

## **BLACK NOTLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY THE 11TH DECEMBER 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,  
                          M. ACKLAND, S. ELDEN-LEE.

Parish Cllr apologies - J. SMITH, S. GOLDBERG.  
Apologies for absence received from District Councillors Ricci and Cunningham.

1778/24 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.  
None.

17779/24 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME.  
3 members of the public present, 1 being a representative from Freedom and County Cllr Playle who arrived at 8.10pm and left at 8.30pm.

1780/24 REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS.  
Report below from Cllr Playle.

1781/24 MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON THE 27TH NOVEMBER 2024.  
Proposed – Cllr Ford            Seconded – Cllr Ackland       Vote – Unanimous

1782/24 CLERKS REPORT.  
Email circulated that had been received from ECC regarding the Cherry Tree on Dewlands bank.

1783/24 PLAYING FIELD –  
a) UK Power Network update:-  
It was reported that the fence and gate will go back up at the end of this week and the harris fencing to be cleared by the weekend. It was advised that the shrubs and saplings will not take at this time of year, so will not be planted now but to wait until the spring to re-plant. The Clerk to re-send dimension of table tennis table base.

1784/24 DECISION ON A BENCH / SEAT LOCATION TO BE AGREED.  
Agenda January as the article is in the current edition of the magazine.

1785/24 NALC - Enabling remote attendance and proxy voting at local authority meetings consultation end date 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024.  
The Parish Council have grave reservations and would prefer to maintain the face to face meetings.

1786/24 THE POTENTIAL OPEN SPACE IMPROVEMENTS PLAN (formerly known as the Open Space Action Plan). Deadline 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025. (Black Notley page 6).  
Re-send email agenda item again in January.

1787/24 CORRESPONDENCE.  
\* Letter from Office of the Traffic Commissioner – GIH Construction Ltd. The application has been refused for reasons unconnected to the Parish Councils response.

\* An email had been received and circulated from MP James Cleverley's Chief of Staff, it was agreed that the Clerk replies to arrange a 'closed meeting' in February to ask what would be the format of the meeting?

1788/24 UPDATE FROM THE COMMITTEE'S –

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

It was proposed to go with Macintosh Electronics for the hosting £60 + VAT per year and to get the Clerk trained, then a separate quote is required when the Parish Council have agreed on the WCAG2.2 AA re-development.

Proposed – Cllr George      Seconded – Cllr Ferris      Vote – Unanimous

Cllr Playle arrived at 8.10 pm and left at 8.30 pm

Report from Cllr Playle – he spoke regarding the Devolution process a consultation to be published before the end of the year, the Parish Council will also be affected by this possible change. There is another member's lead skills programme before the end of the year, any suggestion please let Cllr Playle know. Digigo roadshow date to be set for the new year at the pavilion meeting room. Traffic speed results – Cllr Playle spoke on the recent results that had been circulated, more signage was offered by Highways, Cllr Playle to advise us of the recommended signs.

b) Update from Greens Committee: – 'notes' of meeting circulated to all Cllrs. Discussed JPB Landscapes estimate. Cllr Wood to find out more information about Sole Trustee's claiming back VAT. It was agreed to get a quote for 1 cut and drag to the bottom of the meadow and 2 just cut and drop, a total of 3 cuts a year.

1789/24 HIGHWAY / PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY ISSUES.

\* Circulation of the 'data' from the Speed Sign. Circulated.

Cllr Auckland gave a brief report on his recent meeting at Highways, 'Integrated Transport meeting' held by ECC earlier in the month with Cllr Pedder.

1790/24 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)	£31.20
D/D	BT for Pavilion Office	£39.85
D/D	BT (for Parish Council mobile phone)	£9.72
D/D	Nest (Pensions HW & RG previous months payment)	To be confirmed
B/Trans	J & M Payroll Services Ltd (Salary fee, PAYE & Salary payments to all staff) Breakdown - Wages total £2,564.83 PAYE total £216.41, & J & M Payroll £36.00).	£2,817.24
B/Trans	Ernest Doe & Sons Ltd (blue roll)	£28.49
B/Trans	Wheaton Farm (Christmas tree)	£144.00
B/Trans	Susan Pedder (refreshments for Remembrance Service)	£23.00
B/Trans	Olivers Plants (bedding plants for flower boxes)	£80.00
B/Trans	P G Bones (circulation pump fitted to heating system)	£272.76
B/Trans	Sportsafe (table tennis table)	£5062.07

B/Trans	JPB Landscapes Ltd (cutting of Cokers Peace)	£330.00
	TOTAL	£9,024.86

Proposed – Cllr Ford                      Seconded – Cllr Ferris                      Vote – Unanimous

b) Discussion on the Precept.

Updated figures circulated. The National Insurance cost to be added this is new change from April 2025 for employers.

1791/24 PLANNING.

**24/02494/HH** Holly House, Dewlands, Black Notley. Proposed two storey side & single storey front extension. Insertion of 2 No. rear dormers & 1 No. rear roof light & 3 No. front roof lights to enable loft conversion. The Parish Council do not object to the extension on this site, however the Parish Council has reservations as to the design of the dormers which reach to top of the pitch of the roof which could give a dominating appearance to the rear and side of the house.

**Braintree District Council consultation** - Design Code Supplementary Planning Document.

Can be submitted by individuals also, it's an online process.

1792/24 Investment Strategy and Policy Scheme.

A draft suggestion had been circulated it was established when we reviewed the Financial Regulation that we did not have this policy in place. It was agreed to go with this document.

Proposed – Cllr George                      Seconded – Cllr Wood                      Vote – Unanimous

1793/24 FLAG'S – Suggested list to be circulated by Cllr Ferris.

It was agreed that 'Official' flags only for our pole. The other raised bed we could put seasonal flags. Flags to be flown the St George cross, on the Kings Coronation day, to purchase a Essex Flag, and a new St Georges and Union Jack flag. Possibility of doing a Black Notley flag in the future planning permission would be needed for this. Price to be obtained from the company we got the pole from originally as this would be better quality.

Proposed – Cllr Auckland                      Seconded – Cllr Ferris                      Vote – Unanimous

1794/24 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING WEDNESDAY THE 22ND JANAUARY 2025.

Meeting closed 9.20 pm

CHAIRMAN..... DATE .....