

Minutes of the Bintree Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 25th January at 7.00 p.m. in The Baptist Church, Foulsham

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

Other Members Present: - Mrs G Hubbard, Clerk

1. Welcome by the Chairperson and to consider accepting apologies for absence
Cllr Tooke welcomed those present to the meeting. There were no apologies received for absence.

2. To receive declarations of interest and consideration of any requests for dispensations
None were received.

3. To confirm and accept the minutes of the meeting held on 10th November
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.

4. To discuss any matters arising from the minutes of September (not on the agenda)
There were no matters arising.

Public Participation Period
No Public were present.

5. To authorise any necessary Financial Payments if possible
Cllr Hoskins proposed Cllr Tooke be reimbursed for the Poppy Wreath she paid for last November, costing £23.98, seconded by Cllr Bone and carried.

6. To receive an update on banking position because of new Clerk
The Clerk will be completing and sending off a form for Internet banking and Cllr Tooke will be filling in a new Mandate Form to remove old signatory Councillors from the Lloyds bank account and to make sure the correct signatory Councillors are put on.

7. To discuss any Planning Issues, if necessary
There were no planning issues to discuss.

8. To receive an update on the defibrillator project
The defibrillator is ready to be used if necessary but at the moment there is no power in the telephone box. This problem will take 6 months to deal with. The biggest problem is to make it look respectable. Cllr Langford has the paint and when the weather is better, it will be done. The defibrillator should be checked monthly to make sure it is working properly. Cllr Langford is happy to carry out the monthly check up. The fact that there is a defibrillator will be advertised on the notice board and any other ways possible.

9. To discuss Highways Matters

a. To receive feedback on research into the possibility of introducing a public footpath along the path of the old road alongside the A1067 between Bintree and Twyford

Trees have been trimmed to be able to upgrade the transformer. A survey had been done according to their rules and regulations by Norfolk County Council and there was a long list of items needing attention through Norse and the cost was about £94,000.00. There were ways of reducing the cost slightly so if changes were made the price could be a bit cheaper. It might be possible for the Parish Council to arrange for some items of work to be carried out in other ways. The area in question is very overgrown and near to the Highway, so that is why the cost is so very high.

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

The sweeping does take place through the village but no one is informed when this is going to happen, so cars were not moved to facilitate this and only half the job was carried. The Clerk will complain about this to Highways.

c. Footpaths

There are pot holes along the road by the chicken houses on Yarrow Road and these will be reported to Highways.

d. To discuss Road Sweeping solution for The Street

This has already been discussed.

e. Drainage issue on The Street

It has been prioritised for repair and a letter has been sent to the land owner. The edge of the road is being eroded. There was no explanation as to what the repair will be or when it will be done. Cllr Bone will be contacting Norfolk County Council for an update.

10. To discuss Parishioners' rights on Bintree Woods

One of the Parish Councillors wished to be informed if the residents had any rights to collect wood from Bintree Woods. He was informed they did not have any rights to do this because the Woods are under the Forestry Commission rules.

11. Village Events – update for the Coffee Morning idea

The date for this event will be Saturday 10th February at St. Swithin's Church in Bintree, from 10 a.m. until 12 noon. Flyers for this event will be created by Cllr Tooke and she will deliver them.

12. To discuss any necessary correspondence received.

To consider graveyard maintenance in response to correspondence.

A resident had complained about the state of the graveyard because she thought it looked very unkempt. Cllr Tooke responded by stating that the grass was high and moles did not help the situation. She said the Parish Council was endeavouring to get the problem sorted out.

13. To discuss the budget and set the precept for 2024 -2025

The budget document had been circulated and was discussed. Cllr Langford proposed the precept be set at £6,000.00 and this proposal was seconded by Cllr Hoskins and carried. The Clerk will inform Breckland of their decision.

14. To discuss the website situation – update from the Clerk

The Clerk has been in contact with Mr Jackman and he has agreed to help her get the website more easily accessible and has advertised that it would be very sensible for the Parish Council to change the domain name from the 'free one' to one that will appear at the top of the list for people searching for the Parish Council. There will be a cost but it will be worth it in the long run.

15. To discuss the option for a bottle bank in the village

After some discussion, the Parish Council decided a bottle bank was not a good idea because of the problem of broken glass lying about. Also, residents are able to put glass bottles in their recycling bin, which is emptied fortnightly. This is arranged by the local council and, therefore, residents would be less likely to look elsewhere for a bottle bank in which to deposit their bottles.

16. To receive items for the next agenda

To discuss any ideas regarding how to recruit some more Parish Councillors.

17. To set meeting dates for the remainder of 2024

The meeting dates for the remainder of the year will be Thursday March 28th, Thursday 23rd May, Thursday 25th July, Thursday 26th September and Thursday 28th November. All meetings will start at 7.00 p.m. and the venues will be advertised nearer the time.

The May meeting is the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council and will be preceded by the Annual Meeting of the Parish.

18. To agree date and time of next Parish Council meeting

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 28th March at 7.00 p.m. in The Baptist Church, Foulsham.

There being no further business to discuss, Cllr Tooke declared the meeting closed at 9.0 p.m. and thanked everyone for their attendance.

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Chairman

21.3.24
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Date