

THE MINUTES OF THE BANHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE BANHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE, THURSDAY 1st JUNE 2023 AT 7:30PM

Present: Mr Brendan Sparks, Dr Jo Dalton, Mr Keith Drewrey, Mr Rob Plom, Mrs Valerie Plummer, Mr Steve Askew, Mr David Winch, Mr Laurie Betts, Mr Ralph Burton

9 Members of the Public also in attendance

<u>Item</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Actions</u>
1.	<u>Welcome:</u> The Vice Chairman welcomed Councillors, members of the public, Mr David Winch of Breckland Bridge, Mr Ralph Burton & Mr Laurie Betts from Breckland Council and Councillor, Mr Stephen Askew.	Vice Chairman
2.	<u>Apologies for Absence:</u> Apologies for absence from The Chairman & Ms Pam Spicer	
3.	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> There were no declarations	

PUBLIC SESSION

Meeting adjourned to receive comments from the Public

A member of the public advised on an overgrown Footpath off Greyhound Lane. This had been identified and reported to the council following the last meeting, and The Clerk agreed that she would report this again. (Footpath 13)

MEETING RECONVENED

<u>Item</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Action</u>
4.	<u>Previous Minutes:</u> Minutes of the 11 th May meeting available and signed by the Vice Chairman Minutes of the 5 th May 2022 annual meeting available and signed by the Vice Chairman	Vice Chairman
5.	<u>Coronation Celebrations:</u> Dr Dalton advised that the Coronation Celebrations went well and all feedback has been positive.	Dr Dalton
6.	<u>Allotments:</u> The Vice Chairman advised that following a recent inspection, the majority of the allotments are being kept well. There were a couple of allotments which	Vice Chairman/ The Clerk

	<p>have not been worked on for a while. The Clerk advised one of the plot holders is ill and assistance is being given to 'tidy' this plot and further confirmed the 2nd plot holder has been to the allotment recently, and has started some general upkeep.</p>	
7.	<p><u>Community Orchard:</u></p> <p>There is intention for a visit to be made to the Kenninghall Orchard Group in the near future.</p>	Dr Dalton/ The Clerk
8.	<p><u>Dog Waste Bins:</u></p> <p>Dog Waste Bins have gone in on Winfarthing Road, and Kenninghall Road outside the Community Centre. There is one further bin to be fitted at the 'Kissing Gate' on Church Lane. The Clerk will discuss this further with The Charman as to when this might be done.</p>	The Clerk/ The Chairman
9.	<p><u>Play Area:</u></p> <p>The Clerk provided general advice on the ROSPA inspection which is due to take place in June/July.</p> <p>Mrs Plummer advised on brambles growing through the hedge. Mr Drewrey will have a look at this.</p>	Vice Chairman
10.	<p><u>Abattoir:</u></p> <p>The Clerk advised that a letter had been sent to the owners previously advising on the recent events which have occurred, and asking for assistance and advice on the intentions for the abattoir.</p> <p>Following a lack of response, The Clerk confirmed she has contact Environmental Health at Breckland and requested their assistance but that to date, no reply had been received as to their intentions. The Clerk will keep on top of this, and advise once there are any updates.</p>	The Clerk
11.	<p><u>Banham PC Website:</u></p> <p>The Clerk advised that the new website template was ready to launch, but confirmed that we need to consider appropriate content for the site. In the Chaiman's absence, this item has been deferred for the July meeting and further consideration by the PC.</p>	All
12.	<p><u>Change to Banham Bus Route 37:</u></p> <p>The Clerk advised of the previous intended cancellation of the Banham Bus Route 37. The Clerk advised that the Parish Council had sent a strongly worded letter to the Transport Dept objecting to the cancellation of this route along with others, and further that the Bus Route would be continuing, as well as a slightly better service being provided.</p>	The Clerk
13.	<p><u>Banham Wheels Project:</u></p> <p>In the Chaiman's absence, this item has been deferred for the July meeting.</p>	All
14.	<p><u>Highways/Street Lights/Footpaths/Hedges:</u></p>	The Clerk

