

THE MINUTES OF THE BANHAM PARISH COUNCIL HELD AT THE BANHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE, THURSDAY 7th SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 7:30PM

**Present: Mr Keith Drewrey, Mr Brendon Sparks, Mrs Pam Spicer,
Dr Jo Dalton, Mr Rob Plom, Mr Stephen Askew**

Item	Details
1.	<u>Welcome:</u> The Vice Chairman welcomed Councillors, members of the public, and Mr Stephen Askew
2.	<u>Apologies for Absence:</u> There was an apology for absence from the Chairman.
3.	<u>Declarations of Interest:</u> There were no declarations of interest.

PUBLIC SESSION

Meeting adjourned to receive comments from the Public

There were several local residents in attendance in respect of planning application 3PL/2023/0525/F – Land to the South East of Ivy Farm, New Buckenham Road.

Villager 1 explained that she lives near to the site and there have been continuous lorries driving up and down causing noise and dust all day, and sometimes into the early evening and weekends. This is taking a toll and affecting their life in the country. It was confirmed that what is on the planning application isn't reflective of what is already happening, and the concern is that if the application is approved, the noise is going to worsen, and the traffic is going to increase, which is worrying due to safety concerns in respect of the entrance and exit to the site. The Vice Chairman noted that Highways have requested further information in respect of the application and are strict on the 'rules'. Villager 1 asked if it is procedure that the Parish Council do a site visit upon receiving notice of an application.

The Vice Chairman explained that this was not the case, but that all of the information provided is reviewed including, site plan, location plan, and what is proposed. It was explained that often when the application comes through, if local residents have concerns, then they usually come to the meeting to advise upon these and these comments can then be considered also.

It was advised that the initial documents received in respect of the application initially gave no information as to any serious problems, and as there were no comments filed by local residents, the Parish Council's previous decision was made on the back of this.

Signed..... Dated.....

The Vice Chairman explained that now we have full information and objections from the local residents along with reports from environmental health, we are able to reconsider our position and advised that an extension has been granted and the council will be submitting their revised comments by the 14th September 23. The Vice President advised that Breckland are still awaiting further consultations before making any decisions, and it was thought that a site visit would be taking place with the residents shortly.

Mr Askew confirmed that as it stands, the application is in and the time for consideration has been extended due to the level of interest and the concerns raised. Mr Askew confirmed that anyone can go on the planning portal and leave their comments. The planning department will wait until all official consultations are received from the consultees before making a final decision. If the application is approved by the planning department, then Mr Askew confirmed he could make a request for the matter to be referred to the Chairman of the Committee's panel and then try and argue against the application and request for the matter to go to Committee for further consideration. If the matter does reach committee, then Mr Askew can raise his concerns and the local residents are also able to be a part of this. Mr Askew advised that if the matter does go to committee then it would be good to have a spokesperson for the concerned 'group' and they would be allowed to voice their concerns within a 3 minute session.

Villager 1 advised that in the mean time, whilst there are no lorries going in and out at this moment in time, there is crushing of materials, and movement of these materials on site.

Villager 2 confirmed that the applicant was told by Breckland Council that he had to stop doing what he was doing on site, and so Mr Askew recommended that the planning department is contacted and advised of the ongoing activity. The Clerk confirmed she would make contact as required in this regard.

Villager 3 asked how far the site will be developed between now and the time the application is considered, and Mr Askew confirmed if the work hasn't stopped as requested, then the Parish Council will inform the enforcement team and it will be taken from there.

The Vice Chairman asked that we are kept informed of the situation by local residents, and we can then contact the necessary person and department, and make them fully aware of the ongoing nature of events.

Mr Askew concluded, and advised that he has been in discussions regarding the flooding on Back Lane and this is going in the right direction. In respect of Lucy's shop, the determination has been extended due to further information required from the applicant. Mr Askew will keep us updated on this situation.

The Vice Chairman advised that if anyone has any concerns on anything in the village to let us know.

Villager 4 advised of some concern with some overgrown trees on Kenninghall Road and so the Clerk agreed she would investigate this further and take the necessary action.

Signed..... Dated.....

MEETING RECONVENED

Item	Details	Action
4.	<p><u>Previous Minutes:</u></p> <p>Minutes of 3rd August 2023 meeting approved and signed.</p>	Vice Chairman
5.	<p><u>Allotments:</u></p> <p>The Clerk advised that she had placed a message on the Facebook page to see if anything to raise. Nothing was advised. The Clerk confirmed that she was due to speak with the potential new tenant after the weekend, and the tenancy agreement would be signed shortly. It was acknowledged that the hedge at the entrance of the allotments had been cut.</p>	The Clerk
6.	<p><u>Play Area:</u></p> <p>The Vice Chairman presented a quote for required maintenance to be carried out on the play area. This has been confirmed at £46.67. Seconded by Dr Dalton, and unanimous agreement from the Council.</p>	Vice Chairman The Clerk
7.	<p><u>Village Green:</u></p> <p>The Vice Chairman advised on the quote which had been received from the green owner in respect of the cutting of the basal growth from the bottom of the trees. It was confirmed that the quote could be agreed on this occasion, but that further discussions will need to take place in respect of maintenance going forwards.</p>	The Clerk
8.	<p><u>School Hedge:</u></p> <p>The Vice Chairman confirmed details of the email which had been received from Mr Gamble. It was advised that Mr Gamble wishes to have a meeting to discuss the hedge and maintenance needs and so plans will be made to arrange this in the near future.</p>	Chairman Vice Chairman Clerk
9.	<p><u>Churchyard:</u></p> <p>The Vice Chairman confirmed that the hedge on the Church Hill side has been cut, and submitted an invoice at £250.00. This was unanimously agreed, and the Clerk will include this within 'item 17'. It was acknowledged that an email had been received from Highways, and hopefully the verge surrounding the church will be cut shortly.</p>	Vice Chairman

Signed..... Dated.....

