

Minutes of a Meeting of Bergh Apton Parish Council On Wednesday 17th May 2017 at 7.00pm In The Village Hall

Members Present

Parish Members Present
David Skedge (Chair), Janet Skedge, Hugh Porter,
Renata Steggles

In attendance: Clerk Philippa Fuller and new Clerk Julie Gosling

Apologies There were no apologies for absence

NB: Elizabeth Robinson has resigned – Clerk to put up notice of casual vacancy for 14 working days

1 Apologies For Absence and Declarations of Interest

There were 2 apologies for absence Cllr Barry Stone and Cllr John Fuller

2 Minutes of Meeting Held on 22nd February 2017

The minutes of the meetings held on 15th March were approved and signed by the Chairman

3 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

4 Public Consultation

5 Co-Opt New Parish Councillor

Richard Herring was voted in unanimously to join the Parish Council and the declaration of acceptance of office will be signed at the next meeting.

6 Clerk's Contract

Julie Gosling the new Clerk signed the Clerk's contract; she is due to start 1st June.

7 Adopt Members' Code of Contact

Members' Code of Conduct was adopted unanimously – this will be put on the website and each new member of the council will receive a copy

8 Standing Orders

Standing Orders was adopted unanimously – this will be put on the website and each new member of the council will receive a copy

9 County Councillor Barry Stone

Unable to attend

10 District Councillor John Fuller

Unable to attend

11 Playground

It was agreed to renew the playground insurance with Zurich Municipal

12 Bus Shelter Repairs

There is some minor damage to the bus shelter at Hellington Corner – Parish Council believe the bus shelter is the property of Alington – Clerk to clarify

13 Finance

13.1 Approve Accounts for Audit

The accounts, which were also distributed at the Annual Parish Meeting, were approved for internal audit and external audit by Mazars they will also be available to the public – Clerk to advertise on the noticeboard following internal audit

13.2 Two New Signatories for Parish Council Bank Account are David Skedge Chairman and Hugh Porter Vice Chairman

Cheques were raised for the following and approved

13.3 Expenses for Annual Parish Meeting - £54.10 Janet Skedge

13.4 Clerk's Salary 1/4/17-31/5/17 - £268.50 – mileage £15.43 batteries for banking pin safe £7.90 – total £23.33 Final Total £291.83

13.5 Playground Insurance – Zurich Municipal £372.95

13.6 VAT claim refund has been submitted for £138.80

14 Community Governance Review – deadline extended

Background: The Community Governance Review is a once in 20 year chance to consider whether Bergh Apton and villages like it would be better served by joining together their Parish Councils with neighbours ideally to get to about 1000 people instead of around 300, to address the realisation that it's difficult to get people to serve and to solve the problem of smaller parishes spending over half of their income on running costs. The consultation opened on 20 March and you can have your say by visiting www.south-norfolk.gov.uk.

Bergh Apton Parish Council has rejected the idea of joining with any neighbouring parish, the survey was completed and will be returned to South Norfolk District Council. In coming to this decision the Parish Council realise that Bergh Apton was a large widely scattered community without any natural neighbouring alliances.

15 Greater Norwich Local Plan

Background: This is a call for sites across the whole of Greater Norwich. About 500 sites have been submitted for residential, commercial and/or other uses and officers have completed the mapping and brief summary of the sites and these have been submitted for potential consideration for inclusion in the Greater Norwich Local Plan. The sites have been published and can be found on www.greaternorwichlocalplan.org.uk the officers have not yet analysed the merits of any of the sites, some will be acceptable and be allocated and some will be unacceptable. In October 2017 the full analysis of all sites will be made available for public consultation. At the moment there are 5 possible sites submitted for Bergh Apton.

The Council thinks that in the entire Greater Norwich area including Norwich and Broadland 12,000 houses will be needed over and above what is currently planned by 2036. Developers have put forward 80,000 so we are over-subscribed although the bids aren't evenly spread throughout the district and more sites may still come forward.

It's likely that every village will be asked to accommodate some new homes even those which have been previously overlooked and there may be allocations for 20 homes which means there would be a better mix of house sizes not just 4/5 bed executive homes.

Bergh Apton is classed as a service village because it fulfils certain criteria ie. It has a mini bus, village hall, a church, a shop and a post office. The Parish Council feels that going forward Bergh Apton should not be classed as a service village and will be writing to the Council on this matter – Action David Skedge

16 Community Infrastructure Levy – CIL

Flashing speed signs were discussed as an idea and the possibility of an improved playground.

17 Planning Applications

17.1 Gravel Pit Farm, Gravel Pit Lane – Mr S Whitby single storey rear extension and porch - **APPROVED**

18 Nomination needed for the Village Hall Management Committee

Hugh Porter has agreed to represent the Parish Council on the Village Hall Management Committee

19 Events and Correspondence

20 Items for Future Agendas

Plaque for the Rowan – Hugh Porter

Adoption of Telephone box paperwork – Julie Gosling

Paperwork for new bank account signatories

Future Dates for Meetings: 23rd June, 20th September, 22nd November