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The Clerk provided an update in respect of the missing street light on Grove Road and confirmed this was in hand with Clayland Homes, and we are simply awaiting confirmation of the replacement date. * The Clerk advised on the new handrail fitted on F.P 20. * The Clerk confirmed she had been in touch with Clayland Homes, and advised that the 'fill in' of the 'pull in spaces' at the side of Grove Road would hopefully be taking place shortly. * The Council verge cutting in Banham had taken place at the end of May * Mr Drewrey advised the give way sign at the Grove Road/C142 Junction is being obstructed by hedgerow. Also advised this is facing the wrong way. The Clerk to report to Highways. * The Warning sign at junction of Grove Road/C142 is being obstructed by an overgrown hedge. The Clerk to report to Highways. * The 30mph sign on he Grove Road is being obstructed by an overgrown hedge. The Clerk to report to Highways. 	
15.	<p><u>Speed Signs:</u></p> <p>In the Chaiman's absence, this item has been deferred for the July meeting.</p>	
16.	<p><u>Greyhound Lane Development Action Group:</u></p> <p>Welcoming David Winch of Breckland Bridge, & Ralph Burton & Laurie Betts from Breckland Council. Councillor, Stephen Askew.</p> <p>Mr Winch advising that the Greyhound Lane site has been allocated for the building of 49 detached and semi detached houses and bungalows of a modern architect style along with a large public open space, and Children's play area.</p> <p>The 2020 Local Plan gives guideline for developments of more than 11 units to have 25% affordable homes. 10 of the 49 houses are to be allocated as 'Affordable Housing',</p> <p>The scheme will be carried out in 2 phases with 50% of the houses/bungalows being built in the 1st phase and 50% in the 2nd phase. There is no definite timeline on how long the build will take but there will only be a short break between phases. Mr Winch advised that a risk assessment had been carried out, and confirmed that this had demonstrated that the development would not contribute to surface flooding.</p> <p>Mr Winch was advised that the original plan has changed so far as the placement of bungalows and houses, and it was questioned by members of the public why so many houses will be overlooking properties already in situ, particularly when considering the site will be elevated. Mr Winch advised that Planning officers have suggested the changes, and advised that houses which were originally facing into the development are now facing out of the development.</p> <p>It was pointed out to Mr Winch by a member of the public that the Local plan TR02 – Transport Requirements states that "proposals will be permitted, provided they avoid inappropriate traffic generation compromising highway safety".</p> <p>Mr Winch was advised that the Greyhound Lane is a single track lane with no pavements, and that it is difficult for 2 vehicles to safely pass. The quickest way for vehicles wanting to travel onto the A11 will be via Greyhound Lane, and as such the traffic here will become excessive. Mr Winch confirmed that</p>	The Clerk

there is to be a footpath leading to a children's play area placed across Greyhound Lane, and listened to comments that this would be on a blind bend leading to potential safety issues. Mr Winch confirmed that Highways engineers' have been consulted, and have seen the plans in respect of the footpath and considered the main flow of traffic in and out of the development which will come through Wayland Way. Mr Winch advising this is a point to focus on when raising objections.

David Winch advising that there are currently 8 spaces available in local schools and confirmed that consideration had been given to this and also the GP surgery prior to the site being allocated. Mr Winch heard that approximately 40 children will have to travel outside of the village to take their kids to school going against the green infrastructure and he advised again that this had all been taken into consideration, and reported upon. Mr Winch advising this is a point to focus on when raising objections.

Mr Winch was unable to comment on the 2019 Local Plan advising on the projected amount of allocated houses to be built in Banham. The Vice Chairman pointed out that at this stage, we are already 43 houses over what had been projected to 2036. The Clerk will raise queries in respect of this.

It was pointed out to Mr Winch that the Wildlife Bat Survey carried out in 2021 is now out of date as it is valid for only 12 months. The current survey focuses on 3 hedges and these being used for foraging of Banham's bats and local wildlife. The plans suggest that all hedging would be maintained however, Mr Winch explained that there would be 2 roads placed through the hedges. It was agreed that this needs to be raised with Breckland in order that a new Wildlife Survey is carried out and consideration be given to all 6 hedges on the site rather than just the 3 considered at this time.

Mr Betts of Breckland Planning advised that they are a partner to the scheme, and he looks after property and land assets. He advised he is happy to look further at the scheme to see if they could achieve more so far as the community needs. Mr Betts advising that they need to bring more housing into the district but not always possible to obtain land where they want it to be, and advised if there are concerns about Highways then they can be contacted, but went on to say that they have been consulted extensively throughout this project and looked at all matters in detail. Mr Betts unable to comment on profit/surplus, but advised that any surplus would be put back into the council. He is happy to look at this further and come back to us with approximate figures if able. Mr Betts also advising that they could look to get a local Highways Engineer to attend the next meeting, and to look further at the safety of Greyhound Lane and maybe speak with local residents. Mr Betts confirmed that they would look into the 2019 Local Plan with projection figures for new housing in Banham and come back to us.

