# **BLACK NOTLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY THE 23RD OCTOBER 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, A. WOOD, N. FERRIS, A. GEORGE, J. SMITH, S. GOLDBERG.

Apologies for absence received from District Councillors Ricci and Cunningham.

Cllr Playle advised he would be late as he was attending Silver End’s Parish Council meeting also this evening.

1746/24 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

None.

1747/24 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.

2 members of the public present. Mr Degville from Freedom and Mr Ackland resident interested in the Parish Council vacancy.

1748/24 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS.

Report from Cllr Playle he advised he would soon be meeting with Digigo along with Cllr Cunningham, original meeting was cancelled. Speed survey not done on Witham Road that was requested a year ago. The request was put in and has not been actioned, time line requested on this. He is pushing highways to fill the holes in the road on station road, White Notley. Concerns raised about the state of the bridge and handrail at Bulford Mill, Bulford Lane. Cllr Playle to look into this as winter is approaching.

1749/24 MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON THE 25TH SEPTEMBER 2024.

Proposed - Cllr George Seconded - Cllr Ford Vote Unanimous

1750/24 PARISH COUNCILLOR VACANCY.

It was agreed unanimous decision to co-opt Melvyn Ackland, who then joined the Parish Council at the table and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Proposed - Cllr Ford Seconded - Cllr George Vote Unanimous

1751/24 CLERKS REPORT.

Cllr Wood has no update on the cherry tree.

1752/24 PLAYING FIELD –

a) UK Power Network update:-

Essex County Council have received a high number of complaints but not as yet shared with either Freedom or the Parish Council regarding the Bakers Lane road closure. A meeting was held today the 23rd October with UKPN and ECC Highways. Concerns of maintenance issues raised today from ECC they maybe requesting that the job is closed and the road opened within 3 days. These concerns to be raised with Cllr Playle. UK Power Network are in negotiation with ECC highways regarding the number of concerns raised from the members of the public and the highways authority.

The Deed of Grant of Easement – UK Power Network was signed by Cllrs Pedder and Ferris and witnessed by the Clerk.

Cllr Goldberg arrived at 7.40 pm.

b) Table Tennis Table – Costings and Location. It was agreed that the Clerk go ahead and purchase the table tennis table circulated previously by Cllr Ferris from a company called SportsSafe. Location still to be agreed.

c) Circulation of costings for work suggested for the plumbing at the Pavilion. 2nd quote has not yet been received agenda item for November.

1753/24 DECISION ON A BENCH / SEAT LOCATION TO BE AGREED.

This item to be an article in the next edition of the magazine agenda item next month.

1754/24 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE – 10TH NOVEMBER 2024.

The Wreath laying this year to be done by Cllr Ferris, as the Chairman is away. Refreshments

Cllr Ackland is happy to help if someone can advise him what he needs to do. Cllr Ferris will

also be around. Clerk to speak to Scouts are they planning on doing it again this year.

1755/24 CHRISTMAS TREE.

It was agreed to order tree for delivery 1st week of December put the tree up on Saturday the

7th December and take it down on the 4th January 10am.

Proposed - Cllr Pedder Seconded - Cllr Ferris Vote Unanimous

1756/24 CORRESPONDENCE.

Cllr Goldberg asked about questions that we receive on facebook, the Clerk advised that it had

previously been agreed by the Council that facebook is used for information purposes and we

wouldn’t be replying to individual comments. Cllr George advised that we can ‘disable

comments’ this needs to be done when every new post is put up.

Cllr Playle arrived at 8.20 pm. The Chairman advised Cllr Playle of the negative comments that have apparently been received by ECC highways and engineering issues that have been raised regarding UK Power Network work on Bakers Lane, he was not aware of these concerns, the Chairman asked him to contact Freedom as soon as possible.

1757/24 UPDATE FROM THE COMMITTEE’S –

a) Communications update:- Update on the Website Audit / Research.

Cllr Wood reported we have re - newed the domain name and the 10 email addresses with Mcintosch Electronics. .gov originally for a 2 year period. Now annually agenda item next month. Domain name renewals’ Agenda item for communication committee next meeting. Cllr Wood in capacity of EALC job has had 2 zoom calls with the Cabinet Office, explaining about website and website accessibility information that is changing, when this is available it will be circulated. They are talking to the approved registrars. Cllr Goldberg has done some research and spoken to Braintree District Council currently their website is not compliant, he feels our current website could be altered to comply. Independent assessment and quotes to be obtained. It was agreed to ask Mcintosch Electronic’s, Eugine and Webit4U and a contact from Braintree District Council who Cllr Goldberg is going to speak to for assistance. The Clerk to get quotes for the next meeting if possible. Early November communications meeting to be arranged.

b) Contact details for Parish Councillors – onto Website and in Magazine.

