

BINTREE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES of MEETING of BINTREE PARISH COUNCIL
which took place on
Wednesday 23rd March 2022

Councillors Present: C Langford, G Frost, M Sargent, R Tooke

Parish Clerk – Jane Fabisz - was present to take minutes

15/22 To receive apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr Pitcher

16/22 Declarations of interest on the agenda and considerations of any requests for dispensation

None received

17/22 To agree the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 26th January 2022

Minutes were agreed by all and signed by Cllr Langford

18/22 To consider responses to the Parish Councillor vacancy

It was reported that there had been little interest in the vacancy which had been advertised on facebook and the Parish Council website. The council remains quorate with the current councillors and elections will be next year.

Cllr Tooke reported that her neighbour had shown some interest but had not as yet been in touch

Cllr Langford suggested that talking to parishioners may be an effective way of gaining interest

Cllr Sargent suggested that it may not be something that anyone was looking to do at the moment given the current climate

Cllr Frost suggested promoting the vacancy at the Open Church event (23 April)

19/22 Public Participation

No members of the public were present

20/22 Finance

- a) To approve expenditure items
Roger Neal – Grass Cutting -£1668.00
Jane Fabisz – Clerk Salary - £450.00

These payments were approved by all councillors

It was noted that the bank account needed to be updated with new signatories and then the council would apply for online banking.

- b) To receive an update on financial arrangements in light of recent changes of Clerk and Parish Council members.

The Clerk suggested that the council uses HMRC Basic PAYE tools to make salary payments. This was approved by all councillors

The Clerk will register the council and input salary information which will need to be signed off by councillor/s beforehand for due diligence purposes.

Action: Clerk to register Bintree Parish Council with HMRC Basic PAYE Tools

21/22 To review contract of employment for Parish Clerk

The Clerk had sent a draft contract of employment based on NALC / SLCC template for councillors for consideration and approve for her employment. This remains under consideration whilst councillors take account of all clauses.

Action: All Parish Councillors

22/22 To receive an update on the defibrillator project plan

Cllr Langford reported that he had not had any response from the recent application to London Hearts. The Clerk will get in touch again and chase up and also contact Community Heartbeat Trust to get an understanding of costs. Cllr Frost reported that the funds were available for a defib

Action: Clerk to research options

23/22 To consider any updates on community events in 2022

- a) Church Open Morning / Day – to gather community feedback regarding the potential future of the Church within the Village.

It was agreed that an Open Morning would be held at the Church on 23rd April to allow parishioners to put forward ideas on the future of the Church/ repurposing of the Church.

It was reported that previous enquiries had suggested that uses for the church were varied as long as they did not conflict with a Christian ethos which does not prohibit event where alcohol might be available. It was confirmed that the altar and font would have to remain in place. It was also noted that the venue has no toilet facilities, lighting or heating but funding might be possible but not from the Diocesan Church Trust.

Cllr Sargent suggested that part of the church could be converted into a meeting room. Cllr Langford explained that there were other issues such as the flooring which would need replacing and furniture would have to be updated potentially selling what was already there.

The Clerk will draft up a poster for an Open Morning and send to Cllr Sargent for review, this can then be published on the village notice board and social media sites. Cllrs agreed to provide Teas and Coffees at the event.

Cllr Tooke said that it would be an opportunity to display artwork from the Art Club.

Action: All Parish Councillors

- b) Queens Platinum Jubilee

It was agreed that this matter would be raised with parishioners at the Church Open Morning to gain any interest.

The Clerk suggested that a Lunch or Picnic event such as a street party would fit with local and national celebrations.

The lighting of Beacons will be on 2nd June at 9.45pm.

24/22 To receive any updates for possible future reconstitution of Bintree and Twyford Village Hall & Playing Field Association in relation to the parish council.

Cllr Frost asked for this item to be carried forward to the next meeting.

25/22 Planning Applications

- a) TPO application – Old Rectory – TRE/2022/0062/TPO

It was agreed that the response from the Parish Council was that they would prefer that the tree was not cut down.

Reason given: we should be preserving trees of this age and it was there when house was built

Action: Clerk to respond to email from Breckland Tree Officer

26/22 To consider highways matters

- a) Norfolk County Council proposes to make a temporary traffic order affecting the U35154 Church Road from its junction with C219 The Street for 30m westward in the parish of Bintree because of new water works.

It was noted that this is to connect the water mains to the Rectory.

27/22 Correspondence

- a) A local resident has emailed about whether there are any social activities in Bintree.

It was agreed that the Clerk would email a response to suggest that the resident attend the Church Open Morning to discuss any suggestions.

Action: Clerk to email resident

28/22 Election of Village Trustee

Cllr Langford explained that there is a charitable trust set up in Bintree governed by the Charity Commission. It has 4 Trustees and a new one is elected or re-elected each year. All 4 Trustees are nominated by the Parish Council. This year Cllr Pitcher is up for re-election but he has indicated that he does not want to be re-elected.

Cllr Langford has spoken to a parishioner who may be interested and will explore this option further.

29/22 To receive any items for inclusion on the next agenda

Cllr Tooke requested that the old road through to Stone Rd be on the next agenda to discuss if this could become an official footpath between Bintree and Twyford.

Cllr Langford said it would make a good footpath – just need to clear the road chips where it and also it straddles a ditch.

It was agreed that this would be on the next agenda

30/22 Date of next meeting – 25th May 2022