/Stansted/M11. These are not sustainable areas for development without the use of a car. In Summary Development should first be on Brown Field Sites.

There should be no Development on good quality Agricultural land which is necessary for food production. Solar Farms/Panels should be installed on all newbuilds and Industrial Areas roofs – not on good grade agricultural land. Climate Change must be considered and building on Flood Plains avoided. The Sewage Works should be upgraded. Transport access -Infrastructure must be planned and implemented before construction. (How would a student in Black Notley, White Notley take up a college place in Chelmsford/Colchester). Wildlife Habitats must be considered, areas where wildlife can feed and breed, Urban football pitches are a sterile environment and not a suitable open space for wildlife. The Historic Environment must be considered, protecting character and graded buildings and landscapes. The Local Economy and Employment be balanced. The area has an ageing population therefore, more bungalows should be built for downsizers to encourage them to free up large family homes. Social housing should be for local residents.

**24/01928/TPO** - John Ray Gardens, Black Notley, Essex. Yet to be visited, this application is for several trees on the green open space.

1743/24 V.E. DAY CELEBRATIONS MAY 2025.

Ideas discussed of celebrations in village. Idea of performance from a community choir, liaise with Chaz at the BNCA when we know want event he is putting on. Party in the park was another idea, more research to be done on what other organizations are going to do. To be budgeted what and how much we are going to do and what its going to cost. Concerns raised from Cllr Wood on the work involved in organizing such an event and the risk assessments that will need to be done. Agenda item again next month.

1744/24 PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY.

Gentlemen interested attended the meeting and asked a few questions. The good Councillor guide pdf document to be forward onto him to read and Cllr Ford is happy to have a chat at any time. Agenda item October.

1745/24DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY THE 23RD OCTOBER 2024.

Meeting closed 8.55 pm

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