It was agreed to list the names of all the Councillors, to contact them via the Clerk and give her

details. No photos. 10 email addresses are available that Councillors could use.

c) Update from the recent Greens Committee meeting. –

Cllr Wood gave a brief report on the meeting last week, Cllr Ackland would like to join this

Committee, table tennis table to be ordered.

1758/24 HIGHWAY / PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY ISSUES.

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

\* Report from Speed Watch members recent meeting – Cllr Pedder reported on the meeting. They have spoken to the local Police Officer about recent abuse received whilst out, 2 sessions held this month so far.

1759/24 FINANCE – a) Finance List.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 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) | -£15.01 |
| D/D | BT for Pavilion Office | £40.53 |
| D/D | BT (for Parish Council mobile phone) | £9.72 |
| D/D | Nest (Pensions HW & RG previous months payment) | £87.58 |
| B/Trans | J & M Payroll Services Ltd (Salary fee, PAYE & Salary payments to all staff) Breakdown - Wages total £2,404.84 PAYE total £ 209.97 J & M Payroll £36.00). | £2650.81 |
| D/D | Information Commissioners Office (annual renewal) | £35.00 |
| B/Trans | Macintosh Electronics (domain reg & email annual fee) | £68.40 |
|  | **TOTAL** | **£3,078.57** |

Proposed - Cllr Goldberg Seconded - Cllr Ferris Vote Unanimous

b) Draft List of all direct debits and salary payments for the year had been circulated,

it was agreed to carry on as we are currently doing that the Councilors that agree to authorize the payments agree to do this before 12 noon on the Thursday following the monthly meeting.

c) Circulation of the Actual to Budget spending sheet – for information.

d) First draft for the Precept for discussion. – Circulated.

1760/24 PLANNING.

**24/02041/HH** Replacement of an existing Juliet balcony with of an oak frame balcony with glass balustrade. Existing inward opening doors to be replaced with outward opening doors. Ludham Hall, Ludham Hall Lane, Black Notley, Essex, CM77 8QT. No objection.

**Prince Lorry Licensing 1** - The Depot, Bakers Lane. Steven Prince trading as Braintree Logistics Ltd at The Depot, Bakers Lane, Black Notley, Essex, CM77 8QS.The Depot was originally owned and used by Essex County Council Highways for storage of Gritting Vehicles and Supplies of salt for winter road gritting, so rarely used. Bakers Lane is an unclassified country lane, over the years it has become a rat-run and is unsuitable for HGV’s exiting onto a bad bend with poor visibility in the narrow lane. The Village end of Bakers Lane/Buck Hill is single file in places and is too narrow for 2 Lorries to pass one another without damaging the roadway and hedgerows. There is no pathway and cottages are only feet from the road. The War memorial at the Church Road / Witham Road junction is continually being badly damaged due to lorries turning right heading for the A12. (The rate payer is responsible for these perpetual repairs). This whole area is now under consideration with Braintree District Council and Highways and the Housing Developers as plans for 1650 houses will be submitted for this site and the Parish Council has insisted that the existing road system is inadequate and it is now under review. Black Notley Recreation Ground, owned and run by the Parish Council is on the left on Witham Road, it is a popular facility with many features for the local children and people to enjoy. There is still no pathway on this side of the carriageway at this point, access and visibility are poor and crossing the road can be a problem. The Parish Council does not want to exacerbate the problem with further lorry movements through the village. The country road continues through the village of Black Notley and villages to Witham and is used as a through route to the A12 destroying hedgerows and amenity enroute. For the above reasons the Parish Council does not want to see any further Licensing of Lorries until the local infrastructure is improved.

**Proposed telecommunications installation** at Hayeswood Farm, Notley Road, CM77 8JZ. Black Notley Parish Council endorse our previous comments made in 2020.  This is a huge dominant mast which will be visible above the tree line and will impact its surrounding area.

The Parish Council insist that any repositioning of the Mast would not be within the vicinity of existing housing and that the existing redundant tower be removed at the time of replacement.

This area which is within our Parish, is still under consideration for development as BLAN114 Hayeswood in the Braintree District Local District Plan.  The Parish Council therefore suggest that a decision be deferred, until more details are available for the future development of the Hayeswood site as information is lacking at the present time.

1761/24 V.E. DAY CELEBRATIONS MAY 2025. Agenda November.

1762/24DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY THE 27TH NOVEMBER 2024.

Meeting closed 9.40 pm

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