

Minutes of the Bintree Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday December 3rd 2024 at 7.00 p.m. in Foulsham Baptist Church, Foulsham

Councillors Present:- Cllr G Holmes, Cllr C Bone and Cllr J Hoskins

Other Members Present: - Dist. Cllr Gordon Bambridge, Mrs G Hubbard, Clerk and Mr Lee Bright from Leeroy Services

1. To elect the Chairman of the Parish Council.

Cllr Bone proposed Cllr Hoskins for the position of Chairman, seconded by Cllr Holmes. Cllr Hoskins accepted the position. The Clerk received the signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.

2. Welcome by the Chairman and to consider accepting apologies for absence.

Cllr Hoskins welcomed those present to the meeting. There were no apologies to receive as Mrs Tooke had resigned in September and Mr Langford had resigned earlier that evening.

3. To receive declarations of interest and consideration of any requests for dispensation.

None were received.

4. To confirm and accept the minutes of the meeting held on 1st October 2024.

The minutes had been circulated. Cllr Hoskins proposed the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr Bone and carried.

5. To discuss any matters arising from the minutes of October (not on the agenda).

There were no matters arising.

Public Participation Period

Mr Lee Bright from Leeroy Services was present at the meeting and he spoke about the problems that can arise from grass cutting. He and the Parish Councillors spoke about what grass cutting is required in Bintree. He stated that if a special event was planned at the Church, then he would make sure that the grass looked neat and tidy. He will send in another quote and quote for the complete year. He said he needs to trim the trees so he can cut the grass around the grave stones. Inside the graveyard some hedge needs trimming. He wished to know if in January if he is going to receive the Contract for the grass cutting job. The companies that are tendering will be asked to requote.

6. To discuss any correspondence received.

The Clerk had received a letter from Breckland Council informing her it was now possible to co-opt onto the Parish Council a replacement for Mrs Tooke. The Clerk will contact Breckland Council again regarding the resignation of Mr Langford.

7. To authorise any necessary Financial Payments

Cllr Bone proposed the following financial transactions be authorised for payment, seconded by Cllr Hoskins and carried:-

Clerk's net salary £453.96

Clerk's expenses for October and Nov. £75.29

HMRC Tax for Oct. and Nov. £113.40



8. To receive an update on the grass cutting quotes.

This was discussed under the Public Participation Period.

9. To discuss any Planning Issues,

3PL/2024/0725/F Algys Farm Shop, Billingford Road, extension to existing car parking area to provide overflow and seasonal parking, including additional landscaping to boundary. No decision at the moment.

The Clerk informed the Parish Council that she no longer receives weekly updates regarding planning applications that have been submitted and decisions made. She was advised to send an email to Mr Simon Wood to see if this can be reinstated.

10. To receive an update on the defibrillator project – training

Mr Langford had sent an email to Cllr Hoskins asking him to pay an invoice for a payment in relation to the defibrillator. Mr G Frost has told Mr Hoskins he will be willing to check the defibrillator, as Mr Langford is no longer able to do so.

11. To discuss Highways Matters

a. To gather any current concerns with highways around the village.

Pot holes have been reported by Cllr Bone. A cone has been placed by the large pot hole.

b. To discuss Road Sweeping solution for The Street.

Cllr Bone was in contact with Serco last year. He has heard nothing for none months. When a fixed date is made, leaflets can be given to the car owners so they can know to move their cars and the leaves can be swept up satisfactorily. The road will be swept if there is going to be an event in the village.

12. To discuss footpaths

Footpaths are dealt with by Norfolk County Council. Two footpaths need to be cleared. One is on the 1067 road and has very high grass. Cllr Bone keeps contacting Norfolk County Council and was told that something might be done in the spring. A gate is continually tied up and there is an access issue. This will be looked at. There is a turnstile and it is down to the landowner to deal with any problems relating to this. Anything intruding on the footpath is the responsibility of the landowner. Norfolk County Council have to keep the ground clear. It is usually a minimum of one metre that must be clear. There is no legal provision for Disabled Access.

13. To discuss the lights on the playing field situation.

Some floodlights have been put on the playing field. The Parish Council discussed the complications of the matter and the interpretation of fixed/temporary equipment. The parents of the children involved with the sport had purchased the lights at their own expense and sited them. They should have sought guidance and permission but were possibly not aware of this. It was agreed that the Bintree and Twyford Village Hall Playing Field Association should apply for the planning permission.

14. To receive and discuss, if necessary, the financial update.

This document had been circulated. No-one had any questions regarding the figures.

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15. To set the precept for 2025 – 2026.

Cllr Holmes proposed the precept be set at £6,000.00, seconded by Cllr Bone and carried.
The Clerk will inform Breckland Council of the decision.

16. To discuss the urgent need for additional Parish Councillors.

The Parish Council now has only three Parish Councillors. They will all speak to some residents to see if they can persuade anyone to join the Parish Council, as they now only have a quorum.


17. To receive items for the next agenda.

Parish Councillor co-option.

To discuss adding a zebra crossing to enable safe crossing on the A1067.

18. To set date, time and venue of the next Parish Council meeting.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 30th January 2025 at 7.00 p.m. in Foulsham Baptist Church, Foulsham. There being no further business to discuss, Cllr Hoskins declared the meeting closed at 9.05 p.m. and thanked everyone for their attendance.


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Chairman


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Date