10.	<p><u>Greyhound Lane Childrens play area/Community orchard:</u></p> <p>It was agreed that the name for this item should be changed to the 'Community Orchard and Meadow'. It was acknowledged that the majority of our requests for the area had been approved and that further conversations would take place next Summer in respect of the final plans and needs of the area. In the meantime, research will be done to help with designing the area and deciding on the types of trees which will be planted.</p>	All
11.	<p><u>Village Community Hub:</u></p> <p>Mrs Pam Spicer advised that attendance is good, and there were 36 people at the last event. The staff have been trained, and the Cafe is now registered as 'dementia friendly'. The Hub is also at the point of becoming a 'constituted group', so they have created a governing document Safeguarding policy, and have appointed a safeguarding lead and support person. The documents, which have been approved by an outside body should be signed next week. The Hub are supporting the Banham Toddler Group and are sharing resources. Workshops are going to take place with the toddler group and the primary school going forwards, teaching healthy eating. The next workshop is due to take place on Monday 18th September, and they will be making home-made soups and sauces.</p>	Mrs Spicer
12.	<p><u>Banham Parish Council Website:</u></p> <p>The Clerk advised that she had been presenting ideas and content for the website, and that she will continue to do this until such a time that the website is ready to launch. The Clerk will keep everyone updated as to how things are progressing.</p>	The Clerk
13.	<p><u>Banham Wheels:</u></p> <p>The grant application form was presented for review, and our responses recorded. All of the 'answers' were considered and agreed, and the Clerk will now complete and return the form as required.</p>	The Clerk
14.	<p><u>Highways/Street Lights/Footpaths/Hedges:</u></p> <p>Daphne Griffiths attended on behalf of the Community Speed Awareness Team, and advised of the 'speeding figures' since January 23. Mrs Griffiths advised that there had been 134 vehicles caught speeding through the village. It was confirmed that the registration number of all of these speeding vehicles have been recorded on the police database, and whilst they may not all get a letter, if a 2nd speeding record has been noted, then they will.</p>	The Clerk

Signed..... Dated.....

	<p>Also if the speed limit is broken excessively then this is an automatic 3 points or a driver improvement course, depending on their previous history. In one instance 50mph was recorded on Mill Road. The majority of the speed checks have taken place on Crown Street due to road works and other issues, but the speed awareness team have also been situated on the Mill Road, Pavillion Close and Kenninghall Road.</p> <p>The Vice Chairman advised that hopefully a SAM Sign will soon be located on the Crown Street and thanks were passed to the Speed Awareness Team from the Parish Council.</p> <p>A pothole was reported in the centre of the road entering Gaymer Close. The Clerk advised on FP 13 which has a fallen tree, and is causing an obstruction. It was also confirmed that there is an abandoned mattress at the other end. The Clerk advised that she would report these issues, and further advised that other previously reported overgrown footpaths would hopefully be cut shortly.</p> <p>In respect of the replacement Grove Road street light, the Clerk advised that this was in hand, and would advise once a date for this has been confirmed.</p>	The Clerk
15.	<p><u>Planning:</u></p> <p>3PL/2023/0525/F – Land to the South East of Ivy Farm, New Buckenham Road.</p> <p>Matter reviewed: Considering the public session and the consultations in place, it was agreed that the Vice Chairman would draft a formal response in respect of the application,</p> <p>3PL/2023/0802/D – Land South of Heath Road</p> <p>Matter reviewed – No consultations, and planning application looks to be in order. No comments noted. Application approved.</p> <p>TRE/2023/0237/TPO – The Green - Matter reviewed – It was acknowledged this has been approved by Planning.</p> <p>3PL/2023/0799/F Heath Farm, Winfarthing Road</p> <p>Matter reviewed - No consultations, and planning application looks to be in order. No comments made. Application approved.</p> <p>3PL/2023/0863/F / 3PL/2023/0864/F – Haugh Farm, Haugh Road</p> <p>Matter reviewed - No consultations, and planning application looks to be in order. No comments made. Application approved.</p>	Vice Chairman The Clerk

Signed..... Dated.....

16.	<u>Accounts:</u>	
-----	-------------------------	--

	<p>The Vice Chairman proposed the approval of items for payment. Unanimous decision in favour.</p> <p>To Pay:</p> <p>£200.00 – Cutting of allotment hedge £370.00 – Grass cutting/strimming £ 44.00 – Street Light Maintenance £ 50.00 – Storage of PC property £ 70.00 – Banham Village Community Hub £250.00 – Cutting of Church yard hedge £300.00 – Cutting of basal growth for trees on the green</p>	The Clerk
17.	<p><u>Chairman's other business:</u></p> <p>The Clerk advised that she had been made aware that the flexi bus for Banham has been cancelled, and asked if anyone present was aware of the situation. All that could be gathered is that the bus has been cancelled, and so the Clerk agreed she will contact Breckland to try and establish the situation here, and this can then be discussed further.</p>	The Clerk
18.	<p><u>Next Meeting:</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Thursday 5th October 2023 at 7:30pm The Small Hall, Banham Community Centre</p>	

Signed..... Dated.....