Mr Askew advising that on the 7th June, a traffic counter is going to be placed on the Greyhound Lane for 1 week to advise on number of vehicles already using Greyhound Lane. Readings for this will follow.

The Clerk will revert to Mr Winch and Mr Betts with regards to the various questions to be answered and also further Bat Survey.

17:

Planning:

3PN/2023/0009/UC – Land at Hunts Corner, NR16 2HL

Mr Drewrey to review application one final time and will forward full comments in response to The Clerk. PC to file objection.

The Clerk

	<p><u>3PL/2023/0531/HOU / 3PL/2023/0532/LB – 7 Grammar School Yard</u> Two storey Sustainable read/side extension to western elevation. The PC discussed this application and advised that there would be no objection to this application but did specify that they would prefer a 'brick' build/finish.</p> <p><u>TRE/2023/0161/TCA – 41 Crown Street – Removal of Dead Tree</u> The PC discussed and confirmed there is no objection to this application.</p> <p><u>3PL/2023/0546/HOU – 67 Crown Street – Double Storey Side Extension</u> The PC discussed and confirmed there is no objection to this applications</p> <p>The Clerk will return to and respond to each of the applications made.</p>	
18.	<p><u>Accounts:</u></p> <p>Mrs Valerie Plummer presented the accounts for 2022/2023 and gave her report:</p> <p>The Financial Regulations were reviewed and agreed following proposal from the Vice Chairman. This was seconded by Dr Dalton.</p> <p>The Internal Audit of the accounts was completed satisfactorily, and the accounts will now be sent to the external auditors for completion and agreement.</p> <p>18a: The Certificate of Exemption was reviewed and signed by the Vice Chairman and RFO following proposal from Dr Dalton, seconded by the Vice Chairman.</p> <p>18b: The Annual Governance Statement was reviewed and signed by the Vice Chairman and RFO. It was agreed by the Vice Chairman that this would be also be signed later by The Clerk once minutes required to be completed on the form had been agreed.</p> <p>18c: The Accounting Statement was reviewed and signed by The Vice Chairman and the RFO following unanimous agreement from the Council.</p> <p>Mrs Plummer confirmed that the accounts along with the above forms should be filed on the website, and also on the notice board by the end of June. The forms would also need to be sent on to the External Auditors once these had been signed fully. The Clerk will deal with this.</p> <p>Finally, Mrs Plummer recommended that some of the funds should be moved from the Current Account to the Savings Account, but advising that a final review of likely future expenses and bills was necessary first. Mrs Plummer will revert to the council with her proposal shortly.</p> <p><u>Amounts agreed and approved for payment:</u></p> <p>Balance of Current Account as of 16/05/23: £20,264.06 Balance of Savings Account as of 16/05/23: £ 8,087.40</p> <p><u>To Pay:</u></p> <p>£108.00 – Clerks NALC Training £ 45.95 – Clerks Printer Cartridge £587.45 – Church Grass Cut & Replacement Belt</p>	The Clerk

	<p><u>Automatic Direct Debit Payments:</u></p> <p>£ 44.00 – Street Light Maintenance £ 50.00 – Storage of Parish Council Property</p> <p>The Vice Chairman proposed approving the items for payment. Unanimous decision in favour.</p>	
19.	<p><u>Chairman's other business:</u></p> <p>The Church Yard grass cut invoice was presented and considered. This was agreed by the Vice Chairman and other members of the PC for payment at £587.45.</p> <p>The Clerk advised of a phone call received from Breckland's Environmental Health Dept advising on a complaint made with regards to a possible rat infestation at Hunts Corner. Investigations have taken place, and it has been concluded that there is no 'infestation' but that there has been a high rise in Banham's rat population, and their presence in gardens and houses. Breckland will send letters and advice to Banham Residents with regards to the issues which could be caused, and tips on how to keep rat numbers down. The Clerk will provide advice to Allotment holders.</p>	The Clerk
20.	<p><u>NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD THURSDAY 13TH JULY 2023 – 7:30PM.</u></p> <p>The Small Hall, Banham Community Centre, Kenninghall Road, Banham</p>	