

BLYFORD AND SOTHERTON PARISH COUNCIL**MEETING – 21st MARCH 2022**

WENHASTON VILLAGE HALL – 6.30PM

Public Forum – 7 Members of the public attended but no questions to Parish Council.

Representatives of the Heveningham Estate – Mr Matt Bostock, Project Director, Mr Argos Hardy, Architect and Mr Steve Piotrowski, Estate Ecologist, attended to present an overview of the environmental work being carried out on the estate in and around Blyford and Sotherton. They also presented details of a pre-planning application proposing demolition of an existing derelict building (The Old Keepers Cottage) and erection of a detached property for holiday use within Blyford Woods. The Council asked that consideration be given to return of public access to footpaths on the Estate and in particular a footpath allowing safe access from Blyford to the village pub.

1. The chairman, Gerard Walker, welcomed councillors Lou Sharman, Rosemary Parry, Dominic Meek, Justin Phillips, Robert Bucknell and Barry Martin and the clerk, Ann Donnachie.
Apologies were received from: Tony Goldson and Alison Cackett [East Suffolk councillors].
2. **Declarations of interest and any dispensations allowed** – none
3. **Minutes of previous meeting 17th January 2022** were approved and signed as a true record
4. **Matters arising on the minutes not on agenda** – none
5. **Finances** – balances at HSBC bank – Current: £7790.82; Latitude: 6,810.69; total - £14,601.51.
Cheques for approval: 541 for Hall Hire Nov 21 & Jan 22 - £24.00; 542 to A Donnachie £335.88 (net salary, expenses and home Allowance for Feb & Mar 22); 543 Parish Insurance for 2022/23 - £218; 544 HMRC for £72.20 (tax to Mar 2022); 545 Platinum Jubilee Mugs £350.40. Approval for Clerk to obtain website training from Suffolk Cloud at a cost of £50.
6. **Latitude Tickets:** Cllr Parry reported that tickets had been issued but to-date sales have been slower than usual. **Action: Cllr Parry to arrange for more signs to go up.**
7. **Common land [triangle opposite Queens Head]** – Confirmation received from Suffolk County Council that this is “common land”. Clerk awaiting a copy of Register Entries including a map of the Registered land which is free of charge to local councils. **Action: Review at May meeting.**
8. **Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebrations 2nd to 5th June 2022:** It is planned to invite all residents to a celebration party at The Racehorse Community Pub in Westhall. Date still to be finalised but agreed time would be 5pm-8pm. **Action: Cllr Bucknell to liaise with The Racehorse on final details.**
9. **Defibrillator:** Proposed to site this in the BT kiosk at Blyford. Estimated cost will be £1,600. **Action: Cllr Phillips to obtain further quotes for the defibrillator, electrical installation and training. Also, to liaise with UK Power for reconnection of electricity supply. Discuss funding options next meeting.**
10. **Reports from councillors and any other business:**
 - 10a **Vehicle activated signs shared with Spexhall PC:** Discussion on speeding through Blyford and obtaining the BVAS unit. **Action: Cllr Walker will contact Spexhall PC to see if this is available.**
 - 10b Proposal by Cllr Bucknell that we consider changing to 3 monthly Parish Council Meetings.
Action: Clerk to check the annual diary of required events and discuss at our May meeting.
11. **Date of Annual General Meeting & Annual Parish Meeting: Monday 16th May 2022 at 6.30 pm**

The meeting was closed to the public due to the confidential nature of the business [LGA1972 SS100/102]

12. Review of Clerk/RFO Contract following NJC National Salary Award 2021/22.

The meeting closed at 8 pm.

Signed and Approved: Gerard Walker
Chairman

Dated: 16/05/2022